

Letter from the Revd Monwabisi Peter

14 January 2018

Dear people of God

2017 has come and gone. If we were to remember what we did on this day in 2017 many of us would recall some of the issues that made us think 2017 would indeed be a horrible year. Many would rightfully suggest that 2017 has been a year of mixed fortunes and yet, we have made it with God's help.

On this second Sunday after Epiphany, we continue to celebrate the birth of the "One born to be King." In our celebrations we are encouraged to acknowledge the presence of Christ in our joy, disappointments and plans at the dawn of 2018. Today's appointed Psalm (Ps 139) offers comfort to all those yearning to make the new-born baby a centre of everything they will be doing from today onward. The Psalmist says in verse two "You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away." This is undoubtedly an assurance of God's knowledge of every person.

As we start 2018, let us not look back to all that holds us back from trusting God's presence in our lives. Let us start anew and prepare ourselves to face the challenges ahead of us with our heads held up high unto the One that knows our respective journeys' long before we embark on our ventures.

As a nation, we are undoubtedly faced with a lot of uncertainty, with leadership being one of the heavily debated issues confronting our beloved country. As we lament in awe, the well-publicised concerns around our ailing economy, we should take comfort in what the Psalmist says in verse five of today's appointed psalm; "The Lord goes before us and He follows us."

Let us go forth knowledgeable of His blessing hand on our heads. With God as our leader, we must live and lead our lives under His guiding hand. We will have an amazing year if we trust in Him because the Magi were given a new root on their way home.

In conclusion, God is our strength. Let Him be the strong foundation of life so that we may not stumble when things go wrong.

Happy New Year

Fr Monwabisi Peter