



16 FEBRUARY 2025

CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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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

Parish Priest speaks...

The heart of this weekend's readings is the teaching which Jesus gives us in the Beatitudes. This teaching can seem quite contradictory to us, because Jesus proclaims as blessed precisely those who do not seem at all blessed in the eyes of the world, and He gives a stern warning to those who seem, in the world's estimation, to be the most blessed. Humanly speaking, we are inclined to think in another way simply that happy are those who are rich, with many goods, who receive praises and are the envy of many, who have all the certainties of life. Yet this is a worldly mindset, it is not the way of thinking of the Beatitudes! Jesus, on the contrary, declares worldly success to be a failure, since it is based on a selfishness that inflates and then leaves the heart empty. Faced with the paradox of the Beatitudes, disciples allow themselves to be challenged, aware that it is not God who must enter into our mindset, but we into His."

The most important thing we do in this life is to grow in love, love for God and for our brothers and sisters. Ultimately, God's plan is to transform us into the very likeness of Christ Himself, who showed us the perfect love of God and neighbour. When asked which commandment of the Law was the greatest, Jesus answered: 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. The second is like this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' This is what our life is for. If we are growing in love of God and neighbour, then we are fulfilling our highest purpose in this life, and we are preparing ourselves for an eternity of loving communion with God in the next life.

If this is our true purpose and goal, then the natural question is, what can

help us toward our goal and what will hinder our progress? Does wealth help us to grow in love? As we know, it does not. Of course, a person can be wealthy and also be very loving. However, generally, we find that when we have wealth, when we have plenty of possessions and food, when we have a position of honour in the world, we tend to put our security in these things. We tend to feel satisfied and "full." We begin to treasure these things and put our energy into getting more of them, and we give little time or thought to love of God or our brothers and sisters. As the prophet Jeremiah reminds us in the first reading, if we are putting our trust in anything or anyone other than God, we are "cursed," not "blessed." When we fix our hearts, not on the pursuit of wealth and honour, but on growing in love, we soon get in touch with our own deep poverty. We discover, if we examine our consciences honestly, that we do not love very well. In truth, we are awfully self-centred. We want to love, but in our broken sin condition we do not really love very much, even those closest to us. And we cannot produce more love in ourselves. We turn to God in our poverty and need, begging him to transform our stony hearts into hearts full of real love. We hunger for God's grace, crying out to Him for His mercy.

**Blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD,
whose hope is the LORD. - Jeremiah 17:7**

- How do my possessions cause me to become self-satisfied, with no need for God?
- What helps me grow in the love of God and of my brothers and sisters?
- When do I most fully experience being "blessed" rather than "cursed"?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mass Collections

Sat, 8 Feb: RM1994.70 Sun, 9 Feb: RM2490.45



EXPERIENCE THE VIA DOLOROSA

Registrations are now open at the church porch for families or small groups of 4pax to carry the cross during Way of the Cross on **Fridays during Lent at 8.00pm**. Deepen your Lenten journey and experience the Via Dolorosa!

CHILDREN'S LENT PROGRAMME: WALK THRU LENT 2025

A programme by the Catechesis Ministry & Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) team. Parents and children (ages 4 to 12 years old) are encouraged to join and walk deeper in understanding the Passion of Christ and move closer to Jesus through His faith and endurance in His last moments on earth.

Dates/Times: **Sun, 16 Feb: 11.00am - 3.00pm**
Sundays 2, 9, 16 & 23 Mar: 12.00pm - 4.00pm
Thur, 3 Apr: 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Sat, 5 Apr: 12.00pm - 3.00pm
Sun, 6 Apr: 12.00pm - 4.00pm

Contact: Edmund (012-563 1674) or Audrey (012-495 4960)
Registration link: <https://forms.gle/1aMrk4uZnprBv2C6> (by 12 Feb)

CATECHETICAL SESSIONS BY REV FR DR GILBERT CHOONDAL

A highly recommended formation for evangelising catechists and parents by the Penang Diocesan Catechetical Commission.

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/3wf1ZceP8cRXmTiY9>

Deanery sessions at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit:

Sun, 23 Feb (2.00pm-3.00pm): Catechesis for Evangelizing Catechists (ECs)
Sun, 23 Feb (3.30pm-6.30pm): Catechesis for First Holy Communion ECs (Std 1-3 or 4)

Family Catechesis for Parents:

Wed, 19 Feb (8.30-9.30pm): City Parish - Our Lady of Sorrows
Sun, 23 Feb (8.00-9.00pm): Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
Mon, 24 Feb (8.30-9.30pm): Church of the Immaculate Conception

INCULTURATION OF THE FAITH

An interactive Forum for Catholics to deepen their understanding of inculturation and how it aligns with the teachings of the Church.

Date/Time: **Sun, 30 Mar 2025 (2.00pm - 5.00pm)**
Venue: Dewan Holy Spirit, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
Registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/Inculturation2025>
Contact: Jeanne J Saw 016-455 4597 (WhatsApp or SMS) /necpgdiocese@gmail.com

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://shorturlat/nmRHA>

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

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 16 Feb	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 17: 5-8 1 Cor 15: 12, 16-20 Lk 6: 17, 20-26
No Mass	Mon 17 Feb	Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Tue 18 Feb	
No Mass	Wed 19 Feb	
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Thu 20 Feb	
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Fri 21 Feb	St Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor
Lauds 9.30am Mass 10.00am Novena to OMPH 5.15pm Mass 5.30pm	Sat 22 Feb	Chair of Saint Peter, The Apostle
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 23 Feb	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Sam 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 1 Cor 15: 45-49 Lk 6: 27-38



Charismatic Renewal Group:
Wed, 26 Feb 2025 (8.15pm) at St. Faustina Hall
Christian Meditation:
Wed, 19 Feb 2025 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room