



# CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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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

## CDM Kampung-Ku --- NOVEMBER 2023

*Live our faith: Why do Catholics believe in purgatory?*

### 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...

This weekend we reflect on the two greatest commandments, "the love of God and love of neighbour." These two commandments sum up our whole purpose in life. They are the foundation of the entire law and the prophets, as Jesus tells us in the Gospel. Today's first reading gives us practical wisdom on how to love our neighbour, while the second reading tells us how the Thessalonians turned from false gods to worship the one true God.

In the gospel we find that Jesus does not stop after stating which commandment is the greatest because love of God and love of neighbour must go together. We cannot have one without the other. St. John puts it this way: "If anyone says, 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. This is the commandment we have from Him: whoever loves God must also love his brother" (1 Jn 4: 20-21).

Love is what gives life meaning and brings us true happiness. When we love in truth, we are like God, who is Love. Pope St. John Paul II says, "Love is the fundamental and innate vocation of every human being." In his first Encyclical Letter, The Redeemer of Man (Redemptory Hominis), he writes: "Man cannot live without love. He remains a being that is incomprehensible for himself, his life is senseless, if love is not revealed to him, if he does not encounter love, if he does not experience it and make it his own, if he does not participate intimately in it." It cannot be overstated that love is essential for us. If we do not love, we cannot discover our true selves. In fact, we destroy ourselves. We turn the spiritual energy of love, a

self-gift meant for others, back towards ourselves, turning it into an unhealthy self-love. Jesus says that we are to love our neighbour as ourselves, implying the need for true self-love. The proper way of self-love is to love ourselves as God loves us. When we truly love ourselves, we choose what is for our eternal good. False self-love is actually self-destructive, for we choose what satisfies us at the moment without concern for our eternal good.

Genuine love is not an automatic response. It is a decision, and act of the will. This is why it can be "commanded." We can obey the commandment to love because we can choose to love. Love, then, is not the same as liking someone, which tends to come naturally to us. Love takes effort. We can love even those whom we do not like. Very often we have a certain natural aversion to people who are different from us. Such people are represented in the Scriptures as we find in the reading from Exodus, namely, as the "aliens," meaning foreigners or any stranger. We also may have a natural dislike for people who make demands on our charity. These people are represented by "the poor, the widows, and the orphans." The Lord tells us that just as He "hears the cry of the poor," so must we. We cannot love only those who appeal to us or who benefits us because that is not authentic love.

The readings, then, call us to true love of self, which reflects God's love for us, true love of neighbour, which reflects God's love for them, and finally, true love of God. How are we to love God? Not only when His will appeals to us or seems to benefit us, but with our whole heart, soul, and mind. This is how God loves us with His whole being. When we love, we become true icons of God in the world.

### MASS OFFERINGS

*Weekday mass offerings: at least 48 hours in advance.*

*Weekend mass offerings: before 12pm Wednesday*

Email receipt & details\* to [mascdmsgara@gmail.com](mailto: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**

*"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind  
 .... You shall love your neighbour as yourself." - Matthew 22:37, 39*

### REFLECTION:

*Why do I find it difficult to love my neighbour as myself?  
 Why is it also impossible for me to love my neighbour if I do not truly love myself?  
 How has love given me true meaning and true happiness in my life?*



### MASS & PRAYER TIMES

#### DAY

#### DESCRIPTION

Rosary 8.30am SUN  
 Mass 9.00am 29 Oct

30th Sunday of Ordinary Time  
 Ex 22: 20-26  
 1 Th 1: 5-10  
 Mt 22: 34-40

No Mass MON  
 30 Oct

Grotto Mass followed by rosary and candle-lit procession 8.00pm TUE  
 31 Oct

*Closing of Rosary Month*

Lauds 6.20am  
 Mass 6.45am WED  
 01 Nov

All Saints Day  
*Day of Obligation*

DM Chaplet followed by Mass 8.00pm THU  
 02 Nov

The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

DM Chaplet 3.00pm  
 Holy Hour followed by Mass 8.00pm FRI  
 03 Nov

St Martin de Porres, Religious

Lauds 6.20am  
 Grotto Mass 6.45am followed by rosary SAT  
 04 Nov

St Charles Borromeo, Bishop

DM Chaplet 8.30am  
 Mass 9.00am SUN  
 05 Nov

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time  
 Mal 1: 14-2: 2, 8-10  
 1 Th 2: 7-9, 13  
 Mt 23: 1-12

### Prayers & Meditation

**Tuesdays—Fridays at 3.00pm**

Divine Mercy prayer group: St. JP II Adoration Room

**Wed, 8 & 22 Nov at 8.15pm**

CDM Charismatic Renewal Group —St. Faustina Hall

**Wed, 15 Nov at 8.30pm**

English Christian Meditation: St. JP II Adoration Room

**Thur, 16 Nov at 8.30pm**

Chinese Christian Meditation —St. Faustina Hall

基督徒默禱。与主建立更深层的关系

Scan the QR Code for E-bulletin, Mass Schedules, and other Parish updates



### PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Wedding Banns:

**Sat, 4 Nov 2023**

**10.00am (Service): Perry Tan & Stephanie Leong**

*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; 29 Oct; 5, 19 & 26 Nov 2023**

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

**CDM Learning Centre: 2.00pm**

\*No Learning Centre classes on 5 Nov



**LAST DAY OF CATECHISM 2023** will be on **Sun, 29 Oct** which will also be an Open Day for parents to meet with the teachers. Do attend & lend your support in the various aspects in building & guiding your children in the faith.

**CLOSING OF MONTH OF ROSARY** on **Tue, 31 Oct (8.00pm)**

There will be Mass at the grotto followed by a candle-lit rosary procession around church compound.

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

**BEC LEADERS' MEETING** final session for the year will be on **Tue, 7 Nov (8.30pm)** at St. Faustina Hall.

**ALL SAINTS' DAY (1 NOV 2023)** *Day of Obligation*

Mass at **6.45am** and **8.00pm**

All encouraged to come dressed in the symbolic colours of white & gold/yellow. Pray & Pick a bookmark of a saint and doughnuts will be given out after 8.00pm Mass. Do the "Walk with Saints" with your family/BEC to gain a better understanding of our CDM Saints.

**ALL SOULS' DAY (2 NOV 2023)**

Mass at **8.00pm**.

Cemetery Blessings will be done at Kelawai Road at **7.45am** & Western Road at **9.30am**.

Drop your love messages & photos of your dearly departed into the box provided.

#### 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)

#### CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER PENANG 2023

A marriage preparation programme to explore & deepen your relationship with each other and God.

Registration fee: RM400/couple

Dates available: Weekend #137 **Fri, 17 Nov to Sun, 19 Nov**

Venue: Stella Maris, Tanjung Bungah

Contact: Martin & Clementine ([ceepenang@gmail.com](mailto:ceepenang@gmail.com))