



05 JANUARY 2025

CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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

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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...

The feast of the Epiphany of the Lord celebrates the manifestation of God in Jesus Christ as the Light that illumines and gives life to all nations. Rightly did the Vatican II Council Fathers call Jesus Christ "Lumen Gentium," the "Light of the nations." The Magi in today's Gospel, like us, hear the invitation to rise in splendour and turn to the glory of God that shines upon us in the newborn Jesus Christ, God-man and King of the universe. Their disposition and their actions are what every Christian of every era and every nation should imitate. Having heard the Word of God spoken to them, they set out, following the star, the guiding light of Christ, saying: "we saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage." This is clearly the attitude of those who know that they are loved by God. They strive to encounter the God of Love whose initiative it is to come to us in the first place.

Following the star, the Magi arrive at the place where the Child Jesus is, and they are filled with joy. The presence of Jesus brings joy and peace, signs of the salvation that He brings. It is important to remark what the Magi did before the Child Jesus: "they prostrated themselves and did Him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Their example shows us that our call is to worship God and do Him homage. Our first duty of religion is to worship God. Nothing has priority over this. This is the rule that St. Benedict left to his followers and should also be a defining standard for every Christian.

The worship that we owe to God involves also making an offering to Him. The Magi offered Him gold, a symbol of His kingship; frankincense, representing His priesthood; and myrrh, His Sacred Passion. The greatest gift that we can offer to our Lord is the gift of ourselves. St. Paul writes in his Letter to the

Romans, "I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship" (Rm 12:1). Offering ourselves to God as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God means that we strive for a life of holiness, acknowledging our need of salvation from God. It means a continuous labour of love for the glory of God and for the good and salvation of our neighbours. We know that we are like St. Paul who writes in his Letter to the Ephesians, "You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit."

In different ways, the stewardship of God's grace has been given to each one of us for the benefit of others, the members of Christ's Body, the Church. To discover this and to serve God properly, we need to rise and turn to Christ our Light, whose glory shines upon us and who guides us on our way. Let us join the procession of the Magi and all the Saints in the journey to the Lord who meets us. The glory of Christ shines most resplendently in the Holy Eucharist, where He waits for us and continues to reveal Himself to us. Christ Jesus, in revealing Himself to us, also reveals to us who we are and what our mission should be. We can best exercise the stewardship of God's grace, given to us for the benefit of others, by living like the Saints, who are truly God's "stars," through whom His light shines to illumine the night of this world.

We saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage.

- Matthew 2:2

- When have I experienced the true Light shine in my life and dispel the darkness?
- How do I express my duty of religion to worship God?
- What difficulties do I face as I strive to live a life of holiness and service?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wedding Banns:

Sat, 18 Jan 2025 - Service at 10.00am DINESH ARUNASALAM & MATILDA DEVARAJ

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

CATECHISM CLASSES HAVE RESUMED!

Primary and secondary school students will start classes on **Sun, 5 Jan at 10.45am**. CLOW and Coffee Mornings will be held at St. Faustina Hall during catechism dates. 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)

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.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER PENANG (ENGLISH)

A marriage preparation programme 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)

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE (MANDARIN)

准备结婚的情侣们,请至少于六个月前见你们的本堂神父报名参加槟岛总铎区华文促进会所举办的华语婚前准备课程。2025 华语婚前准备课程详情以下:

Couples preparing for marriage, please meet with your parish priest at least 6 months before your wedding to attend the Marriage Preparation Course organised by the Penang Island Deanery Chinese Apostolate. Details of the 2025 MPC (Mandarin):

地点 Venue: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang

Dates: **#64 Fri, 4 April - Sun, 6 Apr 2025 . #65 Fri, 3 Oct - Sun, 5 Oct 2025**

若有所咨询,请联络 For enquiries: Cecelia Ng (012-454 7007) / Joachim Teh (012-477 8319)

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Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am Sun 05 Jan	Epiphany of the Lord Is 60: 1-6 Eph 3: 2-3, 5-6 Mt 2: 1-12
No Mass	Mon 06 Jan	
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Tue 07 Jan	St Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Wed 08 Jan	
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Thu 09 Jan	
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Fri 10 Jan	
Lauds Mass Novena to OMPH Mass	6.20am 6.45am 5.15pm 5.30pm Sat 11 Jan	
DM Chaplet BM Mass	8.30am 9.00am Sun 12 Jan	The Baptism of the Lord Is 40: 1-5, 9-11 Tit 2: 11-14; 3: 4-7 Lk 3: 15-16, 21-22

Chinese Christian Meditation: 每月第一个星期四 **Thur, 9 Jan 2025 (8.30pm)** at St. JP II Adoration Room

Christian Meditation: first & third Wednesdays of the month **Wed, 15 Jan 2025 (8.30pm)** at St. JP II Adoration Room

Charismatic Renewal Group: second & fourth Wednesdays of the month Wednesdays, **8 & 22 Jan 2025 (8.15pm)** at St. Faustina Hall