



CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

Address: 117, Jalan Kenari, Sg. Ara, 11900 Bayan Lepas, Penang
Tel: 04-646 6881 / 013-584 6881 | **Email:** divinemercyppg@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)



LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG

CDM Kampung-Ku -- (August 2024) *What You Do for the Least at the Service of the Poor and Marginalised*

Parish Priest speaks...

Too often we drift through our days, doing and saying things without much thought. We react to whatever event and people who come to us through the days, according to how we happen to feel at the moment, on impulse. The readings challenge us to "wake up," to make a conscious decision about how we are living our lives. We are to make a strong decision of faith. This is not a fleeting impulse acted on in a moment, but a firm commitment followed through over time. We are to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. There is no room for compromise or duplicity.

This is the kind of firm decision which Joshua challenges the people of Israel to make. He tells them, "If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve, the gods your fathers served beyond the river or the gods of the Amorites in whose country you are now dwelling. As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." The reading is taken from a longer passage in which Joshua is giving his final instructions to the people before he dies. Throughout the passage he reminds the people repeatedly that they must decide which gods they will serve, and that their decision will have life and death consequences. He makes it clear that serving God will not be easy, but that God has always been faithful to them and has protected and provided for them.

In an earlier section of Joshua's last words, he said this to the people; "Be strong and be careful to observe all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, never turning from it right or left, or mingling with these nations that survive among you. You must not invoke their gods by name, or swear by them, or serve them, or bow down to them, but you must hold fast to the LORD, your God, as you have done up to this day" (Jos 23: 6-8). The "gods" which are popular in our time are usually not carved idols but rather wealth, pleasure, fame, power, etc.

As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.
 - Joshua 24:15

Knowing that Jesus alone has the words of life, in what ways do I compromise this truth in my life?
 What are the idols in my life that I serve and bow down to?
 What things in my life make it difficult to give myself to God and to others?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding Banns: Sat, 14 Sep '24 | Mass at 11.00am
DARRYL ASHLY MOTIUNG & MARLYNE FRAN ANAK KANSI

If anyone knows of any canonical impediments to the proposals of marriage stated, please contact the parish priest.

BLOOD DONATION DRIVE - GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE

In collaboration with Medical Transfusion Department (Pg) with free health screening.
 Date/Time: **Sun, 1 Sep (9.00am - 3.00pm)**
 Venue: St. Faustina Hall
 Contact: Jude (012-476 8506) or Amy (012-428 7150)

HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION by Friends of Creation Ministry

Celebrate the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. Brunch will be held at the basement followed by formation & a varied programme at 1st floor classrooms.
 Dates/Time: **Sunday, 1 Sep (10.15-10.45am)**
 Contact: Halina Gooi (019-4267545) (closing date Wed, 28 Aug)

DARE TO BELIEVE: YOUTH CAMP by Putri Karmel Sisters

For youth between 15-35 years old. Limited to 50pax only.
 Dates/Venue: **Tue, 17 Sep - Fri, 20 Sep** at Putri Karmel Sisters Monastery (Balik Pulau)
 Registration fee: RM200/pax (incl. t-shirt)
 Registration link: <https://bit.ly/KemBelia2024> (closing date 31 Aug)

H.U.G.S CHARITY FUN RUN by Mt Miriam Cancer Hospital

A 5km fun run at Gurney Paragon to raise funds for subsidisation of the treatment fee of financially challenged cancer patients. Registrations by the Mt. Miriam team will be open at the church porch on **7 & 8 Sep**.
 Date/Time: **Sun, 10 Nov (7.00am flag-off)**

PAWS OF BLESSING by Ministry of Hospitality

A 3km walk around Sg. Ara with your pets in conjunction with Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.
 Registrations open until **8 Sep** at RM30/pax.
 Date/Time: **Sat, 5 Oct (8.00am pet blessing followed by flag-off)**

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND (ENGLISH)

A lifetime experience that will restore communication, rekindle romance and renew commitment. A stay-in with food & accommodation provided at Domus, St. Anne (BM)
 Dates: **Fri 11 Oct - Sun, 13 Oct 2024 (closing date 29 Sep)**
 Contact: Bernard & Sharlotte (010-789 4500) / Martin & Rose (016-441 6911)

RACHEL'S VINEYARD

A retreat (to be held in Penang) designed to help any man/woman struggling with the emotional and spiritual pain of miscarriage/abortion.
 Dates: **Fri, 18 Oct - Sun, 20 Oct 2024 (closing date 16 Sep)**
 Contact: Mary (016-419 0538) or email rachelsvineyard.my@gmail.com

If we remain aware of this, we can see that the words of Joshua are every bit as meaningful for us today as they were to the Israelites of his time. We must decide which "god" we will serve, either the "gods" of our secular culture or the Lord. If we decide to serve the Lord, then we must not "mingle" with the "nations" around us, which means we must not accept their ways of thinking and evaluating things and mingle these with what we hear from the Lord. We must not serve or bow down to the idols of our present age in any way, at any time, but must hold fast to the word of the Lord, Anyone who ponders daily on the Lord's words to us in Scripture knows that they are not always easy to understand or to follow. God's ways are not our ways, and often we must change the way we look at things so that we can see them as God sees them. We find an example of this in the Gospel. Jesus has just finished telling His followers that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood if they are to have eternal life. This kind of talk is difficult for anyone to accept. The idea of eating human flesh is extremely repugnant. Eat His flesh and drink His blood. It was too much for many of His disciples to accept. Only Peter and a few others continue to follow Him. Even though they cannot fully understand all that He said, they have a firm conviction in faith that Jesus has the words of eternal life, and He is the Holy One of God.

We are given a clear choice today. The Lord teaches us through His word to give ourselves in love to God and to our brothers and sisters, just as He did. This is hard for our fallen nature, but it is the only way to real life. We do not live out this choice on our own power. We have the Holy Spirit to sustain us, "who constantly breathes new life into our world, into our hearts, into our families, into our homes and parishes." On the other hand, the "word" of the world teaches us to be self-centred, and to worship the "gods" of pleasure, comfort, power, wealth, and fame. These seem easier and more attractive to our fallen nature, but they ultimately lead to ruin and death. Joshua warns us sternly today to make a decision between the two alternatives. Do not try to mingle them and serve each a little bit. Decide today whom you will serve. Let us make a firm decision to serve only and always the Lord.

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am Sun 25 Aug	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Josh 24: 1-2, 15-18 Eph 5: 21-32 Jn 6: 60-69
No Mass	Mon 26 Aug	
No Mass DM Chaplet	3.00pm Tue 27 Aug	St. Monica
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Wed 28 Aug	St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Thu 29 Aug	The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Fri 30 Aug	
Mass Novena to OMPH Mass	8.00am 5.15pm 5.30pm Sat 31 Aug	<i>Merdeka Day</i> 
World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am Sun 1 Sep	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Deut 4: 1-2, 6-8 Jm 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27 Mk 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23



CHARISMATIC RENEWAL GROUP Wed, 28 (8.15pm) -- St. Faustina Hall
CATECHISM Sun, 25 Aug, 8 & 29 Sep (10.45am)
RCIA #11 2023/2024 Sundays (10.30am) -- 3rd floor RCIA classrooms