



23 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](https://linktr.ee/cdmpenang)

Parish Priest speaks...

In the Book of Genesis, we read that God created us human beings to be like Himself: "God created mankind in His image, in the image of God He created them" (Gen 1:27). By our very nature we are like God. But what does it mean to be "like God"? St. John gives us an answer in his First Letter: "God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them" (1 Jn 4:16). We were created to love. Jesus summed this up in His reply to the question about the greatest commandment, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind... You shall love your neighbour as yourself" (Mt 22:37-39).

However, we do find in the Book of Genesis, the intrusion of another idea of what it means to be "like God." In the garden, the serpent tempted Eve, urging her to eat the forbidden fruit: "God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Gen 3:5). This represents the temptation to try to be "like God," not by giving ourselves in love, but by taking power and glory for ourselves, deciding for ourselves what is good and evil. The result of choosing sin was disastrous, as we see in the lives of Adam and Eve and in their children. Their first child, Cain, saw Abel not as a brother to love but as a competitor for God's favour, and thus as an enemy to be eliminated.

Sadly, we have listened at times to the lies of the serpent, who has encouraged us to distrust God and to seek to make ourselves "like God" by deciding for ourselves what is good and evil. If someone seems to be surpassing us, or favoured over us, or is in the way of something we want,

then, like Cain, we are quick to become angry, jealous, envious and vengeful. The serpent continues to lie to us, encouraging us to see life as a matter of competition with others, where we can only advance if we are defeating someone else. Jesus in the Gospel calls us back to the original plan of God, to be like God by learning to love as He loves. He teaches us that we are to love everyone, even our enemies, for that is what God Himself does: "Love your enemies and do good to them... then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for He Himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." No amount of power, glory, or wealth makes us one bit more like God. We are like God in the measure that we love.

We have a beautiful calling to be like God by loving as He loves. When someone has hurt us in some way, it seems quite natural for us to want to take vengeance! How can we be expected to love them? The strength to love, which is not a thing, but rather the Holy Spirit. The strength to love is the Holy Spirit, and with the Spirit of Jesus, we can respond to evil with good; we can love those who do us harm. This is what Christians do.

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." - Luke 6:36

- When have I fallen into the temptation to make myself "like God" by deciding for myself what is good and evil?
- When someone harms me, how do I react, exteriorly and interiorly?
- Who is my enemy? How well am I loving and praying for him or her?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mass Collections (2nd Collection for parish expansion plans)

Sat, 15 Feb: RM1926.15 & RM1376
Sun, 16 Feb: RM5161.95 & RM3072



Baptism Announcements: Sun, 2 Mar at 11.00am

Ifechi Zion Chibuike

Note: If you have a child waiting for baptism, kindly contact the Parish Office for the necessary arrangements.

Please place your old blessed palm leaves into the baskets/collection boxes prepared near the ground floor office in order to be burnt for Ash Wednesday.



Dear Parents of Catechism children, Fr. Michael Raymond OFM. Cap would like to speak with you on **Sun, 2 Mar (10.45am)** at St. Faustina Hall. Your attendance is important as it concerns your children's faith journey.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS: PENANG ISLAND DEANERY

Mon, 17 Mar	10.00am & 8.00pm	Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
Tue, 18 Mar	10.00am & 8.00pm	Church of Our Lady of Sorrows
Wed, 19 Mar	10.00am & 8.00pm	Risen Christ Catholic Church
Thur, 20 Mar	10.00am (M) & 8.00pm (M&E)	Church of the Holy Name of Jesus
Wed, 2 Apr	10.00am & 8.00pm	Church of Divine Mercy
Thur, 3 Apr	10.00am & 8.00pm	Church of the Immaculate Conception



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!

Experience Divine Mercy like never before! Sign up for consecration to Divine Mercy and be renewed during this Lent 2025: <https://shorturl.at/8L5s1>

MANDARIN MASS 中文弥撒

Date 日期 / Time 时间: **Sun, 9 Mar (6.00pm)** 3月9日, 傍晚6点
DM Chaplet at 5.30pm (5点30分开始慈悲经)

LITURGICAL SEMINAR: THEORY & PRACTICAL (in Bahasa Malaysia)

"Friends, let's follow this seminar with an open and loving heart. As liturgical ministers, we are called to renew the spirit in our service. May each session bring us closer to God and our neighbors."

Date/Time: **Sat, 29 Mar & Sun, 30 Mar (8.30am - 5.00pm)**

Venue: St. Faustina Hall, CDM

Registration fee: RM35

Contact for registrations: JieJie (011-483 816) or Jusnie (016-897 0534)

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

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 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
No Mass	Mon 24 Feb	
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm	Tue 25 Feb
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm	Wed 26 Feb
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm	Thu 27 Feb St Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm	Fri 28 Feb
Lauds Grotto Mass followed by Rosary Novena to OMPH Mass	6.20am 6.45am 5.15pm 5.30pm	Sat 1 Mar
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am	Sun 2 Mar 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Ecclus 27: 4-7 1 Cor 15: 54-58 Lk 6: 39-45



Charismatic Renewal Group:
Wed, 26 Feb 2025 (8.15pm) at St. Faustina Hall
Christian Meditation:
Wed, 19 Mar 2025 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room
Chinese Christian Meditation:
Thu, 13 Mar 2025 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room