Recently a close friend was suddenly struck with a stroke. Overnight, she lost the use of one side of her body. It was a life changing moment not just for her but for her family who now have to see to all her needs. She had to adjust to physical, emotional, and cognitive changes and the need for medical care and rehabilitation.

Naturally, in the beginning, she was devastated, overwhelmed by her condition and questioned why God allowed this to happen to her. Had she not been faithful in her Catholic Life? Had she not served enough in the various ministries of the parish?

As time passed, she became resigned to her present reality. But day by day, with physical therapy and acupuncture, we saw progress in her recovery. The road ahead is still long and arduous. She may not recover fully but there is hope and patient waiting, trusting in God's love for her. As we accompany her on this journey, we too wait eagerly for the day when she will become independent again and be able to move around on her own.

As St Teresa of Avila prayed, "Let nothing disturb you. Let nothing frighten you. All things are passing. God is unchanging. Patience gains all. They who have God lack nothing. God alone is sufficient.

The Advent call to "wait patiently" is not passive surrender; it is an active and hopeful engagement. Watching my friend celebrate small steps of progress through therapy reflects how we must approach ecological and social healing. Every small act of care, restoration, and accompaniment matters, even when the road ahead remains long and full recovery seems uncertain.

SCRIPTURE *of the* DAY

Isaiah 63: 16-17, 64: 1, 3-8
Psalm 79: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Mark 13: 33-37

"The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations."

Saint John Paul II

INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY
BUL 48/2026

Published by: Archdiocesan Pastoral Institute (API) | **Email:** api@archkl.org

NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | 1st Sunday of Advent | 29 Nov 2026

WALKING TOGETHER TOWARDS A SYNODAL AND PROPHETIC CHURCH

A People for Missionary Discipleship

MONTHLY FOCUS: **ECOLOGY: The Cry Of The Earth Is The Cry Of The Poor**



Patience as Active Hope

We begin our Advent journey by reflecting on the virtue of patience. Though the theme of watchfulness is replayed this Sunday, however, the accent is on waiting patiently. *(Extract from the Homilies of a Jesuit dated 28 November 2020)*

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MASS SCHEDULE

28/11/26	**SAT**	7:00 am – SFDS
First Week Advent		8:00 am – Multilingual 10:45 am – Multilingual
St Andrew, Apostle (F)		7:00 am – Our Lady's
01/12/26	**TUE**	7:00 am – SFDS
02/12/26	**WED**	7:00 am – SFDS
St Francis Xavier (M)		No Mass
04/12/26	**FRI**	7:00 am – SFDS
05/12/26	**SAT**	7:00 am – SFDS 7:30 pm – CJC, Bruas
Second Week Advent		8:00 am – English & Tamil 10:45 am – Bahasa Malaysia & Mandrin

UPDATE
Coffee Morning : 29/11 – Tamil Apostolate
Coffee Morning : 06/12 – Concern of the poor
Altar Flower : 28/11 – Chinese Apostolate
Altar Flower : 05/12 – Ladies Group

Parish Updates
Join us for our Advent Recollection in Mandarin with the theme "Come and See" on Wednesday, December 2, starting at 7:30 pm at Parish Hall. The recollection will conclude with Mass.

Ecumenical Christmas Gathering

This Christmas season, we are invited to pause, reflect on the gift of Christ's birth, and celebrate the unity we share as one body of believers in Sitiawan.

Join us for our Ecumenical Christmas Gathering at Wesley Bungalow on Dec 12 from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Together, we will lift our voices in prayer and Christmas carols, followed by a shared lunch. This is a wonderful opportunity to testify to God's goodness, deepen our friendships, and strengthen our Christian communion across the community.

All parishioners are warmly welcome. We encourage you to set aside some time on this special day—come, bring your joy, and celebrate the season with us!

✦ ✦ ✦

CHRISTMAS • MARY, MOTHER OF GOD • EPIPHANY

Celebration Schedule · 11 December – 3 January

DATE	CELEBRATION	TIME
11 Dec Friday	**Advent Confession**	**7:00 pm** Mass, followed by Confession
12 Dec Saturday	**Ecumenical Christmas Gathering**	**10:30 am** Bungalow Wesley
19 Dec Saturday	**Parish Children's Christmas Gathering**	**6:00 pm**
20–23 Dec Sunday–Wednesday	**Kelompok Masses**	At various Kelompok
24 Dec Thursday	**Christmas Eve**	**6:00 pm** Mass (ML) **7:45 pm** Carolling **8:30 pm** Mass (ML)
25 Dec Friday	**Christmas Day**	**8:00 am** Mass (ML) **10:00 am** Carolling **10:30 am** Mass (ML)
27 Dec Sunday	**Feast of the Holy Family**	**8:00 am** Mass (T & E) **10:30 am** Mass (BM & M) Each Mass ends with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Families are invited to come up to the altar to pray with Jesus.
1 Jan Friday	**Mary, Mother of God**	**9:30 am** Mass (ML) The children will lead the Rosary in ML
2 Jan Saturday	**Parish Christmas Celebration for the Elderly**	**10:30 am** **7:30pm** Mass (CJC, Bruas)
3 Jan Sunday	**Epiphany of the Lord**	**8:00 am** Mass (T & E) **10:45 am** Mass (M & BM)

Perak Deanery Confession Schedule
Please note that I will be away on the following evenings to assist with Confessions in other parishes.

2 Dec	SJ, Batu Gajah
7 Dec	SMC, Ipoh
9 Dec	OMPH, Ipoh
10 Dec	OLOL, Ipoh
11 Dec	HR, Tg Malim and SFDS, Sitiawan
14 Dec	SA, Teluk Intan; SP, Kuala Kangsar; SJB, Sg Siput
15 Dec	TCC, Taiping
16 Dec	SHJ, Kampar; SM, Tapah; SJ, Bidor

Crib and Church Decoration

This year, the Parish Apostolate Group will lead the decoration of the church and the building of the Crib. Let us come together as a community to decorate the church and build the Crib.

Parish Children & Elderly Christmas Celebration

Let's celebrate the joy of Christmas across all generations! Join us for a special gathering dedicated to our children and beloved seniors.

- How to join: Please register at the church entrance so we can prepare the venue, food, and refreshments for everyone.
- Calling all youth! Parents, please encourage your teenagers and young adults to lend a helping hand during the celebration. Their energy and care will be a huge blessing to our elders!

Come be part of this heartwarming celebration of faith, family, and service!