

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

4th Sunday of Lent

B A P T I S E D A N D S E N T

MONTHLY THEME:
STRENGTHENS US
TO BEAR THE CROSS

From Prodigals to Ambassadors for Christ

The LORD said to Joshua, 'Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you.' (Joshua 5:9)

The happy, redeemed Israelites reached the Promised Land and were encamped at Gilgal. When they ate their Passover meal made from the produce of the land of Canaan, 'they tasted and saw the goodness of the Lord.'

God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy.

- Pope Francis

Then, in today's gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the Prodigal Son. **In one way or another every one of us is a prodigal.** Pope Francis, in one of his homilies, touched on this parable. He said so poignantly,

'I think of mothers and fathers in apprehension when they see their children distancing themselves, entering dangerous ways. I think of parish priests and catechists who sometimes wonder if their work was in vain. But I also think of those who are in prison, and who think that their life has ended; of all those who have made bad choices and are unable to look at the future; of all those who hunger for mercy and forgiveness and believe that they do not merit it ... In whatever situation of life, I must not forget that I will never cease to be a child of God, of a Father who loves me and awaits my return. Even in the most awful situation of life, God awaits me, God wants to embrace me.'

Of the older son who had stay put, Pope Francis said, 'Jesus reminds us that one does not remain in the Father's house to have a compensation, but because one has the dignity of being co-responsible children. It is not about "bartering" with God, but about following Jesus who gave Himself on the cross without measure.'

In 2 Corinthian 5:17-21 St Paul tells us that the old things have passed, and new things have come. God has reconciled the world to himself through Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. How grateful we must be, and how we, the prodigals turn ambassadors for Christ, must now go about the ministry of reconciliation.

Intriguingly Jesus in narrating the *Prodigal Son* omitted the final response of the elder son. If we identify ourselves with this personality, do we not for a moment think the Lord is asking us to open our hearts to be 'merciful like the Father?' †



Scripture of the Day:

Josh 5: 9. 10-12;

Ps. 33: 2-3. 4-5. 6-7;

2 Cor 5: 17-21;

Lk 15: 1-3. 11-32.

Weekly
WORD

In one way or another every one of us is a prodigal.



CHURCH OF THE VISITATION
 85-A, Jalan Yam Tuan, 70000 Seremban
 Tel : 06-7624468 / 7634934 / 7677542 Fax : 06-7677544
 Email : serembanvisitation@gmail.com
 Website : www.visitationseremban.org
 Parish Pastor : Rev. Fr George Harrison
 Assistant Parish Priest : Fr. Xavier Andrew

THEME FOR 2019
DISCIPLESHIP : BAPTISED AND SENT.
Theme for March 2019
Evangelise / Call : Strengthens Us To Bear The Cross

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 30 MARCH - 07 APRIL 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) : Josh 5, 9a, 10-12 Ps 33, 2-3, 2-3, 4-5, 6-7 2 Cor 5, 17 - 21 Lk 15, 1-3, 11-32
Taste And See That The Lord Is Good; Taste And See That The Lord Is Good (Psalm : 33)

Sat	30	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary / Novena / Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. George)	
Sun	31	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm	Eucharist (T) (Animation : St. Jude) Eucharist (E) (Animation: St. Robert) Eucharist (C) 6.00 pm : Sg. Gadut Eucharist (BM) (Migrants)	No Sunday Classes RCIA (T) 9.00 -10.30 am ; RCIA (BM) 11.00 am -12.30pm RCIA (E) 11.00 -12.30pm ; RCIA(M) : 8.45 -10.15 am
Mon	01	6.00 pm : Vespers & Eucharist followed by Confession		
Tues	02	6.45 am	Eucharist	Charismatic (M) 7.30 pm at Visitation Hall. We welcome All to join in praising God in Song
Wed	03	6.45 am	Eucharist	
Thur	04	6.45 am	Eucharist	Charismatic (T) 7.30 pm at Visitation Hall. We welcome All to join in praising God in Song
Fri	05	7.00 pm	7.00 pm : Way of the Cross followed by Eucharist (E/T/BM/M)	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) : Is 43, 16-21 PS 125, 1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4, 5, 6 Phil 3, 8-14 Jn 8, 1-11 <i>What Marvels The Lord Worked For Us! Indeed We Were Glad (Psalm : 125)</i>				
Sat	06	5.00 pm 6.00 pm	Rosary / Novena / Benediction Eucharist (E) (Animation : St. Stephen)	
Sun	07	7.00 am 9.00 am 11.00 am 1.00 pm	Eucharist (T) (Animation : St. Patrick) Eucharist (E) (Animation: St. Timothy) Eucharist (C) Eucharist (BM)	RE(T): 8.45-10.15 am; RE(C) :9- 10.30 am : RE(E) & (BM) 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) : 8.45 -10.15 am

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.

