



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 --- DECEMBER 2023

*Live our faith: Sharing our faith through outreach
 - Christmas fellowship etc*

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.

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***

Parish Priest speaks...

We celebrate this weekend the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, which closes the Liturgical Year. Our Lord is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end of history and today's Liturgy focuses on the "Omega," that is, on the final goal. This reflection is precisely what Matthew accomplishes in this weekend Gospel, placing Jesus' discourse on the universal judgement at the end of His earthly life. He, the one whom men are about to condemn is in reality, the supreme Judge. In His Death and Resurrection, Jesus will manifest Himself as the Lord of History, the King of the Universe, the Judge of all. But the Christian paradox is that the Judge is not vested in the fearful trappings of royalty, but is the shepherd filled with meekness and mercy.

In fact, in this parable of the final judgement, Jesus uses the image of a shepherd, recalling images of the prophet Ezekiel who had spoken of God's intervention in favour of His people against the evil shepherds of Israel. They had been cruel exploiters, preferring to feed themselves rather than the flock. Therefore, God Himself promises to personally take care of His flock, defending it from injustice and abuse. This promise God made to His people is fully accomplished in Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd.

In the Gospel passage, Jesus identifies Himself not only with the king-shepherd, but also with the lost sheep. We can speak of a "double identity": the king-shepherd Jesus identifies also with the sheep: that is, with the least and most needy of His brothers and sisters. And He thus indicates the criterion of the judgement: it will be made on the basis of concrete love given or denied to these persons, because He Himself, the judge, is present in each

one of them. He is the judge. He is Godman, but He is also the poor one. He is hidden and present in the person of the poor people that He mentions right there. Jesus says: "Truly, I say to you, as you did it or did it not to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" We will be judged on love. The judgement will be on love, not on feelings. We will be judged on works, on compassion that becomes nearness and kind help. Do I draw near to Jesus present in the persons of the sick, the poor, the suffering, the imprisoned, of those who hunger and thirst for justice? Do I draw near to Jesus present there? This is the question for today.

Therefore, at the end of the world, the Lord will inspect the flock, and He will do so not only from the perspective of the shepherd, but also from the perspective of the sheep, with whom He has identified. And He will ask us: "Were you a little bit like a shepherd as myself?" or "Were you a shepherd to me who was present in those people who were in need, or were you indifferent?" Brothers and sisters, let us look at the logic of indifference, of those who come to mind immediately. Looking away when we see a problem. Let us remember the parable of the Good Samaritan. That poor man, wounded by the brigands, thrown to the ground, between life and death, was there alone. A priest passed by, saw, and went on his way. He looked the other way. A Levite passed by, saw, and looked the other way. Before my brothers and sisters in need, am I indifferent like this priest, like this Levite and look the other way? I will be judged on this, on how I drew near, how I looked on Jesus present in those in need. "What you did to that person and that person and that person, you did it to me."

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." - Matthew 25:40

REFLECTION:

*What are my anxieties about the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ?
 How can I interpret Ezekiel's words "the sleek and the strong I will destroy"?
 What causes me to choose the ways of the world rather than the ways of Jesus?*



MASS & PRAYER TIMES

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

DM Chaplet 8.30am **SUN**
Mass 9.00am **26 Nov**
34th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Ez 34: 11-12, 15-17
1 Cor 15: 20-26, 28
Mt 25: 31-46

No Mass **MON**
27 Nov

Lauds 6.20am
Mass 6.45am
TUE
28 Nov

DM Chaplet 3.00pm

Lauds 6.20am
Mass 6.45am
WED
29 Nov

DM Chaplet 3.00pm

Lauds 6.20am
Mass 6.45am
THU
30 Nov St Andrew Apostle

DM Chaplet 3.00pm

Holy Hour 8.00pm **FRI**
Followed by Mass **01 Dec**

Lauds 6.20am
Grotto Mass 6.45am
SAT
02 Dec

Novena for OMPH 5.15 PM

Mass 5.30PM

DM Chaplet 8.30am **SUN**
Mass 9.00am **03 Dec**
1st Sunday of Advent
Is 63: 16-17, 19;
64: 1, 3-8
1 Cor 1: 3-9
Mk 13: 33-37

PRAYERS & MEDITATION

Tuesdays—Fridays at 3.00pm

Divine Mercy prayer group: St. JP II Adoration Room

Wed, 6 & 20 Dec at 8.30pm

English Christian Meditation: St. JP II Adoration Room

Thur, 14 Dec at 8.30pm

Chinese Christian Meditation —St. Faustina Hall

基督徒默禱。 与主建立更深层的关系

MASS COLLECTIONS

Week ending 19 Nov 2023:

(1st): RM4400.00 (2nd): RM2597.00

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding Banns: Sat, 16 Dec 2023

10.30am (Mass): Vincent Lee & Cassandra Yong

3.00pm (Mass): Christopher Soosai & Megdelene Anthony

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.

CLOW: Sun, 26 Nov at 9.00am

CDM Learning Centre: No Classes in Dec

RCIA Journey #10 (2023/2024)

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

CHRISTMAS CAROLLING HOUSE-TO-HOUSE

Closing date: Sun, 26 Nov

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

CHRISTMAS TOGETHER (1 FAMILY: 16-12)

Come join in the various activities lined up from the First Sunday of Advent! Sign up and get more info from the booths at the church porch this weekend.

1) **Christmas Clean & Deco** on **Sat, 2 Dec (8.30am-12pm)**

Bring your spare ornaments to decorate the church compound. Lunch will be provided.

2) **Christmas Wish List** requests from Mercy Home, Shan Children's Home, and CDM Family Aid List will be up on the trees near the porch.

3) Registrations are open for **Christmas Outreach** visits to
 Mercy Home (**Sat, 9 Dec at 10.00am**)
 Shan Children's Home (**Sat, 9 Dec at 1.00pm**)
 Little Sisters of the Poor* (**Sun, 10 Dec 2.30pm**)

*If you're interested to be part of a small group for caroling and organizing simple games, kindly contact Rowena (012-4749472).

4) Gather your family and BEC to contribute a dish for the **CDM Christmas Party (Sat, 16 Dec at 7.00pm)** pot-bless.

5) **Wreath-making with Advent-ure to the Manger** on **Sun, 3 Dec at 10.30am** (St. Faustina Hall).

CDM CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Jumble sale 'Unwanted to Wanted', music & caroling, sale of plants & veggies from Rooftop Garden, sale of biscuits & rice wine from women entrepreneurs. **Bring Your Own Bag.** Venue: St. Faustina Hall

Dates/Times: **Sat, 9 Dec (2pm-5pm)**

Sun, 10 Dec (10am-1pm)

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.