



CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

Address: 117, Jalan Kenari, Sungai Ara, 11900 Bayan Lepas, Penang
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Website: www.cdm.my | **Facebook:** Church of Divine Mercy Sg Ara
Parish Office Hours: *Closed on Monday*
 9am - 5pm (Tuesday - Friday)
 9am - 1pm (Saturday & Sunday)
PARISH PRIEST: Rev. Fr. Michael Raymond OFM. Cap



MASS OFFERINGS

Weekday mass offerings: at least 48 hours in advance.
Weekend mass offerings: before 12pm Wednesday
 Email receipt & details* to mascdmsgara@gmail.com
 (*names of departed souls, thanksgiving or special intentions)
 Bank Acc: **Maybank #5073 9410 1910** or via **Touch N' Go**
 Acc Name: **Church of Divine Mercy**

CDM Kampung-Ku --- OCTOBER 2023

Live our faith: Why does a loving God allow so much suffering in the world?

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions

We pray for the church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

Parish Priest speaks...

The readings this weekend invite us to ponder on the theme of abundance. We can safely presume that all people aspire for some sort of abundance. But how do we properly direct this natural inclination? How can we keep our hearts in check so that we do not go overboard or become too self-centred? The readings and reflection this weekend provide us with wisdom, to guide toward the path of virtue all our natural cravings for abundance.

The first reading promises abundance in its wonderful description of the feast that the Lord will provide. It is simply "a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines." When the prophet Isaiah wrote this, the Northern kingdom of Israel had already fallen to the Assyrians. Driven from their homes and land, they are broken, defeated, and impoverished. Yet Isaiah prophesies a future of abundance, a time when the Lord of hosts will win a decisive victory over evil. "The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face." Thus, the first point of our reflections on abundance is that it comes from the Lord.

In Paul's letter to the Philippians, he shows that he has learned to cope with life's ups and downs and has come to grow and thrive through the sufferings of life. He says, "I know how to live in humble circumstances, and I know also how to live with abundance. In every circumstances and in all things, I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need." Paul shows us a path to an abundance that remains even when the world's abundance is absent. It is an abundance of peace and joy. The second point to ponder is how to draw abundance from Christ's victory over suffering and death and apply it to whatever situation we are in.

The Lord who spreads the table before us in the sight of our foes gives us another image in today's Gospel. He likes His Kingdom to that of "a king who gave a wedding feast for his son." This parable offers a marvellous synthesis of

Isaiah's "feast of rich food and choice wines." The generous invitation deserves a prompt and generous response. To ignore it, or to keep busy doing something else, or to mistreat its messengers, may lead not to abundance but to destruction and ruin. And if we claim to be able to enter the banquet on our own terms, it is like attending a wedding without respecting proper decorum. It is unacceptable to simply walk into a wedding banquet without wearing a wedding garment. The "wedding garment" here represents our being clothed with grace in the Sacrament of Baptism. All the baptised are freely given this garment. The decorum expected of us is that we will conduct our lives as children of God, redeemed by Christ. If we live as if we are not children of God but of the world, or worse, of the enemy, the Gospel warns that we can be cast into the darkness outside, a consequence that is not what God wants for us but is the natural and terrible result of our own sinful choices.

The Responsorial Psalm speaks of our desire for abundance as a longing for a secure dwelling place: "I shall live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life." We are created with a longing for Heaven. As we journey through the "dark valley" of this world, we carry in our hearts a seed of eternity. How can we gain access to our eternal dwelling place even now? We rely on the virtue of hope, as we are reminded by today's Gospel Acclamation: "May the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call." This call, this divine invitation, is to draw toward the Source of abundance who has won victory over sin and death. We can claim this abundance during our pilgrimage through this valley of tears, peppered with sufferings and dangers by responding to the Lord's magnanimous and generous invitation for us to partake of the heavenly banquet, abundant with choice food and wine.

