

*My house
will be called
a house of
prayer for all
the peoples.*

- Is 56:7



Scripture of the Day:

Is 56:1, 6-7;

Ps 66: 2-3, 5-6, 8;

Rm 11:13-15, 29-32;

Mt 15:21-28.

*Weekly
WORD*

**Anyone can
come to Jesus
confidently**

Our Lord's first reaction is surprising, even dismissive. He doesn't seem to listen to her but the woman persists, refusing to take no for an answer. This woman's courageous attitude is admirable and points to the future.

Surely at the Father's table everyone can be fed; the children of Israel and also the pagan dogs. At first Jesus seems to be concerned only for the 'lost sheep' of Israel but after all, she too is a lost sheep.

Our Lord's response reveals both His humility and His greatness; "Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted". This Canaanite woman discovers that God's mercy does not exclude anyone. Her prayer of faith wins through and in the end, she gets what she so desperately needed.

The Lord is above the ethnic and religious barriers that we humans have set up. Jesus recognizes the woman as a believer although she lives a pagan religious life. He even finds in her 'great faith', not the small faith of His disciples whom He has more than once called 'you of little faith'.

This encounter between Christ and the Canaanite woman indicates that God has no favourites and nobody is excluded from his company. His message was not the exclusive property of the Jewish people but the Good News to be shared among all peoples and nationalities. His whole mission is to break down barriers and to remove walls of division and prejudice between Jew and Gentile. **Anyone can come to Jesus confidently.** He can recognize people's faith even if they live outside the Church. They will always find in Jesus a trusted Friend and a wise Teacher of life.

This Gospel confronts us with our own tendency to cause conflict by promoting exclusiveness. At times, we fail to remember that no seats are reserved in heaven for any particular following. If we want to get there, what is necessary is to have faith in God and reliance on His mercy. The good news is that everyone can call upon Him in their needs and receive His mercy because, unlike us, He has time for everybody. †

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time



SENT WITH JOY TO HEAL



MONTHLY THEME
**HEALING TOWARDS
INTEGRATION**

DOES GOD HAVE

FAVOURITES?

Today's Gospel narrates Jesus' encounter with a pagan woman, who takes the initiative to approach Jesus with her request, even though she doesn't belong to the Jewish people.

She is an upset mother in anguish because her daughter is *tormented by a devil*. She comes to Jesus crying out, "Sir, Son of David, take pity on me".

**CHURCH OF THE VISITATION**

85-A, Jalan Yam Tuan, 70000 Seremban
 Tel : 06-7624468 / 7634934 / 7677542
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 Email : serembanvisitation@gmail.com
 Website : www.visitationseremban.org
 Parish Pastor : Rev. Fr Xavier Andrew
 Associate Pastor : Fr. Kenneth Gopal

THEME FOR 2020
DISCIPLESHIP: SENT WITH JOY TO HEAL.
Theme for August 2020
Healing towards Integration

PARISH OFFICE:
Mon – Fri :
 9.00 am to 5.30 pm
Sat : till 1.30 pm
during RCMCO – Covid - 19 until further notice



15th & 16th August 2020 :

20th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME: *Is 56, 1, 6-7 Ps 66, 2-3, 5, 6 and 8 Rom 11, 13-15, 29-32 Mt 15, 21-28*

"Let The Peoples Praise You O God; Let All The Peoples Praise You." (Psalm : 66)

Dear foreigners and permanent residents, due to Government recovery restrictions orders, we sincerely regret to inform that currently you are kindly requested to refrain from participating in the Mass until further notice. **Sincere Apologies!**

Masses will be opened to all parishioners. Each language Mass is open for a limit of 380 parishioners. Those who wish to attend, kindly register through your BEC / Zone coordinators. All names from BEC / Zone are to be submitted to parish office by Thursday for the total count.

23rd August (Sun) : 8.00 am (Tamil) ; 11.00 am (English)

The time of Masses and language is subject to changes in the weeks ahead.

