



# CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

**Address:** 117, Jalan Kenari, Sungai Ara, 11900 Bayan Lepas, Penang  
**Tel:** 04-646 6881 / 013-5846881 | **Email:** divinemerccypg@yahoo.com  
**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 Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

## 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**

### Parish Priest speaks...

The lifestyle of the scribes and Pharisees described by Jesus in today's Gospel stands in stark contrast to the way of a servant—that is, the way of Jesus Himself, who came to serve not to be served, and the way of His followers. The scribes and Pharisees strive for power, popularity, and a place of importance. A servant is hidden, humble, and unseen by most. The scribes and Pharisees enjoy the power they have when they "tie up heavy burdens hard to carry and lay them on people's shoulders, but they will not lift a finger to move them." A servant has no power because he is no one's superior. The scribes and Pharisees, concerned about their religious public image, "widen their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels." A servant is not pre-occupied with what he wears and how he looks. The scribes and Pharisees love the feeling of self-importance they experience when they sit in places of honour at banquet, whereas a servant sits where he is placed and does not expect anything more. The scribes and Pharisees enjoy popularity and being greeted in marketplaces. A servant is at peace with not being noticed.

The Psalmist gives us wise advice for countering our tendency to follow the way of the Pharisees: "O LORD, my heart is not proud, nor are my eyes haughty; I busy not myself with great things, nor with things too sublime for me." Our soul will be at peace when we do what God asks of us, according to our state in life, in a humble and quiet way. This attitude puts our lives in proper order. A life of humble service, guided by prayer, strengthened by the Sacraments, is what enables us to live out our vocation fruitfully and advance the Kingdom of God.

We have so many beautiful examples of humble servants in the saints of the Catholic Church. It is a virtue present in each of them who so selflessly served God and His people. St. Paul is a striking example of Jesus' teaching that "the greatest among you must be your servant." In the second reading, Paul shares with the Christian community of Thessalonica his sincere and pure motives in proclaiming the word of God to them. He wants them to be confident

of the great care and concern He has for them. He also wants them to know that he is constantly thanking God that they have received His message, "not as a human word but, as it truly is, the word of God, which is now at work in you who believe." Paul has no expectation that he should be given any credit for bringing them the Gospel; his only concern is that God is to be praised. He ministers to others from a deep understanding that his identity is in Jesus, and that everything he does is as a humble and grateful servant of God.

St Paul's spirit of service is contrasted with the wickedness of the priests of Jerusalem, whom the prophet Malachi is sent to correct. The priests have been cheating God, taking to themselves the honour that belongs only to Him, thinking that God would not notice. Malachi tells them otherwise and gives them severe words of God's condemnation for their actions. As in the Gospel, we see that those who are in positions of authority are held to the highest standards to lead God's people righteously. When they refuse to follow God, and purposely deceive, cheat, and "turn aside from the way," they cause great harm to those who are in their care. The prophet tells them that there will be severe consequences because they have "made void the covenant of Levi."

Again and again, we see that when we choose to turn our back on God, we risk everything. When we abdicate our responsibility to be Christian examples to others, we risk everything. When pride rather than humility drives our thoughts and actions, we risk everything. Jesus gives us the antidote to save ourselves from these sinful ways. Jesus is the antidote. He shows us the way to be and the way to go through life. It is the way of service and humility: the Way of Jesus.



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

MASS & PRAYER TIMES	DAY	DESCRIPTION
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	SUN 05 Nov	<b>31st Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> Mal 1: 14 - 2: 2, 8-10 1 Th 2: 7-9, 13 Mt 23: 1-12
Parish Assembly 11.00am		
No Mass	MON 06 Nov	
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	TUE 07 Nov	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	WED 08 Nov	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	THU 09 Nov	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	FRI 10 Nov	St Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	SAT 11 Nov	St Martin of Tours, Bishop
Novena for OMPH 5.15pm Mass 5.30pm		
DM Chaplet 8.30am BM Mass 9.00am	SUN 12 Nov	<b>32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> Wis 6: 12-16 1 Th 4: 13-18 (or 4: 13-14) Mt 25: 1-13

**"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." - Matthew 23:12**

### REFLECTION:

*Why do I prefer to be known and accepted and not to be hidden and little?*

*How can a quiet and humble life enable me to live a fruitful and peaceful life?*

*What are the consequences on myself and others when I deviate from God's law?*

### MASS COLLECTIONS

Week ending 29 Oct 2023: RM5 059.20

## PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dates: **Sundays; 5, 19 & 26 Nov 2023**

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

CDM Learning Centre: **2.00pm**

RCIA Journey #10 (2023/2024)

Every **Sunday (10.30am—1.00pm)** at 3rd floor classrooms.

**\*No Learning Centre classes on 5 Nov**

**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.

### CLOW T-SHIRT CHRISTMAS PROMOTION

Everyone's favourite t-shirt designs are now on promotion! Mix and match any 4pc for RM100. Sizes and designs subject to availability. Find us near the D'Vine Gift Shop or contact Jocelyn (018-4091266).

### GOD'S WORD & DAILY GOSPEL 2024

Please place your orders at the D'Vine Gift Shop along with your contact details. Pre-payment will be required and you will be contacted once stock arrives.

**JUST IN:** The New Jerusalem bibles and Al-Kitab in Bahasa Malaysia & Indonesia are currently available for purchase.

### CHRISTMAS CAROLLING HOUSE-TO-HOUSE

The Divine Voices will be opening up for BEC Zone house-to-house carolling from **Fri 8 Dec to Sun, 10 Dec**. For those interested, do contact your BEC Leader for further details.

### 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))

### 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

### PHONE COUNSELLING SERVICES

If you are overwhelmed with stress, anxiety & depression, help is now a phone call away. A proper counselling time will be arranged. High confidentiality assured.

Tel: 011-10522313 / Email: [cdmhelppdesk117@gmail.com](mailto:cdmhelppdesk117@gmail.com)

*"...do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" -Joshua 1:9*