



29 DECEMBER 2024

# CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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

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Website: [www.cdm.my](http://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](https://linktr.ee/cdmpenang)

### Parish Priest speaks...

We celebrate and give thanks this weekend on the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. We can reflect on two different aspects of this Feast. First, we can learn from the Holy Family how to live our own family life. And second, we can enter more deeply into the truth that we are all called as God's children, members of His family.

The reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians gives us a good description of the inner dispositions of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as they lived their family life together: "Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another. And over all these put-on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one Body and be thankful."

A family which strives to follow the example of the Holy Family will find deep joy, a joy which is rooted in the merciful grace of God. We struggle so hard, in so many ways, to bring harmony and joy into our families, but the first effort we make must be to open ourselves more to faith and trust in the love of God. As St. Paul says, we must "put on love." This, I believe is the necessary foundation of true joy in the family.

Whatever the situation is in our particular families, we can find joy as well as that, we are called by God as His own children, and thus part of His family. St. John tells us in His First Letter: "See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so, we are." The Responsorial Psalm overflows with the joy of those who know themselves to be part of God's family, members of His household: "Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord!"

Being a child of God is God's gift to us, and a work of His grace. We do not earn it, nor can we do anything to deserve it. However, like every grace which God gives us, we do need to accept the gift. The way that we do this is by making room for His life in our hearts. We need to open our hearts to allow God's word to fill us. We make room for Him by casting out from our hearts anything that is opposed to Him, especially our own pride and selfishness. The Gospel gives us some insight into the mystery of God's life in us. Mary and Joseph have lost Jesus, and they proceed to search for Him. When they find Him, He is in the temple. He seems to mildly correct them: "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" In other words, "Why were you looking in other places? You should know that I would be in the temple." Jesus' place is in the temple, His Father's house. That is where He makes His home. If we want Him to remain in our hearts, "dwelling richly" within us, then we must make of our hearts a temple, a place where God is loved and worshipped.

We do this by following the example of Mary. She continually treasured the words and actions of Jesus and pondered them in her heart. This is what we do each day as we read and pray over the daily Scripture readings. We strive to treasure the life of God in us and allow it to transform us more fully into His own children, members of His holy family.

**Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience... - Colossians 3:12**

- How can I relate to the concerns and anxieties of Mary and Joseph?
- What is the necessary foundation of true joy in my family?
- How am I making room for God's life in my heart?

### PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wishing each and everyone of you and your families, a Happy New Year 2025!

May the Lord God's blessings pour forth in abundance especially during this Jubilee Year of Hope where the spark of the Holy Spirit will ignite a burning desire to know and love Jesus more through gratitude and servitude.

May all your aspirations and potential be fulfilled by His will and for His glory.

**-Fr. Michael Raymond OFM.Cap & Parish Pastoral Council**

### Wedding Banns:

**Sat, 4 Jan 2025 - Mass at 10.30am MATTHEW STEPHEN & MELISSA GOMEZ**

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

### CATECHESIS MINISTRY 2025

Commissioning of catechists in Catechism classes, the Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) and the Rite of Christian Initiation in Adults (RCIA) will be on **Sun, 5 Jan 2025** during the **9.00am** Mass. Catechism for primary and secondary school students will start on the same day at **10.45am**. Registrations for pre-school (6yr) are also open:

<https://forms.gle/TtSXAbB2SadoRA4p6>

### PARISH RENEWAL EXPERIENCE #3

A journey of rediscovering your faith in Christ & His Church. Find meaning in your faith life and reconnect your relationship with God, your family, and your fellow Catholics. Be guided to deeper insights into Scriptures & Church teachings.

Dates: **Fri, 21 Feb - Sun, 23 Feb 2025**

Registration link: <https://shorturl.at/nmRHA> (or via our linktree)

Contact: Anna (012-509 2636) or Rebecca (012-471 9370)

### EUCHARISTIC 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](mailto:ceepenang@gmail.com))

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
<b>DM Chaplet</b> Mass	8.30am 9.00am <b>Sun</b> <b>29 Dec</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> Ecclus 3: 2-6, 12-14 Col 3: 12-21 Lk 2: 41-52
No Mass	<b>Mon</b> <b>30 Dec</b>	
<b>Rosary</b> followed by Mass	10.30pm <b>Tue</b> <b>31 Dec</b>	St Silvester I, Pope
<i>Happy New Year</i>		
<b>Rosary</b> Mass	9.00am 9.30am <b>Wed</b> <b>01 Jan</b>	Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
<b>WORLD DAY OF PEACE</b>		
<b>Lauds</b> Mass	6.20am 6.45am <b>Thu</b> <b>02 Jan</b>	SS. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors
<b>DM Chaplet</b>	3.00pm <b>Fri</b> <b>03 Jan</b>	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
<b>Holy Hour</b> followed by Mass	8.00pm <b>Sat</b> <b>04 Jan</b>	
<b>Lauds</b> Grotto Mass	6.20am 6.45am	
followed by Rosary		
<b>Novena to OMPH</b> Mass	5.15pm 5.30pm	
<b>DM Chaplet</b> Mass	8.30am 9.00am <b>Sun</b> <b>05 Jan</b>	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b> Is 60: 1-6 Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6 Mt 2: 1-12