MASS & PRAYER TIMES

DAY	DESCRIPTION
SUN 15 Oct	28h Sunday of Ordinary Time <i>Is 25: 6-10</i> <i>Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20</i> <i>Mt 22: 1-14</i> <i>(or 22: 1-10)</i>
Rosary 8.30am Mass 9.00am	
Rosary 5.30pm Tamil Mass 6.00pm	

DAY	DESCRIPTION
MON 16 Oct	St Hedwig, Religious St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin
No Mass	

DAY	DESCRIPTION
TUE 17 Oct	St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm	

DAY	DESCRIPTION
WED 18 Oct	St Luke, Evangelist
No Mass	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm	

DAY	DESCRIPTION
THU 19 Oct	SS. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs St Paul of the Cross, Priest
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm	

DAY	DESCRIPTION
FRI 20 Oct	
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm	

DAY	DESCRIPTION
SAT 21 Oct	
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	
Novena for OMPH 5.15pm Mass 5.30pm	

DAY	DESCRIPTION
SUN 22 Oct	29th Sunday of Ordinary Time <i>Is 45: 1, 4-6</i> <i>1 Th 1: 1-5</i> <i>Mt 22: 15-21</i>
Mission Sunday	
Rosary 8.30am Mass 9.00am	

*"I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life."
 - Psalm 23:6*

REFLECTION:

*Being grateful for the abundance of God,
 why do I forget to thank Him?
 How is Christ's victory over sin and death
 a source of abundance for me?
 How is God calling me to abundance even now?*

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Congratulations to our First Holy Communicants.
 May this Sacrament be your catalyst to a life
 fully and wholly in the Lord God as He is in you.
 God Bless, Fr. Michael Raymond OFM. Cap*

Wedding Banns:

Sat, 21 Oct 2023

10.30am (Service): **Erick Ashvin & Shangari Devi**

Sat, 28 Oct 2023

10.00am (Mass): **Alvin George & Flora Francis**

1.00pm (Mass): **Johnical & Evelyn**

3.00pm (Service): **Raymond Raj & Dhevarani**

If anyone knows of any canonical impediments to the proposals of marriage stated, please contact the parish priest.

Note: For couples intending to get married in church, please make an appointment with the Parish Priest **at least 6 months** before the intended date of marriage.

Dates: **Sundays; 15*, 22, 29 Oct 2023**

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW): 9.00am

*No CLOW on 15 Oct

Catechism: 10.45am

CDM Learning Centre: 2.00pm



COFFEE MORNING by Prison Ministry on **Sun, 22 Oct.**

PARISH ASSEMBLY on **Sun, 5 Nov (11am)**. Please pray for a fruitful outcome for our parish's spiritual direction & mission. All are highly encouraged to attend.

GENESIS YOUTHS OF MERCY: YOUTH CAMP

Calling all Form 1 - 5 to join in the 3D2N camp filled with food, fun & fellowship!

Date: **Fri, 10 Nov—Sun, 12 Nov** (register by 31 Oct)

Fees: RM50/pax (incl. T-shirt) or RM35/pax

Contact Agape (016-6441187) or @genesisyouthscdm (IG)

ALL SOULS' DAY (2 NOV 2023)

Drop your love messages & photos of your dearly departed into the box provided near the ground floor office. They will be strung up near the altar on All Souls' Day.

SEEDS MINISTRY: "MARY AROSE WITH HASTE"

Empowerment, connection & growth for young adults.

Date/Time: **Fri, 20 Oct from 8.00pm to 10.00pm**

Venue: Catholic Diocesan Office, Macalister Road.

Contact Monica (016-9570382) or Jonathan (016-2414689)

Prayers & Meditation

Tuesdays—Fridays at 3.00pm

Divine Mercy prayer group: St. JP II Adoration Room

Wed, 18 Oct at 8.30pm

English Christian Meditation: 3rd floor classrooms

Fridays, 20 & 27 Oct at 8.30pm

Rosary at Grotto followed by fellowship

Wed, 25 Oct; 8 & 22 Nov at 8.15pm

CDM Charismatic Renewal Group —St. Faustina Hall