

CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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Website: www.cdm.my | **Facebook:** Church of Divine Mercy Sg Ara
Parish Office Hours: 9am - 5pm (Tuesday - Friday)
 9am - 1pm (Saturday & Sunday)



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

2021 THEME - HOPE: BELIEVE, LIVE, AND GIVE
DECEMBER THEME: DO NOT BE AFRAID, I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS

PARISH PRIEST SPEAKS

Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: Rejoice! The Lord is near. (Philippians 4: 4-5)

The Good News throughout Advent is that the Lord is coming, and that message brings great joy. On this third Sunday of Advent, the liturgy invites us to joy. The celebration this week is at times referred to as "The Sunday of Joy." You will at times find priests wearing rose vestments as a sign of rejoicing. We are clearly being invited to enter into the spirit of rejoicing and to ponder it. Why do we rejoice? Many things give us joy, some very simple, some more profound. In the season of Advent, we have a real reason for rejoicing always because God is always with us. He does not leave us, or change, or weaken; He does not do anything against us; His love is constant and strong.

In the gospel we find the people asking John what they should do. They seek him out for his wisdom because they recognize him as a man of God. They are even asking themselves whether he might be Messiah, the Christ. John clarifies that he is not: "One mightier than I, is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of His sandals." John further describes part of the mission of the Messiah: "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in His hand to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire." The practice of winnowing provides an image for how God will separate the faithful from the unrepentant at the end of the world. A winnowing fan was used to toss the grain into the air, which allowed the wind to scatter the chaff, the waste. The grain was then swept up and gathered to be stored in the barn, while the chaff was burned.

What does this have to do with "rejoicing in the Lord"? There is, to be sure, no joy for those who by their own choices have made themselves "chaff." Sin cannot bring us lasting joy. It might give us some kind of fleeting relief or distraction, but that sort of "joy" is always short lived. For the "wheat," however, there is the lasting joy of being gathered into union with God.

The Lord is inviting us to participate in His own joy, joy "in the Lord." Perhaps our Christmas joy may be muted this year as we still face the effects of the pandemic. But even

if we can enjoy our Christmas celebrations and family gatherings, these cannot give us the deepest joy. The deepest joy is to know God, to love him, to do his will, and to invite others to do the same. May all of us share in the greatest joy, the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

What are some of the profound experiences in my life that caused me to rejoice in a deeper way? In what ways have I experienced joy in suffering? Why do I seek and desire joy from the passing things and not in the knowledge that God loves me?

REFLECTION MATERIALS

Daily Reflection on Word of God (Lectio Divina)
<https://bit.ly/3xxdveT>

Advent Reflections 2021
 Prepare for the coming of Christ, our Treasure, with these daily videos & gospel reflections by Matthew Kelly & Bishop Barron for the best Advent ever!
<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html>
<https://www.adventreflections.com/>

FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

CDM E-Bulletin Subscription: cdmbulletin@gmail.com

Mass Intentions Submission Deadline

Weekday mass offerings: at least 48 hours in advance.
Weekend mass offerings: before 12pm Wednesday
 Drop Mass Intention envelopes into the Mass Offering Box located next to ground floor office or submit to Church Admin (1st Floor office).

For online Mass Intentions, email receipt and details (name of departed souls, thanksgiving or special intentions) to masscdmsgara@gmail.com
 Bank Acc: **Maybank # 5073 9410 1910**
 Acc Name: **Church of Divine Mercy**

Fundraising & tithes/pledges

Provide reference number & month as stated on the envelope to divinemercury@yahoo.com
 Bank Acc: **Maybank # 5073 9410 1643**
 Acc Name: **Church of Divine Mercy**

MASS & PRAYER TIMES	DAY	DESCRIPTION
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LIVE Streaming
DM Chaplet 8.30am **SUN**
 Mass * 9.00am **12 Dec**
 Mass 11.00am

3rd Sunday of Advent
Zeph 3: 14-18a
Phil 4: 4-7
Lk 3: 10-18

Sacrament of First Holy Communion

LIVE Streaming
 Mass* 6.45am **MON**
13 Dec St Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

LIVE Streaming
 Mass* 6.45am **TUE**
14 Dec St John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor

LIVE Streaming
 Mass* 6.45am **WED**
15 Dec

LIVE Streaming
 Mass* 6.45am **THU**
16 Dec

LIVE Streaming
 Mass* 6.45am **FRI**
17 Dec


LIVE Streaming
 Mass* 6.45am **SAT**
18 Dec
 Novena to OMPH
 Mass 5.30pm

LIVE Streaming
DM Chaplet 8.30am **SUN**
 Mass* 9.00am **19 Dec**

4th Sunday of Advent
Mic 5: 1-4a
Hebr 10: 5-10
Lk 1: 39-45

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

- **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**



Click on [CDM Penang's linktree](#) or scan the QR code for updates
 Imbaskan kod QR untuk maklumat terkini.

PARISH/DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CDM Advent Penitential Service

Fri, 17 Dec - **10.00am** for the elderly
7.00pm for all

Christmas Gotong Royong

Date/Time: **Sat, 18 Dec @ 8.00am—12.00pm**

Lend a helping hand in preparing the way for the Lord this Christmas 2021. Do BYO cleaning materials.

Thanksgiving Cards

Thankfulness is the perfect soil of expectancy. A time to give, a time to love, a time to reflect. Let's take a moment to thank God who has showered us with great blessings and abundance in our life by transforming the Garden of Mercy with the Tree of Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving Cards will be available at the Garden and also via [Google form](#). Submission deadline: **Wed, 29 Dec**.

Registration for Saturday/Sunday Masses

Be merciful and please register only when you can confirm your attendance. If you need to cancel your registration, please check your email order from Eventbrite or seek assistance from your BEC leader.

[Saturday Sunset Mass 11 December 2021](#)
[Sunday Morning Mass 12 December 2021](#)

Charis Malaysia—Christmas Special: Night of Praise

Join us for a time of praise as we prepare for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ this Christmas with a Christmas message from Bishop Sebastian Francis.

Date/Time: **Thur, 16 Dec @ 8.00pm—10.00pm**

Zoom: <https://bit.ly/3lrUn85>

YouTube Live: <https://bit.ly/3nBBYgl>

SERVE IN MERCY

With life resuming in the 'new normal', food aid requests have reduced significantly from week to week. With praise to God, locals and migrants that were badly affected financially by the numerous lockdowns have been able to return to the workforce and thus, no longer dependent on our weekly food aid.

Henceforth, the Serve In Mercy team will be taking a step back in this outreach effective Sat, 1 Jan 2022. the Google link will be deactivated and the last food aid delivery will be on Sun, 19 Dec 2020.

However, the Ministry of the Poor and the Migrant Ministry will continue to work with Caritas Penang in reaching out to the marginalized community around us. For more information on continuing your support, please contact Thomas (MOP) or Wai Queen (Migrants).

Ask not what can the world do for you, but what you can do for the world. Whatsoever you do to the least of your brethren, you do unto Me -Mt 25:40