



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...

It may surprise some of us that the Scripture readings on this First Sunday of Advent do not refer at all to the birth of Jesus at Christmas. The readings, especially the Gospel, have nothing sentimental to them, but are quite sobering. They reveal to us the deeper meaning of Advent. "Advent" simply means "coming," the coming of Christ but not only on the day of His birth. Christ Jesus came once in the flesh, born as a baby who in time shed His Blood on the Cross, died and rose from the dead. He comes to us now, especially in the Holy Eucharist. He will come again at the end of time to judge and reward us. His first coming in the flesh and His constant coming to us in the present in the Sacraments. One important dimension of the mission of the Church founded by Jesus is to prepare us for His Second Coming, so that we will be ready for Judgment Day and prepared to receive our eternal reward. This preparation is at the heart of the liturgical season of Advent. The readings this weekend highlight to the Second Coming pointing us to what matters most and inviting us, as a result, to think about and prepare seriously for the great meeting with our just Judge and Saviour. Whether we would like to think about it or not, there will surely be a "particular judgment" when each one of us dies and a "Last Judgment" when Christ returns in glory. We can interpret the Gospel as referring to both of these future moments. No one knows exactly when he or she will die, and no one knows exactly when the Second Coming will take place. While we are occupied with the ordinary affairs of daily life, the Lord will come suddenly for judgment and separate the just from the wicked. This separation is the meaning of the expression, "one will be taken, and one will be left," which is repeated in the Gospel. The Lord is teaching us that we should no longer live our ordinary lives as if there are no "last things", Death, Judgment, Heaven or Hell but should rather live in the light of His Second Coming and the reality of our future and everlasting life.

Looking forward to and preparing for the Second Coming or the "Second Advent" is an expression of the virtue of hope which brings joy. Inspired by God, the prophet Isaiah announces in today's first reading the divine promise on which our hope is based: that God Himself will gather into the heavenly Jerusalem countless people from every nation who, during their earthly pilgrimage, have followed His ways. This is what we look forward to being with God in Heaven, in the company of His saints. Our Advent joy flows from this hope. As the Psalmist says: 'I rejoiced because they said to me, 'We will go up to the house of the LORD.' To enter into joy, we must resist and reject the enemies of our hope.

In view of the Second Coming, St. Paul, in today's second reading, invites us to repentance and vigilance, and beautifully says, "Throw off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the desires of the flesh." His mention of "armour" alerts us that we are in a serious spiritual battle, and therefore we need to redouble our efforts to be conformed with Christ, so that the fruit of our season of Advent will be a share in His victory. The reality of the Last Judgment with its call to repentance and vigilance, and the image of putting on the "armour of light" answer the question of whether there is a penitential aspect to Advent. Paul makes it clear that we cannot prepare for the victory of light unless we are actively striving to throw off all the works of darkness.

"... you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." - Matthew 24:44

- What are the anxieties of my daily life that hinder me from striving for the things of eternal life?
- With God's grace, how will I "throw off the works of darkness" and "put on the armour of light" this Advent?
- How does the hope of God's divine promise of eternal life inspire me to lead a life of holiness?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Church of the Holy Name of Jesus	Fri, 5 Dec 2025	10.00am & 8.00pm
Church of Our Lady of Sorrows	Tue, 9 Dec 2025	10.00am & 8.00pm
Cathedral of the Holy Spirit	Wed 10 Dec	10.00am & 8.00pm
Church of Divine Mercy	Thurs, 11 Dec 2025	10.00am & 8.00pm
Church of the Risen Christ	Mon, 15 Dec 2025	10.00am & 8.00pm
Church of the Immaculate Conception	Tue, 16 Dec 2025	10.00am & 8.00pm

Make time this Advent for a season of meaningful reflection and prayer. Sign up for online Advent reflections and resources for the family:-

- *Dynamic Catholic: [Best Advent Ever](#)
 - *[My Daily Visitor](#) for prayers and videos
 - *The Gifts of Advent by Loyola Press
 - *[Advent to Christmas reflection booklet](#) by the Office for New Evangelisation
 - *Advent & Christmas Special on [Formed](#) for kids: -
- All links available at CDM Penang's Linktree QR code on the top-right of the bulletin

MASS COLLECTIONS

Sat, 22 Nov: RM1580.65 (1st Collection)
 Sun, 23 Nov: RM2748.60 (1st Collection) RM522 (5pm PRE)

STATE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Organised by the Christian Federation of Malaysia, jointly with the Penang State Government and Penang Harmony Corporation (HARMONICO). All are warmly invited to enjoy performances by various churches and to visit the Christmas Market.
 Date/Time: **Sat, 6 Dec (from 3.00pm onwards) at St. George's Church, Georgetown**

CHRIST'S YOUTH IN ACTION (CYA) PENANG CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

You are warmly invited to our Grand Christmas Celebration: Emmanuel, a night filled with joy, worship, fellowship, and the true meaning of Christmas. Let's come together as a family to celebrate this amazing truth and the hope it brings. Bring a dish that starts with the last letter of your name!

Date/Time: **Fri, 12 Dec 2025 (7.00pm - 10.30pm)**
 Venue: CFCC Centre @ 6F, Harbour Trade Centre, Macallum
 Dress Code: Classic Christmas colours

JUMBLE SALE

Friends of Creation wishes to announce their coming JUMBLE SALE focusing on children's things for babies, toddlers & older. All in good condition and even new! Come and take a look! Proceeds from the sale will go to CDM.

Dates/Times: **Sat, 13 Dec (3.00pm-5.00pm & 6.30pm-7.30pm)**
Sun, 14 Dec (10am-1pm)

Venue: St. Faustina Hall

PARENTING MADE EASY: THE PRAYING FAMILY

The third in the sharing formation series by CDM Family Life Ministry on emphasising a praying culture in the family, discovering personal prayer, couple prayers, family prayers and contemplative prayer, and the power of silence.

Date/Time: **Fri, 19 Dec 2025 (8.30pm-9.45pm)**

Venue: St. Faustina Hall
 Contact: Lawrence (012-408360) or Esther (012-4529462)

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 30 Nov	1st Sunday of Advent Is 2: 1-5 Rom 13: 11-14 Mt 24: 37-44
<i>No Mass</i>	Mon 1 Dec	
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am <i>Mass</i> 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Tue 2 Dec	
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am <i>Mass</i> 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Wed 3 Dec	St Francis Xavier, Priest
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am <i>Mass</i> 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Thu 4 Dec	St John Damascene, Priest & Doctor
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am <i>Mass</i> 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Fri 5 Dec	
<i>Lauds</i> 6.20am Grotto Mass 6.45am followed by Rosary Novena to OMPH 5.15pm <i>Mass</i> 5.30pm	Sat 6 Dec	St Nicholas, Bishop
RCIA 2025/2026: RITE OF ACCEPTANCE DM Chaplet 8.30am BM Mass 9.00am	Sun 7 Dec	2nd Sunday of Advent Is 11: 1-10 Rom 15: 4-9 Mt 3: 1-12



Christian Meditation:
Wed, 3 & 17 Dec 2025 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room
 Chinese Christian Meditation:
Wed, 4 Dec 2025 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room