

15 MARCH 2020

Newtbec

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

3rd Sunday of Lent



SENT WITH JOY TO HEAL

MONTHLY THEME:

GOD HAS FOUND FAVOUR IN YOU

A Hope Which **DOES NOT DISAPPOINT**

In the Gospel today we hear the familiar story of Jesus' encounter with the woman at the well at Sychar in Samaria.



May Christ be heard in our language, may Christ be seen in our life, may he be perceived in our hearts.

- St. Peter Damian

In the exchange between Jesus and the Samaritan woman, we see the careful way in which Jesus communicates with her, getting to know her and in the process letting her get to know Him.

Only after establishing a connection with her, does He delve into the details of her personal life, never condemning, but making her see the areas which need improvement. In doing so, He reveals to her His identity and His mission.

She is significantly moved by that encounter such that she leaves her water jar, and goes back to town to tell others of Jesus and her suspicion that He is indeed the Christ, because He had told her everything she had done!

We too are called into a personal encounter with Jesus. An encounter that leads to an abiding relationship, which in turn, transforms us.



Scripture of the Day:

Ex 17: 3-7.

Ps 95: 1-2, 6-7, 8-9.

Rom 5: 1-2, 5-8..

Jn 4: 5-42

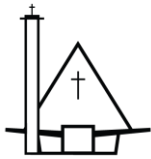
There are many times in our life when we are bewildered by our circumstances, just like the people leaving Egypt who grumbled against Moses. God, in His mercy and goodness, gave them what they most yearned for bountifully.

With faith in God, we have a hope that does not disappoint. The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Weekly
WORD

Let us not harden our hearts

When we hear His voice, let us not harden our hearts, but respond joyfully. By doing what He inspires us to do, we could very well be the sign of hope to those we have been sent to minister and to heal. ✝



CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

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*To contact the Parish Office outside office hours, kindly
WhatsApp: +6016.650 5039 (emergencies only).*

Parish Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Tuesday – Friday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

[Lunch Break: 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm]

Saturday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm; 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am – 12:00 noon

* The Office is closed on Public Holidays

10 Key Points from the Pastoral Letter of the Catholic Bishops of Peninsular Malaysia (12 March 2020)

1. The past few weeks have been a difficult time for all of us as we had to face a three-pronged challenge of a national political crisis, the exponential growth of Covid-19 cases, and the disruption and alteration of many of our cherished Catholic customs for public health safety reasons. As your shepherds, we are fully aware of the pain, confusion and anxiety that many of you are experiencing.
2. Over the past weeks, we the three arch/bishops of the ecclesiastical province in Peninsular Malaysia, have issued several recommendations, advisories and chancery notices introducing both pastoral and safety measures in our effort to combat the spread of infection. These steps, we had hoped, would serve to mitigate the risk of spreading the infection but we also realise that we cannot adequately or fully exclude it altogether, especially in large gatherings taking place within confined spaces.
3. All weekend and weekday public masses will be suspended from 14th of March (or the 13th of March, if the state's weekend begins on Friday) to the 29th of March 2020. We therefore exempt all Catholics from fulfilling their Sunday obligation of attending Mass during this period. This exemption is a temporary measure in the face of the current crisis.
4. Priests are still required to offer Masses in private for the spiritual good of the Church, the intentions of the faithful, and the alleviation of the present crisis.
5. All catechism classes should be closed and catechetical programmes and activities should be cancelled during this same period.
6. All meetings, gatherings, formations, RCIA sessions, fellowships and events in church or in the BEC are to be cancelled and put on hold during this period.
7. Any weddings or funerals are to be conducted privately with guests limited to immediate family members and close friends. Please contact your parish priest for further details.

8. For the sacraments of penance (confession), anointing of the sick and Holy Communion for the home bound, kindly contact the parish office for an appointment with your parish priest.
9. Churches, chapels or prayer rooms (where applicable), shall remain open for private and personal prayer and Eucharistic adoration according to the times scheduled by the respective parishes. Please contact your parish office/ parish website for details.
10. We also declare that the 19 Mar 2020, Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, protector of the Church, be designated as a day of prayer and fasting to invoke Saint Joseph's intercession and God's intervention for an end to this crisis.

CHURCH REMAINS OPEN FOR PRAYER

Despite the suspension of masses and all church activities, the Church is open daily for personal prayer from 6:00 am till 10:00 pm. Kindly maintain an atmosphere of reverence and silence when in the Church.

7 STEPS TO PREVENT COVID-19 SPREADING

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 cases, here is what we all need to do: (1) Take precautions and practise good hand hygiene (wash & sanitize regularly); (2) Avoid shaking hands; (3) Cover your mouth with tissue paper when you cough / sneeze and dispose the tissue appropriately; (4) Avoid touching your nose, mouth and eyes; (5) maintain a reasonable distance (1 meter recommended) when in conversation with others; (6) wear a mask if you are unwell and stay at home; (7) Avoid crowds if you are unwell or show symptoms of influenza.

SANITISE YOUR HANDS

Please be informed that all those entering the Church are requested to sanitise your hands which is provided by the Security Guard. Kindly cooperate with our efforts to prevent the further spread of Covid-19.

DAY OF FAST AND PRAYER

We are invited to be in solidarity as Church in a day of fast and prayer on Thursday, 19 Mar 2020. Let us invoke God to end this pandemic.

LENTEN OFFERING

The Lenten offering is an integral part of our Lenten journey in helping the poor. The envelopes are available at the entrance of the Church and we will be collecting these envelopes back together with your offerings on 18/19 Apr 2020.

CONFIRMATION

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation is scheduled to take place on 18 Apr 2020 @ 6:00 pm. Please pray our students.

ALTAR SERVERS

The commissioning of Altar Servers has been postponed to a later date.

CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass this year will be held on 31 Mar 2020 @ 7:00 pm at the Church of St Anthony, KL. The Chrism Mass is a public celebration and display of the unity of the bishop to the priests of his diocese and the entire Church community. In addition to the priests renewing their promises to the bishop, the three oils blessed by the bishop during the Chrism Mass play such an important role in the life of the Church.

CHRISTIANS & NATION BUILDING IN A PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

This one-day seminar has been postponed to a later date.

UPKEEP OF THE CHURCH

The church is maintained mainly with the monies collected on Sundays. As there will be no masses for the next three weekends, please contact the Parish Office (+603.2274 1631) if you would like to support the parish financially.