



20 JULY 2025

# CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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

Tel: 04-646 6881 / 013-584 6881 | Email: divinemercypg@yahoo.com

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)



LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG

## Parish Priest speaks...

In the readings this weekend we have several examples of people who serve others. We begin by considering Abraham, sitting at the entrance of his tent. Most likely he is resting after having done various chores throughout the morning. At such a time, after finishing some hard work and with the day growing hot, most of us would be thinking that we had earned a bit of relaxation. If someone asked for our help, we might either tell them to wait a bit, or at best we might get up to help grudgingly, harbouring some resentment for the imposition. But when Abraham looks up and sees three men standing nearby, he runs to greet them! He bows to the ground and asks if they will do him the favour of allowing him to serve them.

Throughout the rest of this reading, we are impressed with Abraham's sincere desire to serve his guests as quickly as he can, and with the best things he has available. He instructs Sarah to quickly make rolls from fine flour. He runs to the herd to pick out a choice steer and tells his servant to prepare it quickly. Finally, he brings the food to his guests and waits on them while they eat. He clearly considers it a great honour to have an opportunity to serve the three visitors.

Clearly the readings are teaching us that service of others is a privilege and a joy. If we view it rightly, we will be eager for the opportunity to serve. However, quite often we experience service more like Martha does in the Gospel. When Jesus comes to her home, she finds herself required to serve Him along with His many travelling companions. Before long she experiences His visit as a burden, not as a joyful opportunity to serve. Jesus reveals her inner disposition: she is "anxious and worried about many things." We see from this that service in itself, even serving the Lord, is not the essential matter. Martha, after all, was making great efforts to serve the Lord. She thought He would be served even better if her sister would join the work. But something is missing: Where is her

gratitude? Where is her love? Abraham and Paul had a different spirit. They were not simply busy activists. They knew that they had been richly blessed by God, and they were eager to make some return to Him for His goodness to them. The true motivation for service is grateful love, which moves us to seek ways to give God something in return for His goodness. And since He does not need anything from us, the way we can give to Him is by serving His people, our brothers, and sisters, in love.

When our life is over, the only thing that will matter is how well we have learned to love. Whatever time or energy or money we have spent pursuing other goals will have been wasted. We cannot take our possessions, our fame, our honour, our power, our influence, our comforts, or any other worldly things with us into the next life, only our love.

Mary in the Gospel is not wasting her time. She is not neglecting her duty. She knows that the way to grow in love begins with sitting at the feet of Jesus and learning from Him. This is why the Lord honours her for choosing "the better part." Love is not something which we can produce on our own. It is not something we can get more of by doing spiritual gymnastics. Love comes to us as a free gift from God. He is always ready and willing to give us this gift, but we must sit at His feet and open ourselves to receive it. Only when we listen first can we know best how to serve. Filled with the joy and gratitude which come from knowing God's overwhelming love for us, we can genuinely put ourselves at the service of others, joyful to be able to give back to God a small return for His goodness to us.

**He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord. – Psalm 15:1**

- During my day, when the opportunity arises, how do I serve those whom I meet?
- In what ways is my life dominated by anxiety and excessive activity?
- What is my inner attitude when I am called to help someone in need?

## PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WEDDING BANNIS: SAT, 2 AUGUST 2025 | SERVICE AT 10.00AM**

**LEE CHEAN SHEN & RACHEL HARGREAVES**

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

## MASS COLLECTIONS

SAT, 12 JULY: RM1853.40 (1<sup>ST</sup>) SUN, 13 JULY: RM2284 (1<sup>ST</sup>)



## COLLECTION OF USED BATTERIES (LAST WEEKEND OF EVERY MONTH)

'Friends of Creation' will be leaving a collection box for small used household batteries, only from **Sat, 26th July (5pm) to Sun, 27th July (12.30pm)** at the church entrance gate bench. Read further safety instructions on the box.

## CASE MANAGEMENT TRAINING FOR DRUG ABUSE

Drug abuse is an alarming issue in Malaysia. Since 2022, as much as 60000 youths below 18 are addicted to various kinds of substances. In this training, we will equip each parish's Caritas with the skills to journey with drug users, design plans, and eventually help them recover. Also open for other parish outreach ministries and anyone who is keen to learn. Date/Time: **Sat, 9 Aug 2025 (9.00am-4.00pm)** at Monsignor Aloysius Spirituality Center Registration link: <https://forms.gle/Y5UN4LNbVkJXanwHD9> closing date July 29

## THE 8TH CATHOLIC SINGLES WEEKEND

A weekend of faith, friendships, and perhaps something more! A programme rooted in Catholic values designed to offer Catholic singles (25-45yr old) a meaningful platform to meet, interact and grow-in faith.

Dates: **Fri, 26 - Sun, 28 September 2025 Closing date 31 Aug**

Venue: Domus St. Anne, Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam.

Fees: RM360.00 per person (includes 2 nights' stay, breakfast, tea-breaks, lunches & dinner)

Contact: Maria (019-480 6281) or Theresa (017-578 8192) / catholicdatinghub@gmail.com

## VOLUNTEER: CARITAS PENANG

Invest your talents and time to do good for the community and bring lasting impact to the children, the sick, the elderly, and other vulnerable persons in need. Spend a couple of hours or more a week volunteer in learning centres, medical centres, homes for the aged, women's shelters, or assist with the disaster affected population. Sign up at <https://caritaspenang.com/volunteer>

## 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城总铎区华文促进会所举办的华语婚前准备课程。2025 华语年婚前准备课程详情以下:

地点 Venue: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang

#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)

## CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER PENANG

A marriage preparation programme (English) designed to meet the communication, spiritual and personal needs of today's engaged couples.

Date/Venue: **Fri, 7 Nov - Sun, 9 Nov 2025** at Stella Maris, Penang

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

Mass & Prayer Times		Date	Description
DM Chaplet	8.30am	Sun 20 July	16th Sunday In Ordinary Time Gen 18: 1-10 Col 1: 24-28 Lk 10: 38-42
Mass	9.00am		
No Mass		Mon 21 July	St Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest & Doctor
Lauds	6.20am	Tue 22 July	St Mary Magdalene, Apostle of the Apostles
Mass	6.45am		
DM Chaplet	3.00pm	Wed 23 July	St Bridget of Sweden, Religious
Lauds	6.20am		
Mass	6.45am	Thu 24 July	St Charbel Makhluf, Priest
DM Chaplet	3.00pm		
Lauds	6.20am	Fri 25 July	St James, Apostle
Mass	6.45am		
DM Chaplet	3.00pm	Sat 26 July	SS. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Lauds	6.20am		
Mass	6.45am	Sun 27 July	17th Sunday In Ordinary Time Gen 18: 20-32 Col 2: 12-14 Lk 11: 1-13
DM Chaplet	8.30am		
Mass	9.00am		

Charismatic Renewal Group:

**Wed, 30 Jul, 13 & 27 Aug 2025 (8.15pm)** at St. Faustina Hall

Christian Meditation:

**Wed, 20 Aug 2025 (8.30pm)** at St JP II Adoration Room

Chinese Christian Meditation 基督徒默禱 (華文組):

**Thur, 14 Aug 2025 (8.30pm)** at St JP II Adoration Room

