



CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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Parish Office Hours: Closed on Monday

9.00am - 5.00pm (Tuesday - Friday) | 9.00am - 1.00pm (Saturday & Sunday)

CDM Kampung-Ku -- (January 2024) *Diversity - Though many yet one. All prayer leads to God*



LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG

Parish Priest speaks...

The readings this weekend sets a clear pattern before our hearts with regard to a call and a sahutanse. When God calls, when His word pierces our hearts, the right sahutanse is to do immediately what He asks, with humility and courage. We see examples of this kind of sahutanse in the people of Nineveh and in the first four Apostles called by Jesus.

God sent the prophet Jonah to the people of Nineveh, a notoriously wicked city. When they heard Jonah's word of warning, they sahutanded very quickly. It only took one day of preaching to move them to profound conversion. They began to fast in reparation for their sins, and they put on sackcloth, a customary sign of deep repentance. God saw how they sahutanded to His call, and He mercifully spared the whole city. This account shows us that what God wants is our conversion, not our destruction.

The Gospel also recounts examples of a rapid sahutanse to the Lord's call. Simon and Andrew immediately abandon their fishing nets, and James and John leave their father Zebedee in the boat. The vocation story of these four disciples emphasizes not only the immediate change in their lives, but also the degree of abandonment involved in following the Lord. The suddenness and totality of their decision may look reckless to us, but we should recall that Andrew and Simon had already met Jesus earlier, as we learned from last Sunday's Gospel.

Despite our weakness and unworthiness, we too, have been called to follow Jesus. Following Him always involves leaving something else behind in the first place, sin. We cannot serve two masters. Slavery to sin and the freedom of the children of God cannot co-exist. The people of Nineveh rightly understand that the first step back to God is the step away from sin, that is, repentance. To be a disciple means to be ready to immediately leave behind whatever holds us back from following God's call. If we are too strongly attached to the good things of this world, we will not be free to make radical decisions for God.

Freedom from worldly attachments is what Paul exhorts us to in the second reading. If we want to be faithful, it is important that we identify accurately these attachments the ways we can get caught up in the tangled nets of our fallen nature. Worldly affairs attract us, and we put undue importance on the world in its present form, which is "passing away". The danger is that when we turn our eyes away from God who has personally called us to follow him, the resulting sense of inner emptiness moves us to look to the world for comfort and security. Instead of fostering the conversion of others, we ourselves grow bitter and resentful of the demands of our vocation. When we do not choose conversion, we choose self-destruction.

For us to serve others in freedom and joy, the process of conversion must continue in our own hearts. To abandon our former lives and follow the way of Jesus, and to persevere as His disciples, we need the power of the Holy Spirit who was poured into our hearts at Baptism. God Himself has made it possible for us to "repent and believe in the Gospel." At the first sound of His voice, at the first indication of His will, let us drop our "nets" and re-dedicate ourselves to Him. In this way, the love of Jesus will take root in our hearts and His truth will reign in us.

Pope Francis has designated the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as an annual Sunday of the Word of God. In his Apostolic Letter, *Aperuit Illis*, he outlines his vision that this day is "to be devoted to the celebration, study, and dissemination of the Word of God" (*Aperuit Illis*, 3)

**We have found the Messiah:
Jesus Christ, who brings us truth and grace.**

REFLECTION:

Why is it important for me to foster humility and courage as I follow the call from God?

When do I find it difficult to abandon the nets of my worldly attachments?
When I hear the voice of God, what is my sahutanse?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND (English)

A marriage preparation course for those who intend to get married in church.

Weekend #138: **Fri, 2 Feb to Sun, 4 Feb 2024**

Venue: Stella Maris Retreat Centre, Penang

Contact: Martin & Clementine (ceepenang@gmail.com or ceepenang.org)

WORLD DAY FOR THE SICK

Date/Time: **Sat, 3 Feb 2024 (Rosary at 9.30am, Mass at 10.00am)**

Registration counters will be open at the church porch until **Sun, 28 Jan** after the weekend Masses.

CDM PARISH RETREAT 2024 with Fr. Joe Stephen CSsR

A spiritual journey that invites you to serve with joy and passion, bringing new energy and enthusiasm to our community. Open to all CDM Ministry & BEC members. Limited to 80pax. Register and book your rooms now!

Dates/Times: **Fri, 23 Feb 2024 (7.00pm) to Sun, 25 Feb 2024 (2.00pm)**

Venue: Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/t9BxtGcNfH7CapveA> (or via Linktree QR)

HEALING IN EVANGELISATION by Rev. Fr. Pat Collins CM

An online formation series for members in the Healing & Deliverance Ministry, prayer groups or any Catholics keen on this subject matter.

Dates/Time: Five (5) **Tuesdays; 27 Feb and 5, 12, 19 & 26 Mar (8pm-10pm)**

Registration fee: RM100/pax. **Closing date Tue, 20 Feb**

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/AUchbygZNcaEq2VaA> (or via Linktree QR)

Contact: Jeanne J Saw (016-455 4597)

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Specially designed for any man/woman struggling with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion or miscarriage to experience God's healing grace.

Dates: **Fri, 1 Mar - Sun, 3 Mar 2024. Closing date Tue, 20 Feb**

Venue: Kuala Lumpur

Contact: Mary (016-4190538 or healinggracerachelsvineyard@gmail.com)

CATECHISM - Sundays, 21 & 28 January 2024 (10.45am - 12.00pm)

Coffee Morning will be at St. Faustina Hall after morning Mass where registrations for pre-school and new students will also be held.

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 21 Jan	Sunday of the Word of God Jona 3: 1-5, 10 1 Cor 7: 29-31 Mk 1: 14-20
DM Chaplet (Tamil) 5.30pm Pongal Celebration Mass 6.00pm	Mon 22 Jan	St Vincent, Deacon and Martyr
<i>No Mass</i>	Tue 23 Jan	
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Wed 24 Jan	St Francis De Sales, Bishop & Doctor
DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Thu 25 Jan	The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Fri 26 Jan	SS. Timothy & Titus, Bishops
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Sat 27 Jan	St Angela Merici, Virgin
DM Holy Hour 8.00pm		
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am Mass 6.45am		
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am Mass 6.45am		
Novena to OMPH 5.15pm Mass 5.30pm		
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 28 Jan	4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Catechetical Sunday Deut 18: 15-20 1 Cor 7: 32-35 Mk 1: 21-28