



# 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.*

### Parish Priest speaks...

A blessed new liturgical year to all! Hopeful anticipation is what the season of Advent is all about. In some places, the first violet candle of the Advent wreath, to be lit today, is associated with the theme of hope. Our Advent longing for a new beginning is well expressed in today's Psalm. We plead that the Lord will make our hearts turn to him, "Let us see your face and we shall be saved." When will we see the face of the Lord? We do not know. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to be watchful and to be alert. The reason for these imperatives is that we do not know the time when He will come. We will focus our pondering today on these three points: **watch, alert, and time.**

In this short Gospel passage, the word watchful or **watch** appears four times. Jesus uses the analogy of servants who are left in charge of the house while the owner is away. The clear instruction is that we are like those servants, and we should watch for the unpredictable return of the owner, the Lord. The first reading reminds us that our watchfulness is not only outward, toward the One who is to come, but also inward, toward the condition of our hearts. In the span of life that God has entrusted to us, we are to watch out for whatever renders us unclean, whatever turns all our good deeds into polluted rags. Watchfulness is living uprightly in every moment of the precious life that God has breathed into us. Watchfulness also opens the eyes of our hearts to God's presence in the vicissitudes of life, so that we can perceive Him doing

## 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**

awesome deeds on behalf of His beloved children.

The second point, **alertness**, is closely related. Watchfulness is being on guard, while alertness is being awake. Jesus' exhortation to "be alert" finds support in the second reading. St. Paul speaks about what makes it possible for us to stand firm in faith as we 'wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.' It is Christ Himself, who by his grace keeps us "firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." We are not left on our own, trying to keep ourselves spiritually awake; no, alertness comes with the grace of God bestowed on us in Christ Jesus. In Him, we are "not lacking in any spiritual gift."

Interestingly, the word watch, so frequently used in today's Gospel, also refers to an instrument that tells **time**. Time is a third point to ponder as we begin the new year. There are two Greek words for time used in the New Testament: **Chronos**, chronological or historical time (what we measure with a watch), and **Kairos**, opportune time. According to our usual way of speaking, time is Chronos. For example, we say that this new season of Advent will last twenty-seven days. But God is not bound by Chronos. For Him, time is Kairos; it is always now, always the opportune moment for action and for love. As we live out Christ's call for us to be watchful and alert, we do well to see Advent as Kairos for us, our opportune time, our "today." This is the day the Lord has made; if today we hear His voice, let us not harden our hearts, but instead remain ready to welcome Him with joy.

## 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

**'O' LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.—Isaiah 64: 8**

### REFLECTION:

*In what ways will I explore the virtue of hope during this Advent?*

*How will I strive this Advent to be more watchful and alert about my tendency to sin?*

*Do I harden my heart when I hear Jesus' voice instead of welcoming Him with joy?*



| MASS & PRAYER TIMES                   | DAY           | DESCRIPTION                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DM Chaplet 8.30am<br>Mass 9.00am      | SUN<br>03 Dec | 1st Sunday of Advent<br><i>Is 63: 16-17, 19;<br/>64: 1, 3-8<br/>1 Cor 1: 3-9<br/>Mk 13: 33-37</i> |
| No Mass                               | MON<br>04 Dec | St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor                                                                |
| Lauds 6.20am<br>Mass 6.45am           | TUE<br>05 Dec |                                                                                                   |
| DM Chaplet 3.00pm                     |               |                                                                                                   |
| Lauds 6.20am<br>Mass 6.45am           | WED<br>06 Dec | St Nicholas, Bishop                                                                               |
| DM Chaplet 3.00pm                     |               |                                                                                                   |
| Lauds 6.20am<br>Mass 6.45am           | THU<br>07 Dec | St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor                                                                       |
| DM Chaplet 3.00pm                     |               |                                                                                                   |
| Rosary 8.00pm<br>Mass 8.30pm          | FRI<br>08 Dec | Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary                                                  |
| Lauds 6.20am<br>Mass 6.45am           | SAT<br>09 Dec | St John Diego Cuauhtlatoczin                                                                      |
| Novena for OMPH 5.15PM<br>Mass 5.30PM |               |                                                                                                   |
| DM Chaplet 8.30am<br>BM Mass 9.00am   | SUN<br>10 Dec | 2nd Sunday of Advent<br><i>Is 40: 1-5, 9-11<br/>2 Pt 3: 8-14<br/>Mk 1: 1-8</i>                    |
| 慈悲经 5.30pm<br>中文弥撒 6.00pm             |               |                                                                                                   |

## PENANG DIOCESE (ISLAND) PENITENTIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE

|                   |                 |                                  |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| MONDAY, 11 Dec    | 8.00pm—10.00pm  | Church of Our Lady of Sorrows    |
| TUESDAY, 12 Dec   | 8.00pm—10.00 pm | Cathedral of the Holy Spirit     |
| WEDNESDAY, 13 Dec | 6.30pm—8.30pm   | Church of Divine Mercy           |
| THURSDAY, 14 Dec  | 8.00pm—10.00 pm | Church of Risen Christ           |
| FRIDAY, 15 Dec    | 8.00pm—10.00 pm | Church of Immaculate Conception  |
| MONDAY, 18 Dec    | 8.00pm—10.00 pm | Church of the Holy Name of Jesus |

## 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.

### CHRISTMAS TOGETHER (1 FAMILY: 16-12)

- 1) Collection of donations in kind and *Christmas Wishtree* items from the Homes will be at the church porch area after Mass this weekend (**Sat, 2 Dec & Sun, 3 Dec**).
- 2) Wreath-making with *Advent-ure to the Manger* on **Sun, 3 Dec at 10.30am** (St. Faustina Hall).
- 3) Come put your palm-print on our banner and pledge for peace all over the world on **Sun, 10 Dec at 10.30am** (shaded area outside JP II Adoration Room).
- 4) Dress up with your family as the 'Nativity Scene' for the Christmas Party on **Sat, 16 Dec**. Prizes to be won by the Top 3 Best Dressed Family!

### 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)**

### KASIH Fundraising Initiative 2023

There will be a special second collection on **Sat, 9 Dec & Sun, 10 Dec** for KASIH, an initiative by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia which aims at empowering and executing the Social Mission of the Catholic Church in Malaysia (Caritas Malaysia, Episcopal Commission for Migrants & Itinerants, and Episcopal Commission for Creation Justice).

### MANDARIN MASS 中文弥撒

Mandarin Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Edmund Woon on **Sun, 10 Dec at 6.00pm** (DM Chaplet at 5.30pm).  
 日期: **12月10日 傍晚6点** (5点30分开始慈悲经)  
 温耀仁神父将为我们主持弥撒

### GOD'S WORD & DAILY GOSPEL 2024

Please collect your orders at the D'Vine Gift Shop. Final orders will close after morning Mass on **Sun, 24 Dec**.

*Journey through Advent with these inspirational reflections:*  
 Dynamic Catholic: <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent.html>  
 My Daily Visitor: <https://www.mydailyvisitor.com/signup/>  
 Advent activities for children: <https://rb.gy/7zm0n>  
 Getting children ready for Christmas: <https://rb.gy/8feywk>

### MASS COLLECTIONS

Week ending 26 Nov 2023: RM4867.00