Parish Weekend Collections	02/8/20 : RM3,083.50	09/8/20 : RM2,344.00
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You can watch Visitation Live streaming Mass at : <http://live.visitationseremban.org>

NOTE :

- a) **COMPULSORY FOR ALL THOSE ATTENDING MASS TO USE A MASK, PLEASE COME WITH YOUR OWN MASK.**
- b) **BE IN THE CHURCH ONE AND A HALF HOUR (1 ½ hrs.) EARLIER, TO GO THROUGH ALL THE SOPs BEFORE MASS BEGINS.**

➤ **All parish ministries** of all language groups are requested to conduct your elections for new leaders; not a comeback of the 'old face' to the position.

Those who have already had your elections recently, it's wonderful. As for the rest, please do so by end of September 2020.

➤ Fr, Kenneth and I are indeed grateful to all those who have been serving in the different ministries in the parish. We sincerely **THANK YOU** for your invaluable contributions to the parish all these years.

May the blessings of the Almighty accompany you and your family. Best wishes to all of you. Take Care! **Fr. Xave**

Pray for the Departed Souls of :

- 1) Theresa Chew Siew Fah (d.o.d : 05/08/20)
- 2) Anthony Joseph Viswanathan (d.o.d : 06/08/20)
- 3) Veronica Wong Ah Lek (d.o.d : 13/8/2020)

May Perpetual Light shine upon them

We are recruiting **English choir members** for 9 am Mass and Organists for 6 pm & 9 am English Mass. Those interested kindly contact Mr. Daniel Ram @ 012 6588715

Donations received ONLINE as from 18th March to 09th August 2020 (during the MCO)

Cumulative Amount:	Parish Donations	Adoration Room	PIHDM Food Bank
	RM50,523.00	RM31,408.00	RM10,865.00

DONATIONS / OFFERINGS :

For those who wish to contribute to any of the followings:

- (1) Financial Contribution to the Parish
- (2) Mass offerings
- (3) Adoration Room Makeover
- (4) PIDM Food Bank

We would encourage you to use your banking online facility.

The Parish Bank Account details are as follows:

- a. Bank : **Public Bank Berhad**
- b. Bank Account Name : **Church of Visitation**
- c. Account No : **3121194612**

Please indicate in the online transfer the following details so that the Parish Office could account for them appropriately: - (i) **Amount** (ii) **Purpose** - any of the following :

- 1. Financial Contribution to the Parish
- 2. Mass Intentions for (name) – (RIP, or Thanksgiving or Special Intention)
- 3. Adoration Room Makeover
- 4. PIHDM Food Bank (For more info please call: *John Davidson (017 6158961) or Bernadette (012 2715840)*)

Please email the transaction slip to the Parish email: serembanvisitation@gmail.com for the Parish office record purposes.

- **Sacrament of Confirmation Mass : 30th August 2020 @ 2.00 pm**

All confirmation students have commenced their Sunday classes on 26th July 2020

English : 8.00 am - 9.30 am **Tamil** : 9.45am - 11.15 am **Mandarin** : 11.30 am - 1.00 pm .

Venue : Visitation Hall (upstairs). SOP to be complied.

Confirmants Confession - 21 Aug (Fri) : 6.00 - 9.00 pm

Interview - 22 Aug (Sat) : 9.am - 12 noon (Eng/Mand) / 2 - 5 pm (Eng/Tamil)

Rehearsal - 28 Aug (Fri) : 8 pm

- **Adoration Room Makeover** - see also video in the facebook and Visitation Web.
- **Parish** is also in the process of revamping leadership in all Ministries

Dear parishioners, Thank you for your generous support towards our **PIHDM Food Bank**. We wish to request that the food items donated stay in its original wrapper or packaging. **Do not Repack**. Please continue to support us.

Those who are coming for Mass on Sunday and would like to donate Provisions for Food Bank (PIHDM), kindly drop them in the **Food Bank Box** provided at the Gate 2 at the Security guard post.

Attention :
With immediate effect there will be NO Funeral services at the home of the deceased. Funerals are to be held at Visitation Parlour