NEWS / EVENTS FOR MARCH 2019

- i) **Parish Weekend Collections :**
 23/24 March 2019 : RM9,910.00 Titi : RM106.00
God Bless All Generous Donors
- ii) **AWAKEN NS District Youth Rally** (28-30 June at NUBE, Port Dickson). Registration after all Masses. Zone/ BEC Leaders to send & sponsor ONE youth. Each youth signed up to bring in ONE youth. Contact :Sabrina -013 2887624. Sign up today!
- iii) **Session on "CAREGIVER'S WELLBEING"** will be held on (Sat) 6 April 2019 - time 8.30 am - 1.00 pm at Life Journey Wellness Centre, Kajang (operated by Archdiocesan Mental Health Ministry). Contact lifejourney@archkl.org or Tel : 03-82118214. Donation : RM30 & above.

- **Lenten Campaign Envelopes** are available. Please make your Lenten Offerings. Return them by 30 April 2019
- **SPM Bible Knowledge** : Classes will commence on 6th April 2019 at 2.30 pm. Form 3 and Form 4 students are encouraged to take this paper for SPM. Contact : Helen Paul (012-6162811 / Patrick Raj (016-6614073)
- **Special Classes for Confirmation 2019**. For those who have not received the sacrament of Confirmation for adults. Classes this May 3-5, please register at parish office. Closing date 15 April 2019.
- **PIHD Blood Donation Drive** : (Sun) April 7 @ 8.00 am - 3 pm in the Visitation Hall
"BE A LIFE SAVER, GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE - DONATE BLOOD"

Pray for the Departed soul of :
 Joseph Lai Kon Fah (d.o.d : 23/03/19)
May the Perpetual Light shine upon him

Thank you for Mass Animation: BEC St. George (Rasah) and St. Robert (Thivy Jaya) for this weekend.

- **"The Earth is crying" Pope Francis**
 What are we / am I doing to save this planet Earth ?
 This Lent please consider doing at least ONE of these ..
"Caring for our Common Home" : Encounter Christ and serve as Stewards.
 - Talk to someone on Care of Mother Earth (Family/BEC/Community)
 - Collect rubbish, segregate them before throwing and maintain cleanliness
 - Offer a prayer in union with Creation.
 - Don't use /burn plastics
 - Coastal cleaning Project
 - Don't waste water.
 - Plant more trees
- **A project by Youth for "Care of Earth" WYD / Palm Sunday → 14/04/2019**
 ~ **Green Bazaar** - Selling of Greens/homegrown vege/plants etc. Booths will be put up at the parking lot opposite Visitation parlour. Contact Solomon : (01131553579) / Margaret (018-2956153)
- ~ **"Mother Earth is Crying" competition** (Care for the Earth)
 - A colour drawing in A4 size paper (Age group : 6-9 yrs)
 - Tell your story -write out in 60 words. (Age : 10 - 13 yrs)
 - Make a collage on manila card with paper cuttings/pictures (Age : 14 - 18 yrs)
 Submission by 7 April (Sun) at the parish office. For more info call Solomon (01131553579) Please join in and grab your prizes today!
- iv) **The Dominic Vendargon Award 2019** : Criteria for Academic Excellence
 PTS Category / SPM / Cambridge IGCSE / O Level Category / SPM/Cambridge IGSE/O Level with Bible Knowledge Category
 Closing date : Before 14 April 2019. Forms are available in parish office.
- v) Please support **VSK 'Weekend Thrift Shop'** operating on **March 30/31** at the Parlour on **Saturdays 5 pm to 8 pm and Sundays 8 am to 3 pm.**
- vi) **A Talk on " The Historical Development of Marian Beliefs and Devotions from the Early Centuries to our present times** by Dr. Steven Selvaraju at Visitation on (Sat) 13 April @ 9 am - 4 pm. Fee : RM10/- Registration after Sunday Masses. Contact : Anthony Param : 012 6620949
- **Talk on 'Theology of Religions'** - by presenter Rev. Fr. Christopher W. Soosaipillai . on (Thur) 4 April @ 7 pm to 10 pm at API, K.L. Donation by minimum RM10/- . Call : 03-20266466 / 03-20220000
- **The Sick/Homebound** will be visited by the Frs on 11, 12 & 16 , 17 April 2019. All Zone/BEC leaders/EOMs kindly check and update parish office by April
- 9-10th April : **Priests Monthly Recollection** at APC, K.L.
- 9th April (Tuesday) @ 7 pm **CHRISM Mass** at St. Francis of Assisi, Cheras