

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 Gospel this weekend comes in three pairs of verses, with each pair offering us further insight into the identity of Jesus Christ. The first pair declares Jesus as the Lamb of God; the second pair shows Him as the New Creation; and the third as Son of God.

It is John the Baptist who first points out Jesus as "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world." As a prophet, John preached the need for repentance from sin as preparation for the coming of the Messiah. People heeded John's call and went to be baptised. The great prophet of repentance points us to Jesus, who offers something that surpasses John's baptism. What Jesus does is entire and eternal. Instead of a symbolic cleansing of sin through the water of the River Jordan, the image of the lamb recalls the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt. They were spared from the angel of death by the sign of the blood of the Passover lamb. Jesus is the true Lamb of God who spares us from eternal death and who atones for our sins through His sacrifice. It teaches that if we wish to benefit from Jesus' sacrifice to atone for our sins and to overcome the power of death, we must follow the Lamb with wholehearted obedience and trust in His goodness.

The second pair of Gospel verses is taken from the image of the Lamb of God to the descent of the Spirit upon Jesus. The presence of the Spirit over the water of the Jordan connects the Baptism of Jesus to the first moments of creation, when "the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters" (Gen 1:2). When John says that he saw the Holy Spirit "come down like a dove from Heaven and remain upon Him," we are to recognise that in Jesus, God has revealed the arrival of a New Creation. In Christ we too have become a new creation.

We celebrated this gift when we recalled the great gift of Baptism, which was our first sacramental encounter with the Lamb who takes away sin. These ideas of being free from sin and filled with light are not just symbols or abstract concepts. This is what it means to be a Christian.

The final pair of Gospel verses contain John's testimony that Jesus is "the Son of God" a truth we profess every time we recite the Creed: "I believe in God the Father Almighty and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord." As Christians, we have become children of God in the Son. Through His sacrifice, Jesus Christ has restored our relationship with God that was broken by sin.

As we ponder today's Scripture readings, and as we "behold the Lamb of God," we put our faith in Him, we rejoice that He has made us a new creation, and we rededicate ourselves to living more fully our true identity as children of God.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light...

Isaiah 9:1

- How has my knowledge of Jesus as the Lamb of God, the New Creation and the Son of God further strengthened my trust and faith in Him?
- In what ways do I find that obeying and trusting God is truly a cause for my joy?
- Do I realise how great a treasure it is to be a child of God?
- How can I show my gratefulness to God for this great gift?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MASS COLLECTIONS

Sat, 10 Jan (5.30pm): RM1739.10 (1st collection)

Sun, 11 Jan (9.00am): RM2439 (1st collection)

A FAITH-FILLED FOUNDATION THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Catechism classes will now start at **11.00am** effective from **Sun, 11 January 2026** for pre-school (age 6) until Form 5 (age 17).

Please take note that there will be a parents' meeting with Fr. Michael Raymond, OFM. Cap on **Sun, 18 Jan 2026 (11.00am)** at St. Faustina Hall.

For pre-school registrations, contact Joanna (016-435 9217) or Nicole (016-2010372)

Commissioning of Faith Sharers

Sun, 18 Jan ~ 9.00am

In Christ, God has revealed His love and His truth.

May He make you witnesses to the Gospel and to the divine love.

May He give power to your actions and your words.

May the Spirit of the Lord be with you,

as you go forth as the ministers of His Word.

COLLECTION OF USED HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES

Friends of Creation will be leaving a collection box for small, used household batteries at the new indoor location, only from **Sat, 24 Jan (5.00pm) to Sun, 25 Jan (12.30pm)**.

Please read further instruction on the box.

YOUTH NIGHT: THIS YEAR I CHOOSE PEACE

Join us for a night filled with snacks, fun, fellowship, and faith! Come connect with friends, old and new as we dive into exciting icebreakers, great snacks and a powerful session focused on the theme of Peace this year. Whether you're looking to recharge, make memories, or grow in your faith, this night is for us to gather as one community in Christ! Date/Time: **Fri, 23 Jan (Doors open at 7.00pm)**

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER PENANG

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

Weekend #146: **Fri, 6 Feb - Sun, 8 Feb 2026** at Stella Maris, Penang

Weekend #147: **Fri, 8 May - Sun, 10 May 2026** at Stella Maris, Penang

Weekend #148: **Fri, 7 Aug - Sun, 9 Aug 2026** at Stella Maris, Penang

Weekend #149: **Fri, 13 Nov - Sun, 15 Nov 2026** at Domus, Minor Basilica of St. Anne

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

RETRouvaille LIVE-IN WEEKEND (ENGLISH)

There is HOPE for a better marriage. If you feel that your spouse has grown apart, or if you are considering separation or even divorce, know that healing is still possible. The Retrouvaille Weekend offers a supportive and confidential environment where couples can work together toward rebuilding their relationships.

If you are open to exploring the possibility of restoring your marriage, we invite you to join us for a Retrouvaille Weekend as an opportunity to reconnect, communicate and find renewed hope in your relationship.

Dates: **Fri, 6 Mar - Sun, 8 Mar 2026**

For further information, please contact:

Francis (016-3330660) or Angeline: (012-2072150) or email

retrouvaille@familylife.archkl.org

All communication will be strictly confidential.

| Mass & Prayer Times | Date | Description |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | | |
| DM Chaplet 8.30am | Sun | Is 49: 3, 5-6 |
| Mass 9.00am | 18 Jan | 1 Cor 1: 1-3 Jn 1: 29-34 |
| No Mass | Mon 19 Jan | |
| Lauds 6.20am | Tue 20 Jan | St Fabian, Pope & Martyr St Sebastian, Martyr |
| Mass 6.45am | | |
| DM Chaplet 3.00pm | | |
| No Mass | Wed 21 Jan | St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr |
| DM Chaplet 3.00pm | Thu 22 Jan | St Vincent, Deacon & Martyr |
| Asia DM Holy Hour Mass 8.00pm | | |
| Lauds 6.20am | Fri 23 Jan | |
| Mass 6.45am | | |
| DM Chaplet 3.00pm | | |
| Lauds 6.20am | Sat 24 Jan | St Francis De Sales, Bishop & Doctor |
| Mass 6.45am | | |
| Novena to OMPH 5.15pm | | |
| Mass 5.30pm | | |
| DM Chaplet 8.30am | Sun 25 Jan | SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 8: 23 - 9: 3 1 Cor 1: 10-13, 17 Mt 4: 12-23 (or 4: 12-17) |
| Mass 9.00am | | |

Charismatic Renewal Group:

Wed, 28 January 2026 (7.15pm) at St. Faustina Hall

Christian Meditation:

Wed, 21 January 2026 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room

Chinese Christian Meditation:

Thur, 05 February 2026 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room

