

CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

Address: 117, Jalan Kenari, Sungai Ara, 11900 Bayan Lepas, Penang
Tel: 04-646 6881 / 04-637 0735 | **Email:** divinemercybg@yahoo.com
Website: www.cdm.my | **Facebook:** Church of Divine Mercy Sg Ara
Parish Office Hours: 9am - 5pm (Tuesday - Friday)
 9am - 1pm (Saturday & Sunday)
Monday Closed



PARISH PRIEST:
 Rev. Fr. Michael Raymond OFM.Cap

2021 THEME - HOPE: BELIEVE, LIVE, AND GIVE
FEBRUARY THEME: SOLIDARITY IN DIVERSITY

PARISH PRIEST SPEAKS

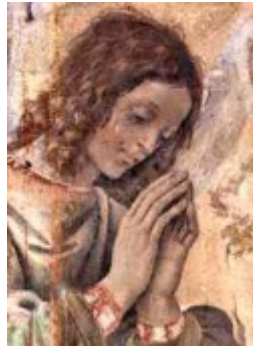
"The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel." Mark 1:15

As we step into the season of Lent, we find ourselves on a path that leads to the triumph of mercy over all that would crush us or reduce us to something unworthy as God's children. Lent is the road leading from slavery to freedom, from suffering to joy, from death to life. Lent is the time to start breathing again. It is the time to open our hearts to the breath of the One capable of turning our dust into humanity. It is not the time to rend our garments before the evil all around us, but instead to make room in our life for all the good we are able to do.

On this first Sunday, the Gospel brings us to the roots of the Lenten journey in the life of Jesus, the temptation in the desert. We begin our pondering this week by trying to unpack the gospel text; "The spirit led Jesus out into the desert." The desert is a place of desolation. It is comprised of seemingly endless sand with hardly any water. There is nothing to sustain life. In complete contrast to this desert desolation is the Spirit who led Jesus there. While the desert is dry and barren, the Holy Spirit is often represented as water and life – themes which are particularly prominent in the Gospel of John. Today's second reading also ascribes to the Spirit the mission of giving life.

In between the desolate desert and the life-giving Spirit, we have the verb *drive*. It is a strong and active word, reminding us that the Spirit is driving us too into the serious work of penitence and conversion. Our journey requires a firm and purposeful decision; we cannot be faithful to our covenant without it. Here we may recall the three pillars of our Lenten program: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Now is the time to intensify our prayer, to deliberately refrain from satisfying our desires, and to use the resources gained by our fasting in ways that will help others.

The "path" of the Lord is a path of repentance and renewal. This is the message of Jesus from the very start of his ministry: "Repent, and believe in the gospel." In our desert pilgrimage of life, we do not live on bread alone but on such words from our Lord. Lent is not merely more rituals; it is a renewed call to reject the desolate emptiness of sin and to "believe in the gospel" – that is, to follow Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life.



Will Jesus be my constant companion as I enter the desert this Lent? Am I open to the Spirit as He drives me into the serious work of penitence and conversion?

This Lent, am I ready to renew my call to reject the desolate emptiness of sin and to follow Jesus?

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

CDM E-Bulletin Subscription: cdmbulletin@gmail.com

Daily Reflection on Word of God (Lectio Divina)
<http://cdm.my/bec-reflection/>

Mass Intentions Submission Deadline (Online)

For weekday mass offerings: least 48 hours in advance.

For weekend mass offerings: before 12pm Wednesdays.

Bank:- **Maybank (Church of Divine Mercy)**

Acc: **5073 9410 1643** (for tithes & pledges; please provide envelope reference number & month)

Acc: **5073 9410 1910** (for other donations; poor, migrants..)

