



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 --- 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...

As the time approaches, the time God has chosen to reveal Himself in creation, He inspires in us an awareness that He seeks a dwelling place. In the first reading, we see that King David has a sense of this. In a limited way, he recognizes that something is missing. Sitting in the beauty and comfort of his cedar palace, he feels that he should have provided a "place" for God to dwell in. He is thinking of building a temple, so he speaks about this with Nathan the prophet. In answer to this desire of David's heart, God reveals that He has a much greater plan, one established at the beginning of creation, not that David should build Him a house, but that He will build David a "house" that is, a line of descendants which will last forever. "Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me; your throne shall stand firm forever." God desires to dwell, not merely in a physical building, but within the hearts of His people, and this great project will be accomplished through the power of God rather than through the efforts of man.

In the Gospel, the angel Gabriel comes to Mary announcing to her that the promise made centuries ago to King David will be fulfilled in her Son: "the Lord God will give Him the throne of David His father, and He will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Through Mary, God will indeed have a dwelling place among His people. Mary with complete trust says "yes" to this humanly impossible request. Through her perfect "yes" God becomes physically present incarnate in her womb. She herself becomes a

true "house" for the Lord. What was foretold to David is fulfilled in Christ through Mary.

God wills to dwell in us! In the second reading St. Paul speaks of this great mystery, a "mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God, made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith. God wills to dwell in us in a most profound way! He reveals this to us so that we too may believe and obey, in "obedience of faith" as Mary did and become a true dwelling place for God. What is important here is whether we are saying "yes" to following God's will or merely living according to our own will. Mary's question to the angel was not out of selfishness or doubt, but to make sure that his amazing announcement was really from God. When we say "yes" to God we create a "space" where God can act. Our "yes" does not accomplish, by itself, any miracle, but it gives God room to do great things in us, for us, and through us. "Nothing will be impossible for God!" Today is Christmas Eve. This evening we will welcome the Light of the World who will appear in the darkness of our world. Let us welcome Him with joy of heart and with joyful song, humbly offering Him, like Mary, our hearts to be His dwelling place.

...the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)

I pray that you and your family have a Blessed Christmas and a grace-filled New Year.

*In what ways am I willing to seek God's will above my own?
 How have I experienced God's work in me when I say "yes" to God and create a space where He can act?
 How can I humbly offer my heart to be a dwelling place for God, just as Mary did?*

MASS & PRAYER TIMES	DAY	DESCRIPTION
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am		4th Sunday of Advent
Medley of Carols 5.00pm Christmas Eve Mass 5.30pm	SUN 24 Dec	2 Sam 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 Rom 16: 25-27 Lk 1: 26-38
DM Chaplet 9.00am Mass 9.30am	MON 25 Dec	Nativity of The Lord
DM Chaplet 11.00am (Bahasa Indonesia) MASS 11.30am		"Day of Obligation"
No Mass	TUE 26 Dec	St Stephen, The First Martyr
No Mass	WED 27 Dec	St John, Apostle & Evangelist
No Mass	THU 28 Dec	Holy Innocents, Martyrs
No Mass	FRI 29 Dec	
No morning Mass Novena to OMPH 5.15pm Mass 5.30pm	SAT 30 Dec	
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	SUN 31 Dec	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph Gen 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3 Hebr 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2: 22-40
Rosary 10.00pm New Year's Eve Mass 10.30pm		

~Parish Office & church closed from 26-29 Dec~

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding Banns: Sat, 13 Jan 2024 at 10.30am (Mass) 10.30am (Mass): Tan Chong Yih & Maria

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.

GOD'S WORD & DAILY GOSPEL 2024

Final orders will close after morning Mass on **Sun, 24 Dec.**

CHRISTMAS TOGETHER (1 FAMILY 16:12)

4th Sunday of Advent: Love
 Come receive your love message from God. Look out for the heart-shaped display by the Nativity Grib at the church porch after Mass on **Sat, 23 Dec & Sun, 24 Dec.**

THANKSGIVING SOLEMN MASS

You're invited to Thanksgiving Solemn Mass celebrated by His Eminence Cardinal Sebastian Francis on his appointment as Cardinal to the Sacred College of Cardinals at the consistory in Rome.

Date/Time: **Mon, 8 Jan 2024 (6.00pm)**

Venue: Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam

"Walk Thru Mass"

A formation for parents and children (age 4—6 years old) to help parents guide their little ones in understanding what Mass is all about and why we come to church.

Date: **Sat, 6 Jan 2024 (3.00pm) or Tue, 9 Jan 2024 (8.00pm)**

Venue: to be confirmed

Choose a date and contact Jocelyn (014-9055266). Also open to those who are interested in facilitating.

CATHOLIC FORMATION FOR EVANGELIZERS

A Missionary Discipleship Formation brought to you through the School for New Evangelization (SNE) by the Penang Diocesan New Evangelization Commission (PDNEC).
 Venue: Stella Maris Penang Road Formation Hall

Dates/Times: **Sat, 27 Jan 2024 (8.00am - 4.30pm)**
Sun, 28 Jan 2024 (12.30pm - 7.15pm)

Registration Fee: RM20 per pax

Closing date: **Wed, 10 Jan 2024**

For more information contact: Jeanne J Saw @ 016-455 4597

Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/Psn2VwTs52bfa4Fu8>

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/7zmi0n>

Getting children ready for Christmas: <https://rb.gy/8feywk>



Please park your cars diagonally on the main roads and follow the instructions by RELA to ensure smooth traffic flow during this festive weekend.