

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 steps into the life of Jesus Christ, who has been hidden and silent since His birth, begins His public ministry in a significant manner, doing and saying something that sets the stage for His entire ministry and indeed reveals the purpose of His coming. How does He start His ministry? St. Matthew tells us that "He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali." But why Zebulun and Naphtali? It is not by chance that our Lord went to a lake-side town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. These were two of twelve sons of Jacob, and thus the names of two of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. God had promised to David that his kingdom would last forever. Unfortunately, the kingdom was soon divided, and eventually foreign invaders attacked, pillaged, and devastated the tribes, sending the Israelites into exile. The worst invasion and exile of the northern tribes was the Assyrian invasion, which started with the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali. These two tribes were the first to be plunged into the darkness of exile in pagan Assyria. Jesus came to gather and save the scattered tribes of Israel. Since Zebulun and Naphtali were the first tribes to be exiled, it makes sense that Jesus would start at the former border of these two tribes to undo their captivity, to bring light to those who were in darkness. "The people who sit in darkness have seen a great light!"

We find next that Jesus begins His ministry of preaching. What is His first proclamation? "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." He has not come merely to restore the earthly kingdom entrusted to David. Rather, He has come to bring about the Kingdom that will last to form a new people and make them participants and citizens of the heavenly Kingdom. The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand! We are told that the Kingdom of God lies ahead of us. It is brought near in the Word incarnate and it is proclaimed throughout the whole Gospel.

Jesus has come to gather not only the scattered tribes of Israel into the joy and peace of the heavenly Kingdom but also all the nations of the earth. His call to the first Apostles is for this purpose. He chooses them to be "fishers of men," to draw all nations into the saving "net" of the Church. The Church here on earth is the access point to His heavenly Kingdom. Christ founded His Church on the foundation stones of the Apostles to carry on His work of salvation. The proclamation of the Gospel is always more important than any particular minister. People sometimes pick and choose what they are willing to believe and to whom they are willing to listen. This is precisely the disorder that St. Paul condemns in the reading from his First Letter to the Corinthians. The Gospel is not the exclusive property of Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or any Pope or Bishop. The divisions and rivalries among believers only weaken the mission of the Church. Through the Cross, Christ has established the heavenly Kingdom and given us access to it. He has obtained peace for us and drawn us to the joy of His Resurrection. For the sake of all people who are still sitting in darkness and are overshadowed by death, this is the saving Gospel which has been entrusted to us, a "great light" for all nations.

The Lord is my light and my salvation... - Psalm 27:1

- How do divisions and rivalries in my community life weaken my mission in the Church?
- How am I "fishers of men" like the first Apostles?
- In what way is the Cross of Christ meaningful in my life?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MASS COLLECTIONS

Sat, 17 Jan (5.30pm): RM1802 (1st collection) RM1394.30 (2nd collection)
Sun, 18 Jan (9.00am): RM3315 (1st collection) RM2028 (2nd collection)

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD Mon, 2 Feb 2026 Chaplet at 8.00pm followed by Mass. Please bring your own candles for blessing.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

Date/Time: **Sat, 14 Feb 2026 at 10.00am** (Rosary at 9.30am)
Registrations for the sick and elderly will be open at the church porch starting from this weekend (24th/25th Jan) after Mass.

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 2026 (12.30pm)**. Please read further instruction on the box.

BREAKING THE SILENCE: TALKING ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH AT HOME

A collaboration between CDM Family Life Ministry & CDM Catechesis Ministry in addressing mental health issues. This talk will be held by Dr. Stephanie Ann Sardar M.D and will be one of the various efforts in this matter. All are welcome to participate.
Date/Time: **Sun, 8 February 2026 (11.00am)**
Venue: St. Faustina Hall

The first BEC Coffee Morning will be by Zone J on **Sun, 8 Feb 2026** at St. Faustina Hall after morning Mass. Your generous support will be greatly appreciated as all proceeds will go towards the new multipurpose community centre.

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.

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.

LIVING THE LITTLE WAY OF ST. THERESE

Three (3) zoom sessions by Rev. Fr. Philip Tay, OCD on **Thursdays 9, 16 & 23 April 2026 at 8.00pm - 10.00pm** with an optional weekend retreat at the Putri Karmel Monastery, Balik Pulau from **Fri, 1 May - Sun, 3 May 2026**. Registrations for the Zoom sessions are free and further details on the weekend retreat fees can be found in the Google Form: <https://tinyurl.com/PDNEC26LiWay>. Registrations close 24 Mar.

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
		SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 25 Jan	Is 8: 23 - 9: 3 1 Cor 1: 10-13, 17 Mt 4:12-23 (or 4: 12-17)
No Mass	Mon 26 Jan	SS. Timothy & Titus, Bishops
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Tue 27 Jan	St Angela Merici, Virgin
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Wed 28 Jan	St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Thu 29 Jan	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Fri 30 Jan	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm		
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am	Sat 31 Jan	St John Bosco, Priest
Novena to OMPH 5.15pm Mass 5.30pm		
		4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 1 Feb	Zeph 2: 3; 3: 12-13 1 Cor 1: 26-31 Mt 5: 1-12

Charismatic Renewal Group:

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

Christian Meditation:

Wed, 4 February 2026 (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room

Chinese Christian Meditation:

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

