



CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

Address: 117, Jalan Kenari, Sg. Ara, 11900 Bayan Lepas, Penang

Tel: 04-646 6881 / 013-584 6881 | Email: divinemercypp@yahoo.com

Website: www.cdm.my | Facebook: Church of Divine Mercy Sg Ara | Instagram: @cdmpenang

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 leper in today's Gospel recognizes in Jesus the power to make him clean, but he is not demanding, arrogant, or controlling. He approaches the Lord in humility, kneeling and begging. He surrenders himself, placing himself totally at the disposition of Jesus, "If you wish" seeing the leper carry his terrible illness with such humility and trust, Jesus is "moved with compassion" for him. While He wanted to heal the leper from the start, the man's prayer of humble submission, imbued with unwavering faith, revealed an inner disposition of readiness to benefit from the Lord's healing touch. Jesus expresses His will and touches the man, who is immediately healed, "made clean." This is exactly what happens to us when we come with contrite hearts to Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Through the ministry of the priest, He expresses His willingness to forgive us, and He touches us with the healing power of His grace.

We learn from the example of this leper the proper disposition with which we are to approach the Lord. Most of us, when we find ourselves heavily burdened by sickness or suffering, start off wrongly. We may kneel, if that is our habitual prayer posture, but then we begin to bombard Jesus with countless words of petition and indeed, demanding the relief we want. We act as if we are in front of a vending machine; if we want to receive more, we must simply drop in more coins. Sometimes we pray childishly, selfishly seeking satisfaction, moved solely by our need to be comforted, consoled, relieved from pain and sometimes almost yelling angrily at God, giving in to an attitude of hopelessness which makes our pain even more unbearable. Prayer is not about demanding from God what we want but rather seeking the good that He wills for us, as He sees best. We learn this from the leper, who, even before He has received any favour from Jesus, is humble and selfless, courageous, and determined, and quietly ready for anything which Jesus may demand from him.

We can also learn a lesson from Christ Jesus about how to relate to the sick, that is, with great compassion. This is part of the reason for the World Day of the Sick, instituted by St. John Paul II in 1992 and first celebrated at Lourdes, France, on February 11, 1993. This is a day of hope and renewal for all who are suffering any kind of illness, physical or psychological. It is a day for us to deepen our sense of responsibility for the care of the sick. Each person, regardless of his or her condition, is a precious gift from God. We join the mission of the Church to value, protect, and serve our brothers and sisters who are sick.

Loving service of the sick is included in our missionary responsibility, as described by St. Paul in today's second reading. He urges us to "do everything for the glory of God," thereby mirroring the life of Christ himself. As we imitate Paul who imitates Christ, we strive for an exemplary life of selfless love and compassion for all people, for in loving them, we love the Lord. In loving them, we do as He does.

"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God." - 1 Corinthians 10:31

REFLECTION:

How do the faith and humility of the man with leprosy encourage me to act likewise?

When I approach the Lord in prayer, do I demand from Him, or do I humbly wait for His will to be manifested?

In my prayer, do I include praying for others or just for myself? Why?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei has released a pastoral statement regarding Chinese New Year & Ash Wednesday 2024:

1. Dispensation is given from abstinence on the eve of Chinese New Year which falls on Fri, Feb 9
2. The liturgy for Sunset Mass on Sat, Feb 10 will be the liturgy of the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Our Parish will be having the Rite of Sending for our 2023/2024 catechumens. Please keep them in your prayers.
3. Fast and abstinence shall remain for Ash Wednesday on Feb 14.

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

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
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
No Mass	Mon 12 Feb	
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Tue 13 Feb	
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet followed by Mass	6.20am 6.45am 8.00pm Wed 14 Feb	Ash Wednesday
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Thu 15 Feb	
DM Chaplet WOC followed by Mass	3.00pm 8.00pm Fri 16 Feb	
Lauds Mass Novena to OMPH Mass	6.20am 6.45am 5.15pm 5.30pm Sat 17 Feb	Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am Sun 18 Feb	1st Sunday of Lent Gen 9: 8-15 1 Pt 3: 18-22 Mk 1: 12-15

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



CDM Caritas will be preparing Lenten Baskets for dry food donations near the ground floor office. Together we rebuild our Church, Community & Common Home.