

**W**e have been witnesses, these past few Sundays, to the miraculous works of the Lord as narrated by St. Mark. We have seen the great compassion that Jesus had for suffering humanity, and his desire to heal them from their ills. But we have also seen, through His teachings and His miracles, that all of these things pointed to a greater redemptive purpose. His desire was not, finally, to restore bodily health to the afflicted, but to restore life to those whom sin and death had claimed as their slaves.

For this purpose to be realised required a love for suffering humanity so great that it would not only desire to alleviate their pain but would willingly bear it all in His own flesh. This is the love to which every miraculous cure in the gospels points – a love so great that He would suffer and die for it. But for this act of redeeming love to take place, His true purpose must remain hidden until the appointed time. It is for this reason that we read in the gospels Jesus' repeated command to tell no one about the miracles that had been performed. As St. Paul explains, "We speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory" (1 Corinthians 2:8-9).

It is for this reason that Jesus taught in parables and instructed everyone, from unclean spirits and those healed of their illnesses, to his closest disciples, not to reveal anything that would disclose His identity. It would only be after His death that the light of the resurrection would pierce the veil of this 'Messianic secret' and the true meaning of His teaching and the final purpose of the miracles He performed would be understood. We can safely say that without the cross and resurrection, the years of Jesus' ministry can never be comprehended in their fullness, nor may we be said to be true followers of Christ unless we follow Him to the cross.

It is appropriate, therefore, that today's Gospel should be the last we hear before the start of our Lenten observance. It reminds us not to be among the hyped crowds who flocked to Jesus to witness His wonders, and later would greet Him with palms and hail him as king, only to shout "Crucify him!" a matter of days later. It reminds us to hope beyond the hype, to be more than fair weather Christians who are filled with zeal when the going is good but lapse into indifference and spiritual decay when more is demanded of us than we care to give. If only all those who had been there for the miracles would have been there for the cross, the crucifixion of the Son of God would not have been such a barren tableau.

And so as we prepare to enter the season of Lent, let us strengthen our hope for the days ahead. If our Lenten fast is to be truly a journey with Christ to the cross, one that denies self for the salvation of the other, we must hold fast to the hope that we have been given. For we live in the appointed time, in the age of salvation, and are privy to the Messianic secret that Jesus Christ is the eternal Word, Son of the living God, and that beyond the cross lies the tomb from which He rose from the dead to bring life to those who hope in His name. †

BE DISCIPLES OF HOPE **11th February 2018**  
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Newbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH





**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 : Together we are healed in Christ (February) 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 10 – 18 FEBRUARY 2018**

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)** Lev 13, 1-2, 44-45 Ps 31, 1-2, 5, 11 1 Cor 10, 31-11, 1. Mk 1, 40-45

*"You Are My Hiding Place, O Lord, You Surround Me With Cries Of Deliverance." (Psalm 31)*

Sat	10	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary : 5.30 pm : Novena; 5.45 pm: Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : Youth)	<i>Sagga Chapel Tridum : 6.30 pm : Rosary / Mass/Procession</i>
Sun	11	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm 6.00 pm	Eucharist (T) (Animation : St. Joackim ) Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. Bernard) Eucharist (C) 4.30 pm : Tiitti (M) Eucharist (BM) Feast of Cahaya Kristus, Kg. Sebir	<i>RE(T): 8.45-10.15 am; RE(C):9-10.30 am : RE(E) &amp; 10.45 -12.15pm RCIA (T) 9.00 -10.30 am ; RCIA (BM) 11.00 am -12.30pm RCIA (E) 11.00 -12.30pm ; RCIA(M) : 9.00 -10.30 am RE (BM) : No Class. 10.00 am : Sagga Feast Mass (T)</i>
Mon	12	6.45 am	Eucharist Charismatic (E) 7.30 pm at Visitation Hall. We welcome All to join in praising God in Song.	
Tues	13	6.45 am	Eucharist Charismatic (M) 7.30 pm at Visitation Hall. We welcome All to join in praising God in Song	
Wed	14	<b>Ash Wednesday : 6.45 am (E) ; 6.00 pm (E/M/BM) ; 8.00 pm (T)</b>		
Thur	15	6.45 am	Eucharist 9.00 pm : CNY Eve Mass at Titi (M)	
Fri	16	9.00 am	CNY Mass 7.00 pm : Way of the Cross followed by Eucharist (E/M/BM)	

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)** Gen 9, 8-15,Ps 24 4-5ab 6 and 7bc, 8-9 1 Pt 3, 18-22

*"Your Ways Lord, Are Faithfulness And Love For Those Who Keep Your Covenant". (Psalm 24)*

Sat	17	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary : 5.30 pm : Novena; 5.45 pm: Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. Dominic)	<b>N. B : No B.M. Mass @ 1.00 pm on 25 February 2018 (Sunday)</b>
Sun	18	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm	Eucharist (T) (Animation : RCIA) Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. RE – Form 1) Eucharist (C) Eucharist (BM)	<i>NO RE - CLASSES (CNY HOLIDAY) RCIA (T) 9.00 -10.30 am ; RCIA (BM) 11.00 am -12.30pm 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](mailto:serembanvisitation@gmail.com). You will receive a Prayer Card (Magnificat). Pray it daily.

