

This Sunday is the first in quite some time that we see vibrant green vestments return to our sanctuaries. Green is the colour of hope, seen in nature as growth and newness of life after the auburn of autumn come withered winter. It is this same joyful hope that characterises our journey as Christians – a journey led by Christ and narrated by the Church's liturgical year, with Ordinary Time nourishing us along an ordered path to the Cross of Christ and beyond the Upper Room where the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, into the world to live in hope of the Kingdom of God.

And today, on this first of many green Sundays, we receive a message of hope that is both heartening and cautionary. In today's Gospel, St. John narrates Jesus' encounter with His first disciples with Jesus initiating the relationship with a question, "What is it that you seek?" Our own answer to this fundamental question defines our own discipleship. In our encounter with Christ, those with a long list of things that they seek may lose out on the very thing that Christ comes to give. In our eagerness to enunciate our desires and expectations, we may fall into the trap of being disciples that "do" Christianity, without first understanding the true essence of discipleship. By contrast, Andrew and the unnamed disciple, seek only to spend time with Jesus and allow Him to lead the way.

It is significant that the evangelist mentions the hour of the encounter – the tenth hour – for if a day were a lifetime, this would be the furthest point from the hour at which the Lord died upon the Cross – the ninth hour. For these new disciples, as for us, there is a lifetime of walking with Christ, of listening, of learning, of true discipleship, before we hope that we may truly understand that which we have sought from the beginning. And it is important not to get ahead of ourselves.

Andrew is quick to share the momentous news that he has found the Messiah with his brother, Simon. This profession of faith, which Simon echoes in the Synoptics when asked by Jesus, "But who do you say I am?" is indeed a prerequisite of discipleship. Nonetheless, it is merely the beginning, for there were hundreds of "messiahs" each with their own message and purpose and yet there is only one Lord Jesus Christ. Recognising His greatness, His holiness, even His relationship with God, does not mean that the disciples truly understand the reason for His coming. It is a start, and a good one, but finally the question "Who is Jesus to me?" holds zero significance until we have answered the question, "Who is Jesus?"

And how might we discover the answer to that question? By following where Christ leads, by listening to His word, by learning in a spirit of docile humility. And we must carry this first hope with us as we journey with Christ, and not act precipitously as did some of the disciples who felt they knew better than their Rabbi, nor lose it completely as did all but one when the time came for the messianic secret to be revealed. It is this hope, like a beacon, that will guide our path when the darkness of troubles and sufferings obscure the way forward. It is this hope, like the first green shoots of spring, that will encourage us when fear that the decaying winter of our lives has no end threatens to overcome us. It is this hope, we pray, that will embolden us to follow Christ to the Cross and beyond, to that place, where He lives and reigns with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen. †

BE DISCIPLES OF HOPE **14th January 2018**
2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time

Newbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH



Colour me
Hopeful



CHURCH OF THE VISITATION
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 Parish Pastor : Rev. Fr George Harrison
 Assistant Priest : Fr. Andrew Kooi

DISCIPLESHIP : BE DISCIPLES OF HOPE.
Hope : Experiencing Christ As I Am (January) 2018
Towards 170 years of the Parish of Visitation
(1848 - 2018)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
 Monday - Friday
 8.30am - 5.30 pm
 Saturday : 8.30am - 7.30 pm
 Sunday: 8.30 am - 3.00 pm
 Confessions in Church ½
hour before all Weekend
Masses at availability of
priests



OUR PROGRAMME THIS 13 – 21 JANUARY 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) : 1 Sam 3, 3b-10, 19 Ps 39, 2and 4ab, 7-8a, 8b-9, 101 1 Cor 6, 13c -15a, 17-20 Jn 1, 35-42
"Here I Am Lord! I Come To Do Your Will. Here I Am Lord! I Come To Do Your Will". (Psalm 39)

Sat	13	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary : 5.30 pm : Novena; 5.45 pm: Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : Youth)	
Sun	14	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm	Eucharist (T) (Animation :) Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. Christopher) Eucharist (C) 4.30 pm : Titi (M) Eucharist (BM)	<i>NO RE CLASSES (PUBLIC HOLIDAY – YAM TUAN BIRTHDAY, N.S.)</i> <i>RCIA (T) 9.00 -10.30 am ; RCIA (BM) 11.00 am -12.30pm</i> <i>RCIA (E) 11.00 -12.30pm ; RCIA(M) : 9.00 -10.30 am</i>
Mon	15	6.45 am	Eucharist	<i>No Charismatic (E) due to Public Holiday.</i>
Tues	16	6.45 am	Eucharist	<i>Charismatic (M) 7.30 pm at Visitation Hall. We welcome A II to join in praising God in Song</i>
Wed	17	6.45 am	Eucharist	
Thur	18	6.45 am	Eucharist	<i>Charismatic (T) 7.30 pm at Visitation Hall. We welcome All to join in praising God in Song.</i>
Fri	19	6.45 am	Eucharist	

