

**“A good leader fosters leadership in others.”**

*Pope Francis*



**SCRIPTURE of the DAY**

Exodus 16: 2-4, 12-15

Psalms 77: 3-4, 23-25, 54

Ephesians 4: 17, 20-24

John 6: 24-35

it is a good time for us to reflect on our own attitudes towards leadership: **what do we truly expect from others and ourselves as leaders?**

Like the sons of Israel who complained to Moses about the lack of food in the desert, we sometimes complain about the failings of our human leaders. Every action or initiative they make, positive or negative becomes a point of discussion and criticism. Whatever the reasons; we often have an opinion on what they should do or how they should act, insisting that they fulfil our expectations as ‘servant leaders’.

Similarly, in the Gospel reading, the Jews went to Jesus to make him their King, expecting him to provide for them. However, Jesus drew their attention to the fact that they were not really looking for a leader to bring them to the Kingdom of God, but someone who would fulfill their material needs. “You look for me, not because you have seen through the signs but because you ate bread and were satisfied.” He told them: “Work not for perishable food but for the lasting food that gives eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you”

Therefore, in the second reading, Paul called for us to leave behind illusory desires for the Kingdom of God; echoing Jesus’ words to work for food that lasts. In the busyness of daily life, we, as both leaders and followers, sometimes forget what is truly important, forgoing the eternal to appease our temporary appetites.

Let us then take this time as an opportunity to reflect on ourselves and what we look for in our leaders. Are we just waiting for someone else to take the lead only to complain about their leadership after that? How well do we support and encourage our leaders in discerning God’s will instead of their own agenda? Let us be reminded of Jesus’ words: “It was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father who gives you the true bread that gives life to the world.”✠

# newbee

**SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD:  
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF  
COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION (MATTHEW 5: 13-16).**

**MONTHLY FOCUS SERVANT LEADERSHIP**

## DISCERNING IN LEADERSHIP

The Regional Pastoral Assembly (RPA) previously convened as the Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Convention (PMPC), will be held at the end of this month, just before Merdeka Day. In light of the recent discussions about synodality and walking together as Church in Malaysia;