**Thank you to : BECs** – the Youth and St. Bernard for Mass Animation this weekend.

- i) **Parish Weekend Collections :**  
 03 / 04 February 2018 : RM9,318.20  
 Min. of Social Concern : RM7,488.70  
**God Bless All Generous Donors**
- ii) **SSVP Visitation** - we need more volunteers with passion in visiting and serving the poor & needy. Call parish office or Louise (019-6227440)  
**SSVP One-Stop Center** for aid will be opened only on 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday every month. Time : 4 - 6 pm, Place : Canteen.

➤ **WORLD DAY OF SICK** - on this day we all remember all our Bros & Srs / Homebound / Hospitalised / Mentally Challenged/ Differently Abled and all in need of Healing. Come join us in this Holy Hour of Mercy and Special Blessing, **Sun 11/2 @ 3.00 pm in Church.**

➤ **CNY Luncheon** on 04 March (Sun) @ 12.30 pm. Venue : Min Kok Restaurant, Ti pm in Churchkets at :RM50/- per pax. Call Doreen : 0173326007

➤ **Congratulations to the Newly elected Parish Youth Council** led by Glenn Sebastian. Let us keep them in prayer and give them your support.

➤ **Rachel's Vineyard** : A weekend retreat on 16-18 Mar 2018. Contact person confidential line 016-4190538 (Cyrilla) (between 7-9m) or email [healinggracerachelsvineyard@gmail.com](mailto:healinggracerachelsvineyard@gmail.com) before 16 Feb 2018.

- **Ash Wednesday** is a day of penance for the whole Church of the Roman Rite. This day is to be marked by **fasting** and also by **abstaining from meat**.
- **FAST THIS LENT ?** (In the words of Pope Francis)
  - ~ Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
  - ~ Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
  - ~ Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
  - ~ Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
  - ~ Fast from worries and have trust in God.
  - ~ Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
  - ~ Fast from pressure and be prayerful.
  - ~ Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
  - ~ Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
  - ~ Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
  - ~ Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

➤ **What can I DO this LENT**

- Read the Lenten message 2018.
- Visit the website for more info and reading([lent.aohd.org](http://lent.aohd.org))([www.facebook.com/Lenten](http://www.facebook.com/Lenten) campaign)
- Make a good 'Confession'.
- Pray the Way of the Cross!
- Read the weekly reflections given in Lenten Kit / Herald.
- All children, Youth, are to be faithfully carry out the Lenten activities as proposed on the Kit. Kindly refer to your RE teachers, Youth leaders & BECs/Zone heads

➤ **Visitation Got Talent 2018** : Thank you to the Committee, Crew, participants and audience for making the event a very exciting one!  
**Music Ministry** inviting organists to come forward to serve the English Sunset Mass and Sunday 9 am Mass. Please contact :  
 Amanda (Sunset Mass) : 0163673049/ Adrian (Sunday 9. Am Mass) : 0108970642



➤ **LENTEN RETREAT 2018** : "METANOIA" - Tear your Hearts not your Garments (Joel 2 : 13)  
**Tamil** : 16 Feb 2018 (Fri) - 10.00 am - 6.00 pm (Fr. Kulandaisamy, India)  
**English** : 17 & 18 Feb : (Sat) @9.00 am - 8.00 pm / (Sun) @ 9.00 am - 2.00pm  
 (Bro. Jude Antoine, K.L.) Registration after all weekend Masses.

➤ **Rite of Election** : 25 February (Sun) at 2.00 pm at Holy Family Church, Kajang. Keep all our RCIA candidates in prayer.

**Diocesan Vocation Awareness 2018** : Vocation Camp for young men on 24- 25 Feb 2018 at Good Shepherd Church : Age : 18 yrs to 35. Call Fr. George / Andrew /Parish office.

**Parish office will be closed for CNY on 16 & 17 February 2018.**  
**Wishing all Chinese Brothers & Sisters a "Happy Chinese Lunar Year 2018"**