



THE VICAR

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WRITES

*"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!" (ESV, Psalm 46:10)*

We are living in challenging times. The pandemic and the effects of COVID-19 have brought about great social, psychological, and spiritual impacts on individuals and families. One huge way in which COVID-19 has impacted us is in the area of mental health—reports of mental wellness revealed that more are seeking help, and even our young are not spared. Yet, God wants us to be still before Him in this season of great turmoil even as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and to receive the new year.

It is important to realise that the posture of stillness before the Lord is not withdrawal, running away, or defeat. Instead the posture of stillness is to acknowledge the authority of our Lord over all matters in heaven and on earth. It is also a posture of acknowledging that Jesus Christ is the Lord of our lives and in Him we will overcome all challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic. For that reason, the Lord declared in Psalm 46 – *"I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"*

Many of us will be clearing our annual leave this December. I would like to encourage you to spend some personal, unhurried time, to be still in the Lord's presence to seek His face and to once again acknowledge His sovereignty over our lives and church. May you find new joy and renewed strength in this season of Advent.

A few things will be taking place in December. We will gradually increase our seating capacity for our onsite services in preparation for Christmas, and we will also be ramping up our evangelistic effort within the confine of safety measures, to proclaim the Good News of Great Joy!

I am heartened to hear how quickly the Cathedral members have signed up to support the Adopt-a-Block this Christmas (ABC) initiative in Bukit Merah in various ways. If you have missed signing up for ABC, it is still not too late to invite your pre-believing friends to attend our Christmas services, especially the Christmas evangelistic service on 26 Dec onsite. You can also invite them to join in the live-streamed service with you in your homes and to celebrate Christmas over a simple meal (within the SMM guidelines).

Lastly, we will end the year together to renew our commitment to the Lord as a family, at our Covenant Service on 31 Dec (onsite and online). I will also be sharing what the Lord has laid on the hearts of the church leadership for the coming year. Please don't miss this important time as a Cathedral family. Information of all our services are available on our website: <https://cathedral.org.sg/goodnews>

Wishing you in advance a Blessed Christmas & New Year!