



# CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY

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**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)

**CHECK IT OUT**



[LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG](http://LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG)

**Parish Priest speaks...**

Today, we begin the most solemn week in the Church year, Holy Week. We have been journeying for almost forty days through the Season of Lent, and the hope is that we have entered the grace of this Season. The Lenten journey takes us to a shocking halt at the foot of the Cross and then to the stony impasse of the Tomb, where it appears all hope is lost until Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday. Today's Mass begins with St. Matthew's account of the triumphant procession of Jesus into Jerusalem. He enters the city in humble fashion, riding on a donkey. The crowds hail Him as their King, waving palm branches in celebration. They call out hosanna, indicating that as they praise Jesus, they acknowledge Him as the Messiah. However, the people who joyfully hail Jesus as the Son of David with shouts of hosanna are the same ones who, in only a few short days, are screaming for Pilate to have Him crucified. How quickly the human heart changes!

The Liturgy of the Word ends with Jesus' betrayal, trial, crucifixion, and death. Our joy with the palms soon turns to horror as the account of Jesus' Passion and Death is read. How could things have changed so suddenly? The Jews at the time mistakenly expect the Messiah to be an earthly king, political leader, or military commander who will liberate them from Roman rule. When they realize that Jesus is not the sort of king they were hoping for, they reject Him. The same can also be said of us. Jesus does not always save us as we expect Him to. He comes in humility, even foolishness, riding a lowly ass. He empties Himself, taking on the form of a slave, and obediently accepts death, even death on the Cross. If we want to share in Jesus' Kingdom and His glory, we must follow Him along His way of self-abasement, and this is repulsive to human nature. To honour Jesus and follow Him in the way of the Cross does not come easily. In fact, if we are left to ourselves, the task is impossible. However, we are not left alone and unaided.

As we ponder the Gospel account of Jesus' Passion and Death, we can imagine ourselves alongside the followers of Jesus. We look at their lives and see their weaknesses, and if we are totally honest, we see the same weaknesses in ourselves. All the disciples desert Jesus. Judas betrays Him. Peter denies Him out of fear for His own life. Jesus' enemies deaden their consciences and reject the truth of His words. Even John, the beloved disciple, is nowhere to be found. Only Mary and a small remnant of people are faithful to the end. Through Mary's faithfulness, John finds the courage to return and stand at the Cross with the holy women. Mary's presence at the Cross is key for us. If we remain with her, she will give us the courage to follow the Lord and to stand at the foot of His Cross. She takes nothing for herself as she brings us to her Son.

*The Lord GOD is my help; therefore, I am not disgraced;  
 I have set my face like flint,  
 knowing that I shall not be put to shame. – Isaiah 50:7*

- How can I remain faithful to Jesus when circumstances arise that go against my hopes and expectations?
- In what ways do I see myself in the weakness of the disciples during Jesus' Passion?
- To what extent am I willing to empty myself for love of Jesus and others?

**PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MASS COLLECTIONS**

Sat, 21 Mar (5.30pm): RM1465.05 (1<sup>st</sup> Collection)  
 Sun, 22 Mar (9.00am): RM3056.75 (1<sup>st</sup> Collection)

**Buy and bless a visible sign of our joy!** Buntings with the image of the Divine Mercy will be sold from this weekend in conjunction with our feast day celebrations for the multipurpose community centre fundraising.

**FIRST AID VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

If you are trained in First Aid or with healthcare background, we would love you to join our CDM First Aid Team. This dedicated team is on standby for any eventualities whenever we expect a surge in Mass attendees on special occasions (eg Holy week, Easter, Christmas, Feast Day etc). For more information and to sign up please contact Margaret Ng (07-494 2363)

**The Divine Voices** will be visiting the residents of the Little Sisters of the Poor again on **Sat, 28 June 2026** and are opening limited registrations for parishioners to join. Meet the team at the church porch this weekend.

**DAY OF PRAYER**

A first combined day of activities by the Spirituality Group with praise & worship, praying the Divine Mercy chaplet, read and reflect on the Word of God and Christian Meditation. All are welcome!  
 Date/Time/Venue: **Tue, 31 March 2026 (8.30pm - 9.30pm)** at St.Faustina Hall

**HOLY HOUR** followed by Mass on **Wed, 1 April 2026 (8.00pm)**. Let us dedicate this time of prayer for our RCIA Elect as they draw closer to the sacred moment of their Baptism and Confirmation. We warmly invite all Elect, sponsors, family, and friends to be present, standing with them, praying for them, and journeying alongside them in this beautiful step of faith.

**CDM CLOW GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** will be at 7.30pm. Parents are encouraged to send their children (7-12 yrs old) to the basement by 7.25pm and pick them up promptly after veneration of the cross.

**SCAM PREVENTION TALK**


Date/Time: **Sat, 18 April 2026 (9.0am - 11.00am)**  
 Venue: 3<sup>rd</sup> floor classrooms, CDM  
 In collaboration with Polis DiRaja Malaysia & Yayasan Pencegahan Jenayah Malaysia (MCPF) Daerah Barat Daya. Learn how to spot, stop & report the scam.  
 Register/Contact: Amy (012-456 9434) or Rowena (012-474 9472)

**CATHOLIC SINGLES DATING HUB WEEKEND**

Organised by the Penang Diocesan Family Life Ministry designed to bring together our Catholic singles and help them discern God's call to the Sacrament of Marriage.  
 Dates: **Fri, 17 Apr - Sun, 19 Apr 2026 closing date 31 Mar**  
 Venue: Domus St. Anne, Minor Basilica of St. Anne BM  
**SCAN THE LINKTREE QR CODE AT TOP RIGHT OF THE BULLETIN!**  
 Contact: Maria (019-480 6281) or Theresa (017-578 8192)

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT**

A scriptural based retreat for anyone (man/woman) struggling with the emotional and spiritual pain of abortion. All communication strictly confidential.  
 Dates: **Fri, 1 May - Sun, 3 May 2026**  
 Contact: Mary (016-419 0538) or rachelvineyard.my@gmail.com.

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
		 <b>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</b>
DM Chaplet 8.30am Mass 9.00am	Sun 29 Mar	Mt 21: 1-11 Is 50: 4-7 Phil 2: 6-11 Mt 26: 14 - 27: 66
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Mon 30 Mar	
Lauds 6.20am Mass 6.45am DM Chaplet 3.00pm	Tue 31 Mar	
DM Chaplet 3.00pm Holy Hour followed by Mass 8.00pm	Wed 1 Apr	
DM Chaplet 8.00pm Mass 8.30pm	Thu 2 Apr	<b>Holy Thursday</b>
DM Novena & WOTC followed by Service 2.15pm WOTC followed by service 7.30pm	Fri 3 Apr	<b>Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord</b>
DM Novena 3.00pm Easter Vigil Mass (with Baptism) 8.00pm	Sat 4 Apr	<b>Holy Saturday</b>
DM Novena 9.00am Easter Mass 9.30am	Sun 5 Apr	<b>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</b> Acts 10: 34, 37-43 Col 3: 1-4 Jn 20: 1-9

