



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 -- (February 2024) When it Hurts - The role of prayer in pain



LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG

Parish Priest speaks...

The reality of human suffering has been a disturbing enigma for people of all cultures and all ages. It is often a mind-boggling and heartbreaking experience to bear suffering, or to see our loved ones burdened with it, especially when we feel that it is undeserved. The Scriptural readings and reflection this weekend give us some splendid and life-transforming insights into the mystery of human suffering.

In the first reading, we hear Job's heart-rending lamentation over his suffering. Job has the feeling that his condition is utterly hopeless. He speaks of "months of misery," "troubled nights" that drag on endlessly, and days that "come to an end without hope." He cries out "Remember that my life is like the wind for I shall not see happiness again." If we continue reading the rest of Job's story, we know that his sufferings are indeed overwhelming, but they do not have the final word. Passing through unimaginable trials, he eventually sees reason for hope, he meets the Lord, and in the end, he is filled with happiness. We can imagine Job then joyfully singing the refrain of today's Psalm "Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted."

In Christ Jesus, and in us who are His followers, human suffering takes on a totally different meaning, as we learn from St. Paul in his beautiful First Letter to the Corinthians. Christ has sanctified human sufferings by taking them upon Himself. Our sufferings should therefore be seen, no longer as an unjust burden or a senseless tragedy, but as our participation in the mystery of Christ's own life. For the sake of the Gospel, Paul welcomes suffering. He would suffer even more, he says, if he did not preach the Gospel "Woe to me if I do not preach it!" He renounces his right to anything and makes himself "a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible." He is willing to become weak to win over the weak. He will do anything he can for others, "to save at least some." St. Paul is teaching us about our own Christian life. For the sake of the Gospel and for the salvation of our brothers and sisters we can unite all our sufferings with the sufferings of Christ.

Today's Gospel shows us in a very striking way that Jesus has the power to heal, that He is deeply concerned about the sick, and that He Himself is the answer to the problem of sickness. As soon as He arrives at the house of Simon and Andrew, He is told that Simon's mother-in-law is suffering from a fever.

Jesus' response to their prayer is personal and powerful: "He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up." The original word for "helped her up" literally means "raised her up." That day in Capernaum, Jesus did not heal only one woman, He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and He drove out many demons. All these miracles are signs of hope. Jesus is showing us that suffering does not have the last word, that in Him, suffering can become a step toward resurrection. If we share in His sufferings for the sake of the Gospel, as St. Paul teaches us, we will also share in the glory of His Resurrection (cf. Phil 3: 10-11). Jesus' miraculous healing of the sick demonstrates to us that there is great hope, even when we are suffering.

"Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose, have I come." - Mark 1: 38

REFLECTION:

What prayer do I utter to God during my sufferings and trials in life?
How is intercessory prayer a part of my daily spiritual life?
How do the word and example of St. Paul encourage me to unite my sufferings with those of Christ?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S CAMP 2024: A WALK THROUGH LENT

Parents and children (ages 4 to 12 years old) are welcome to join us in this Lenten journey to experience the Passion of Christ. **Register by Wed, 31 Jan.**

Dates: **Sundays; 4 & 18 Feb and 3, 10, 17 & 24 Mar**

Contact: Edmund (012-563 1674) or Joanna (016-435 9217)

Registration link: <https://shorturl.at/befqS> (or via Linktree QR)

CDM CHINESE APOSTOLATE CNY FELLOWSHIP

All are welcome to join in the celebrations with potless dinner (each family to bring a dish), karaoke, dancing and more!

Date/Time: **Sat, 17 Feb (7.00pm)** after sunset Mass)

Venue: CDM Basement

Chinese New Year Mass will be on **Sat, 10 Feb (9.00am)**.

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)

Some resources to help you take time to ponder and reflect as you journey through this season of Lent

40 Days in the desert: <https://shorturl.at/gnOQR>

Dynamic Catholic: <https://shorturl.at/FKS68>

40 Days of Reflections: <https://mydailyvisitor.com/lent/>

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am	Sun 04 Feb 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Job 7: 1-4, 6-7 1 Cor 9: 16-19, 22-23 Mk 1: 29-39
No Mass	Mon 05 Feb	St Agatha, Virgin & Martyrs
Lauds Mass	6.20am 6.45am	Tue 06 Feb SS. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
DM Chaplet	3.00pm	
Lauds Mass	6.20am 6.45am	Wed 07 Feb
DM Chaplet	3.00pm	
Lauds Mass	6.20am 6.45am	Thu 08 Feb St Jerome Emiliani, St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
DM Chaplet	3.00pm	
Lauds Mass	6.20am 6.45am	Fri 09 Feb
DM Chaplet	3.00pm	
DM Chaplet Chinese New Year Mass	9.00am 9.30am	Sat 10 Feb St Scholastica, Virgin
Novena to OMPH Mass	5.15pm 5.30pm	
Rosary BM Mass	8.30am 9.00am	Sun 11 Feb 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Lev 13: 1-2, 45-46 1 Cor 10: 31- 11: 1 Mk 1: 40-45

Please bring your old palm leaves to be burned for Ash Wednesday. Baskets will be provided near the ground floor office.



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Wed, 7 & 21 Feb (8.30pm)--JPII Adoration Room
CHARISMATIC RENEWAL GROUP Wed, 7 & 21 Feb (8.15pm)--St Faustina Hall
CHINESE CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Thu, 29 Feb (8.30pm)--St. Faustina Hall

CATECHISM **Sundays (10.45am) 4 Feb, 17 Mar and 21 & 28 Apr**