



10 AUGUST 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 word hope is used extensively in the Bible to the point that in several passages it seems interchangeable with faith. However, we can say that hope is faith that is expressed over a long period of time. It is a kind of yearning and patiently looking forward to God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the Kingdom of Heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that the virtue of hope responds to the aspiration to happiness which God has placed in the heart of every man; it takes up the hopes that inspire men's activities and purifies them so as to order them to the Kingdom of Heaven; it keeps man from discouragement; it sustains him during times of abandonment"

This is the truth that we see expressed in today's reading from the Book of Wisdom. The author describes how Israel awaited, without discouragement, their deliverance from slavery. They believed in God, and they lived in the joyful expectation that God would be faithful to His promises. The virtue of hope frees us from the many snares of selfishness that arise from focusing too much on ourselves. It allows us to look forward to the One who satisfies our deepest yearning. Hope, by which we depend on God for our future, orders our activities here on earth in the right path.

The second reading tells us about how the Patriarch Abraham lived the virtue of hope. He trusted in God and looked forward to finding true happiness in Him. So, with his life anchored in God, he was able to go forth to the "place he was to receive as an inheritance," even though he did not know where he was going. This is the kind of freedom experienced by the children of God that is, by all who follow the example of Abraham's faith and hope. Abraham did not go forth with a heavy heart or with bitterness. He knew that God is the Source

of true happiness, and so kept his heart focused on Him. In the eyes of the secular world, living in hope like that of Abraham can be ridiculed as senseless, yet this is the path of true wisdom.

Jesus, who brings our hope to fulfilment, teaches us in today's Gospel how to live in the Christian hope that saves, the hope that seems foolish in the eyes of the world. Jesus does not want us to have vain or empty hope. Hence, He first assures us that our hope is built on a great reality: "Do not be afraid any longer, for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom." The Kingdom is no passing earthly possession but a communion of life with God and all His saints. The Kingdom is the deepest and truest joy and peace that every human heart longs for. Only God can give it to us, and this He does through Jesus Christ.

Today He teaches us that true Christian hope is not to be lived in idleness and laziness. We are like servants who live in joyful anticipation of their master's return from a wedding. Therefore, we must break off from our crippling selfishness, and work with diligence as we look forward to Heaven. While we are on earth, we must persevere in prayer, which makes union with God possible, and dedicate ourselves to the work of charity. We face a great spiritual battle against the evil one who does not want us to reach the joy of Heaven. The evil one makes us too focused on ourselves and on earthly pleasure. In the light of what Jesus teaches in today's Gospel, we recall the truth that "the battle against the possessive and dominating self requires vigilance, sobriety of heart." It is in this manner that we can live by the Christian hope that saves.

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. - Psalm 33:12

- What is my experience of practicing the virtue of Christian hope?
- How am I actively preparing for the redemption that the Lord is offering me?
- How does the hope of Abraham inspire me in my spiritual journey?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDDING BANNES: SAT, 30 AUGUST 2025 | MASS AT 10.30AM

SEBASTIAN RAJ A/L DAVID & JESSICA A/P AROCKIASAMY

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

MASS COLLECTIONS

SAT, 2 AUG: RM1370 (1ST) RM1375.60 (2ND)

SUN, 3 AUG: RM3499 (1ST) RM2819.25 (2ND)



PARENTING MADE EASY: PARTNERSHIP IN MARRIAGE AND PARENTING

A second session by the Institute for New Evangelisation (INE) with CDM Family Life Ministry for parents to balance similarities and differences by leveraging strengths, lead by example and exploring the agreeing to disagree approach.

Date/Time: **Sat, 16 Aug 2025 (2.00pm-4.00pm)** at St. Faustina Hall

Contact: Lawrence (012-410 8360) or Esther (012-452 9462)

MOUNT MIRIAM CANCER HOSPITAL (MMHC): H.U.G.S CHARITY FUN RUN 2025

The team from MMHC would like to thank all parishioners for the support during the 'Ho Chiak' Charity Food Fair 2025 where the final amount raised for the Cancer Welfare Fund was an incredible RM523,000! The second fundraising effort aims to bring the community together with every single step to be taken during the charity fun run representing a step of hope, understanding and support for those in the fight against cancer.

Date/Time: **Sun, 9 November 2025 (flag-off 7.00am)**

Venue: Straits Quay, Penang (distance 6.5km)

Registrations are open and special rates will be given on **Sat, 16 & Sun, 17 Aug** at the church porch. Contact Cheryl (016-9521093) or Bing Yang (016-5217064).

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Date/Time: **Sat, 23 August 2025 (Chaplet at 9.30am, Mass at 10.00am)** followed by refreshments at St. Faustina Hall.

Registrations start this weekend and closes on **Sun, 17 Aug 2025**.

YOUTH NIGHT: WHERE IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SOW?

An invitation by the Genesis Youths of Mercy (GYM) to have real talk amongst real friends with real snacks!

Date/Time: **Fri, 22 Aug (from 7.00pm)** at St. Faustina Hall

VOCATION DISCERNMENT CAMP 2025

Discover God's call in a journey of prayer, reflection, sharing and guidance. For those between 21-40 years old at RM100/pax.

Date/Time: **Thur, 4 Sep - Sun, 7 Sep 2025** at Stella Maris Retreat Center

Contact: Penang Diocese Vocation Team (pdvt2018@gmail.com) or Vocation Director, Fr. Louis Loi (louisloiboonchew@gmail.com)

Registration link: <https://shorturl.at/RNjHK> closing date 25 Aug

Charismatic Renewal Group:

Wed, 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



| Mass & Prayer Times | Date | Description | |
|--|------------------|---|---|
| DM Chaplet BM Mass | 8.30am 9.00am | Sun 10 Aug 19th Sunday In Ordinary Time Wis 18: 6-9 Heb 11: 1-2, 8-19 (or 11: 1-2, 8-12) Lk 12: 32-48 (or 12: 35-40) | |
| Holy Hour <i>for secondary students</i> | 11.00am | | |
| No Mass | Mon 11 Aug | | St Clare, Virgin |
| Lauds Mass | 6.20am 6.45am | Tue 12 Aug | St Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious |
| DM Chaplet | 3.00pm | Wed 13 Aug | SS. Pontian, Pope and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs |
| Lauds Mass | 6.20am 6.45am | | |
| DM Chaplet | 3.00pm | | |
| Lauds Mass | 6.20am 6.45am | Thu 14 Aug | St Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr |
| DM Chaplet | 3.00pm | Fri 15 Aug | The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  |
| Lauds Mass | 6.20am 6.45am | | |
| DM Chaplet | 3.00pm | | |
| Rosary followed by Mass | 8.00pm | | |
| Lauds Mass | 6.20am 6.45am | Sat 16 Aug | St Stephen of Hungary |
| Novena to OMPH Mass | 5.15pm 5.30pm | Sun 17 Aug | 20th Sunday In Ordinary Time Jer 38: 4-6, 8-10 Heb 12: 1-4 Lk 12: 49-53 |
| SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION | | | |
| DM Chaplet Mass | 8.30am 9.00am | | |