



22 DECEMBER 2024

CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

Address: 117, Jalan Kenari, Sg. Ara, 11900 Bayan Lepas, Penang
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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 -- (Dec 2024) Christmas Fellowship - Pilgrims of Hope



[LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG](https://linktr.ee/cdmpenang)

Parish Priest speaks...

As we approach the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, the readings give us a clear prophecy of the coming of the Messiah, offering us the great gift of redemption which Christ was sent into the world to accomplish, and show us how His mission had already begun while He was still in the womb. The Gospel takes us into "the hill country" where Mary in her joy has journeyed "in haste" to be with her cousin Elizabeth. Elizabeth is pregnant in her elder years with John the Baptist, the one who will go before Jesus to announce the coming of the Messiah. The encounter is both a natural and a supernatural event! When she first hears Mary's voice, Elizabeth, "filled with the Holy Spirit," cries out to Mary, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" Before the two women even have much time to speak together, a deep understanding of hidden mysteries fills Elizabeth's heart.

It is not only Elizabeth who supernaturally recognizes who has come. Her unborn child is also filled with the Spirit and leaps for joy in Elizabeth's womb at the sound of Mary's greeting. John leaps for joy because God has made him the herald, the one who will announce the coming of Jesus and this is his God-given mission in life. What a joyful and Spirit-filled meeting of these four individuals, all fulfilling the roles that God has ordained for them. Mary's "yes" to the will of God is the gateway through which the Son of God comes into the world, and Elizabeth's acceptance of the will of God allows her son to prepare the way of the Lord. Like them, we too have each been given an opportunity to fulfil our own unique, God-given mission. It requires our "yes," our aligning of our will to the will of God to do our part in His plan of salvation.

As the preborn John the Baptist recognises the preborn Jesus, Elizabeth recognises that Mary is indeed doing her part in God's plan, for she says, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." She acknowledges Mary's belief and trust in the Lord. Like Elizabeth, we acknowledge and honour Mary's sacred journey of faith, which serves as a model for us. In our own journey of faith, we sometimes find it hard to accept what we cannot fully understand. Mary too did not understand everything, but she went forth in haste anyway, guided by faith. Her faith gives us faith, her courage gives us courage, so that we too can make haste to fulfil the will of the Lord in our lives.

The action of grace in the secret of the womb reminds us that God often works in small and hidden ways. The prophet Micah had a sense of this as he spoke to the little town of Bethlehem, which was too small to be given much consideration by the world. Micah speaks a word of trust and hope, assuring the people that from them will come the Messiah. From this small and humble place will come a ruler "whose origin is from of old from ancient times." The prophet does not know when the Messiah will come, but he knows that He will come. Here we see the timelessness of God's plan, and realise that each of us, small and hidden, has a part to play in the unfolding of that plan.

- "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." - Luke 1:45
- When have I experienced being greatly blessed by the Lord?
- How do I, like Mary, go out to give of myself to others?
- What blocks me from responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding Banns: Sat, 28 Dec '24 | Wedding Mass at 9.30am

JOSHUA KHOR WEN LUN & ANNYLIYA A.ANTHONY

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

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
SAT, 28 DEC
 5.15pm Novena to OMPH
 5.30pm Mass
SUN, 29 DEC
 8.30am DM Chaplet
 9.00am Mass
you are encouraged to come and sit together as a family

*Come together
Be together*

Mass & Prayer Times		Date	Description
DM Chaplet	8.30am	Sun	4th Sunday of Advent Mic 5:1-4 Hebr 10: 5-10 Lk 1: 39-45
Mass	9.00am	22 Dec	
Lauds	6.20am	Mon	St John of Kanty, Priest
Mass	6.45am	23 Dec	
Caroling	5.00pm	Tue	24 Dec
Mass	5.30pm		
Cantata	10.00pm	Wed	25 Dec
Mass	10.30pm		
Merry Christmas!			
Caroling	9.00am	Wed	
Mass	9.30am		
Mass (Indonesian)	11.30am	Thu	26 Dec
CLOSED			
No morning Mass			St Stephen, The First Martyr
Novena to OMPH	5.15pm	Sat	
Mass	5.30pm		
DM Chaplet	8.30am	Sun	29 Dec
Mass	9.00am		
			The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Ecclus 3: 2-6, 12-14 Col 3: 12-21 Lk 2: 41-52

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE 2025

Date/Time/Venue : **Sun, 29 Dec 2024 at 5.00pm** at Cathedral of the Holy Spirit.

Come and be part of this sacred occasion as we unite in faith and hope to embark on this journey together as Pilgrims of Hope. The Eucharistic Celebration will be presided by the Bishop of Penang and concelebrated by the clergy of the Diocese of Penang.

EUCCHARISTIC MASS & HEALING SERVICE (OPEN TO ALL)

Date/Time: **Sun, 12 January 2025 (2.00pm - 5.00pm)**

Venue: St. Francis Xavier's Church, Penang

Co-celebrated by H.Em. Cardinal Sebastian Francis, Rev. Fr. Pat Collins C.N, Rev. Fr. Dr. Charles Chiew KB. PA, and Rev. Fr. Michael Raymond OFM. Cap. Jointly organised by Penang Diocesan Healing & Deliverance Ministry and New Evangelisation Commission.

SALVATION HISTORY: AN EPIC JOURNEY OF OUR CREATION, FALL & SALVATION

An online bible class presented by Rt. Rev Richard Ng, Bishop of Miri.

Dates/Time: **Thursdays from 16 Jan - 22 May 2025 (8.00pm - 9.15pm)**

Register via Whatsapp by **Tue, 7 Jan 2025:** 013-696 3530

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER PENANG

A marriage preparation programme (English) designed to meet the communication, spiritual and personal needs of today's engaged couples in an intensive weekend where both are invited to examine & deepen their relationship with each other & with God.

Venue: Stella Maris, Penang

Dates: **14 - 16 Feb 2025 . 16 - 18 May 2025 . 8 - 10 Aug 2025 . 7 - 9 Nov 2025**

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

The organising committee of the **ICE KACANG CHRISTMAS** would like to express their heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for contributing to the success of the event; from performers to volunteers, from vendors to visitors. Your support was invaluable in making this event fun, inclusive, and engaging for our parishioners and the local community of Sg Ara. *God bless you and your family.*

