

## **St Simon Catholic Church Likas to bless new chapel and other completed works on Jan 20**

### **Audrey J Ansibin**

KOTA KINABALU: On Sunday Jan 20 at 8.30 am, in this Year of Faith all over the Catholic world, St Simon Catholic Church Likas will bless and officially open its new chapel, beautification and other newly completed works.

Its Parish Priest Fr Cosmas Lee and leaders in the Parish Pastoral Council are inviting all parishioners and friends to join the parish community in thanksgiving on the auspicious day.

Fr Cosmas explained that the chapel, beautification, repairs and renovation, have been done to instil a sense of dignity and to create a more sacred environment for prayer and worship.

The works completed costing around RM2 Million, include the construction of a new Blessed Sacrament Chapel, beautification (touch-up on the church front, and installation of stained-glass religious images), repairs and renovation of the interior and exterior of the church, construction of new and resealing of existing roads and parking lots. Italian stained glasses depicting the 7 sacraments, St Michael and the Holy Family decorate the chapel. A beautiful and locally crafted altar, ambo, chairs, and pews now adorn the chapel. Two exquisite pieces of stained glasses, one of St Simon the Zealot patron of the parish and the other of the Crucifixion of Christ, have transformed the worship atmosphere in the interior of the very simple 28-year-old church.

The 8-month long construction works saw generous and widespread financial support including many non-parishioners.

In an open invitation, Fr Cosmas, while expressing gratitude and appreciation to God and people, has called upon all parishioners and friends, especially those who have helped in cash, kind, services, and ideas, to join in the auspicious event. The celebration shall begin with Mass at 8.30 am followed by the Blessing of the Chapel, and lunch at the parish hall for all.

Archbishop John Wong, the new Archbishop of Archdiocese of Kota Kinabalu is expected to preside over the event.

For more information, please call St Simon Church office at 088-212713.