Email your receipt and mass offering details (names of departed souls / thanksgiving / special intentions to:

masscdmsgara@gmail.com

- **STOP & PRAY @ 8.05pm everyday** wherever you are.
- **POST & PRAY** for all intentions on the **Wall of Prayer**.
- **READ & SHARE** the Word of God **daily**

CDM compound is a Non Smoking Zone

MASS & PRAYER TIMES	DAY	DESCRIPTION
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LIVE streaming
DM Chaplet 8.30am **SUN** First Sunday of Lent
 Mass 9.00am **21 Feb** *Gen 9: 8-15*
1 Pt 3: 18-22
Mk 1: 12-15

Live Streaming of Masses on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/cdmmsgarapg/>

LIVE streaming **MON**
 Mass 7.00am **22 Feb**

LIVE streaming **TUE** St Polycarp,
 Mass 7.00am **23 Feb** Bishop and Martyr

LIVE streaming **WED**
 Mass 7.00am **24 Feb**

LIVE streaming **THU**
 Mass 7.00am **25 Feb**

LIVE streaming **FRI**
 Way of the Cross 7.30pm **26 Feb**
 Mass 8.00pm

LIVE streaming **SAT**
 Mass 7.00am **27 Feb**

LIVE streaming Second Sunday of
DM Chaplet 8.30am **SUN** Lent
 Mass 9.00am **28 Feb** *Gen 22: 1-2, 9a,*
10-13, 15-18
Rom 8: 31b-34
Mk 9: 2-10

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FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Bank Account Details

Those who wish to contribute through bank/online transfer, the detail as follows:

Bank: **Maybank**

Acc No.: **507394101643 (Church of Divine Mercy)**.

Please pass / email the copy of the bank-in slip to the parish office for receipt issuance.

~ UPDATE ON FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES ~

Donations up to 1 Nov: RM1,250.00 (pledges)

Amount remaining to be collected: **RM 8,369,597.00***

* all numbers rounded up to nearest RM

PARISH/DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Public Mass Suspension is still in effect with the extension of MCO2.0 until 4 Mar 2021.

Live-streaming of Masses will continue as usual.

Lenten Prayer Cards are now available via your BEC leaders in hardcopy/softcopy and also accessible from the website <https://cdm.my/cdm.my/lent-2021/>

Lent Reflections Online

Dive deeper into this Lenten season with these daily reflections online:

<https://www.lentreflections.com/>

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/lent/best-lent-ever.html>

Run Limitless With Jesus 2021

Islander's Tamil Youth Network is organizing a 31km Virtual Run from 1—31 Mar. You may use any running app to track your distance and share photos & videos with the **#runlimitlesswithjesus2021**

Fee: RM40 (50% student discount)

Registration/Information: <https://bit.ly/3awHbii>

Deadline: Sun, 28 Feb

Lectio—Prayer: Finding Intimacy with God

By Dr. Tim Gray, a renowned Bible Scholar and Catholic speaker to discover the secret to opening our hearts and minds to Scripture at the means to hear from God.

Five (5) sessions: Tuesdays @ 8.30pm—10pm

23 Feb, 2, 9, 16 & 23 Mar or

Thursdays @ 10am—11.30am

25 Feb, 4, 11, 18, 25 Mar

Registration: RM10

Contact (Whatsapp): Jeanne Saw (016-4554597)

Marriage Preparation Courses 2021

Catholic Engaged Encounter—English

5-7 Mar @ Stella Maris, Tg Bgh or Online

28-30 May, 27-29 Aug, 19-21 Nov*

*venue to be confirmed

Contact: Nicholas-Christine (017-595 9790) or Bart-Angie (017-590 0978)

Marriage Preparation Weekend—Chinese

20-21 Mar, 10—11 July

Venue: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit

Contact: Joachim (012-477 8319) / Cecilia(012-454 7007)

Reach Out For Help — Phone Counselling Service

For those who are experiencing stress, anxiety and depression due to loss of income and/or lack of support systems brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Contact us to arrange for a personal, and highly confidential counselling session.

Contact: 011-10522313 / cdmhelpdesk117@gmail.com