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) : Jona 3, 1-5, 10, Ps 24, 4-5ab, 6 and 7bc 8-9, 1 Cor 7, 29-31 Mk 1, 14-20
"Lord, Make Me Know Your Ways. Lord, Make Me Know Your Ways". (Psalm 24)

Sat	20	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary : 5.30 pm : Novena; 5.45 pm: Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. Mary)	
Sun	21	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm	Eucharist (T) (Animation :) Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. George) Eucharist (C) 4.30 pm : Titi (M) Eucharist (BM)	<i>RE(T) : 8.45-10.15 am ; RE(C) : 9- 10.30 am : RE(E) & (BM) 10.45 -12.15pm</i> <i>RCIA (T) 9.00 -10.30 am ; RCIA (BM) 11.00 am -12.30pm</i> <i>RCIA (E) 11.00 -12.30pm ; RCIA(M) : 9.00 -10.30 am</i>

We welcome new Parishioners/Students from University / Colleges in the vicinity of Seremban. Kindly register at the parish office or email us at: serembanvisitation@gmail.com. You will receive a Prayer Card (Magnificat). Pray it daily.

Thank you to : BECs – Youth and BEC St. Christopher for Mass Mass Animation this weekend.

- i) **Parish Weekend Collections :**
 06/07 January : RM10,035.30
 Min. of Social Concern : RM6,950.00
God Bless All Generous Donors
- ii) **Visitation Praise Dance** 1st Anniversary cum CNY celebration on 10 Feb 2018 @ RM10.00 per pax.
 Venue : Visitation Hall Time : 7.30 am - 1.00 pm
 Angleiine (017-6943045 / Florence (016-2819788)
 All are welcome.
- iii) **Cleanliness in Church** : Keep the Church grounds (inside/outside) clean. **Grotto** - Candles tray and surroundings as well.

➤ **Helping Hands - To Help Students cope with School work and Exams.**
 2018 will be our 3rd year of service. We need more volunteers to help these needy students. Please contact Mr. Francis Jesu (012-2964336) or Mr. Hilary Sta Maria (019-6547347) Registration for these classes will be on 21st Jan in the Visitation Hall after the English Mass at 9.00 am

➤ **Book Mission cum Vocation Road Show.** The Daughters of St. Paul will having a Book Mission on 20 & 21 January 2018 (Sat/Sun).

➤ **Tables and Chairs etc** from RE classrooms /Church premises are not to be removed at all time. They are to be kept in good use and not to be tampered.

Pray for the Departed souls of :
 Francis Xavier Anthony (d.o.d : 08/01/2018)
May the Perpetual Light shine upon them

- **Archdiocesan Vocation Promotion Team (APVT)** will be here on 20/21 January 2018 for promotion of Vocations. We welcome them.
- **RED Mass** - The Catholic Lawyers' Society KL, will hold its Mass of the Holy Spirit on 20 Jan (Sat) at 10.00 am at Good Shepherd Church, Setapak, Kl. All are welcome to attend the Mass. Lawyers are requested to be robed. Further details contact Trevor Padasian - 016 - 2090067
- **LENTEN RETREAT 2018 :-"METANOIA"** - Tear your Hearts not your Garments (Joel 2 : 13)
 Tamil : 16 Feb 2018 (Fri) - 10.00 am - 6.00 pm
 English : 17 & 18 Feb : (Sat) @9.00 am - 8.00 pm / (Sun) @ 9.00 am - 2.00 pm
 Mandarin : 10 Feb 2018 (Sat) @ 2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
 BM : 10 & 11 Feb 2018 : (Sat) @ 2 - 6 pm/ (Sun) @ 2 - 6 pm
- **Christian Unity Week** - Week of Prayer with all our Christian Brothers and Sisters on Friday 26th @ 8.00 pm. 7.30 pm @ Visitation Hall. All are welcome. Registration after all Masses. Call Christopher K (019-6216194)
- **Priestly Ordination of Deacon Nicholas Hoh Jeng Kin, OCD** from the Carmelite Friary, Rahang Seremban,
 Date : 31 January 2018 (Public Holiday) @ 10.30 am
 Place : Church of St. Thomas More, Subang Jaya. All are welcome
- **3rd February 2018 (Sat) (170 yrs Anniversary Celebration).** Adrian (E):010 8970642
 Henderson (BM)-019-4688277 / Irene (T) 016366843
 Edwin (M) 0122059209



- **Fr. George** will be away on leave from 13 - 21 January 2018
- **Clergy Annual Pastoral Assembly (CAPA)** : 22 - 25 January 2018
- **BECCOT Gathering** : 7.45 pm at the Visitation Hall
- **"Ponggal" Festival** : 27 Jan (Sat) @ 7.00 pm : Talk in Tamil by C. Pandithurai - Title : Everyday is a Good Day"
 28 January 2018 @ 2 pm - 7.30 pm - Traditional games & Cultural Show
 Venue : Visitation Hall, All are welcome.
- **Our Lady of Lourdes, Sagga Feast** : 9 - 11 February 2018
- **Ash Wednesday** : 14 February 2018
- **CNY (Chinese New Year) Mass** : 16 February 2018 @ 8.30 am