



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)



Parish Priest speaks...

The Gospel this weekend gives us a striking example of God's desire to make Himself known to which the Father reveals to Peter the mystery of Jesus' true identity. This Gospel has three parts. First are the various opinions about who Jesus might be; second is the truth of who Jesus really is, as expressed by Peter; and third is the truth about the new role of Peter, as expressed by Jesus. In the first part, Jesus asks His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" It is a kind of informal opinion poll. He receives a variety of answers. If we took an opinion poll today, we would get an even wider variety of answers. People would say that Jesus was a man ahead of His times, or the first communist, or a courageous religious reformer, or a mystic, or a great moral teacher. However, opinion polls do not necessarily lead us to the truth. In fact, all the answers that were given to Jesus were wrong. So, Jesus takes the next step and asks, "But who do you say that I am?" An amazing thing happens, something that makes this one of the key moments in Jesus' public ministry. Peter bursts out with a clear statement of absolute truth: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!" Jesus responds, "Blessed are you, Simon's son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father." Jesus is indeed the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of the Father. Peter, inspired by the Father, is the first to announce publicly this central truth of our Christian faith. Now it is Jesus' turn to make an announcement, which is also a moment of revelation, not about Himself but about Peter. He says, "I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." Before this, there is no record of anyone bearing the name "Peter," which means "Rock." Jesus chose a new name to reveal that He was establishing something new, "my Church," on a new foundation. A rock is strong, solid, and permanent. It represents the lasting and unchangeable foundation of the Church.

Jesus immediately adds another symbol: "I will give you the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven." Keys are a symbol of authority. The one who holds the keys has the power to allow others to enter, and the power to lock them out. This same symbol is used in the first reading to show that God chose a faithful man, Eliakim, to act with authority in the kingdom. "I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim's shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open."

In the Gospel, this prophecy is fulfilled when Jesus gives to Peter "the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven." The Lord gives heavenly authority to a mere man, to Peter and to his successors. This is the scriptural basis for our understanding of the authority of the Pope in the Church. When the Pope teaches definitively some truth about the Faith or about moral life, it is not just an opinion. We live in an age that is sceptical about man's ability to know the truth, if there even is such a thing as truth. But we do not have to subject ourselves to the uncertainty of the world. We know the truth because it has been revealed to us. Jesus Himself is the truth, "the way, the truth and the life." Jesus has given the Church the authority to continue His proclamation of the Gospel. If we want to know the truth about matters of faith and morals, if we are troubled by the conflicting popular opinions about important matters such as Heaven and Hell, marriage, the priesthood, contraception, abortion or homosexuality, we can find the truth in the authoritative teachings of the Church under the leadership of the Pope and all the bishops.

"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."

Matthew 16:18

- How do I personally answer Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?"
- How often do I seek for the truth in matters of faith and morals in the authoritative teaching of the Church?
- How can I better support and pray for the leaders of the Church who carry the "keys" of responsibility?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MASS COLLECTIONS

Sat, 15 Aug (5.30pm): RM1718 (1st Collection) RM1282 (New Building)
Sun, 16 Aug (9.00am): RM3090.85 (1st Collection) RM1816.20 (New Building)

JESUS, OUR HEALER & HOPE

An invitation to the Tamil-speaking community by the Catholic Charismatic Renewal (Penang Island Deanery) to participate in Mass with Prayers for Healing.

Date/Time: **Wed, 26 Aug (8.00pm)**

Venue: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit

Contact: Jessie Thomson (012-4027697)

TRIUMPH HEART OF MARY (THM) RETREAT: INTO THE DEEP

Designed to provide spiritual formation for those desiring to deepen their relationship with the Blessed Trinity and to grow as prayer warriors.

Dates: **Fri, 4 Sep - Sun, 6 Sep 2026** (for English-speaking)

Venue: Stella Maris, Penang

Fee: RM300/pax

Contact: Anne Lee (012-428 5033) / Teresa Lim (012-4311697)

CHOICE WEEKEND 2026 (FOR SINGLE, WORKING ADULTS 21-40YO)

COME be changed by this once in a lifetime experience!

Fee: RM150/pax (incl. board & meals)

English Weekend #63: **Fri, 4 Sep - Sun, 6 Sep 2026.**

Venue: Domus, Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM

Contact: Esther Boo -English (017-77946901)

SEE JUDGE ACT WORKSHOP BY CARITAS PENANG

An awareness programme designed to equip young people and mission-driven ministries with the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

Date/Time: **Sun, 13 Sep 2026 (2.00pm - 6.00pm)**

Venue: 1st floor classrooms, CDM

LEARN HOW TO SOLDER WORKSHOP

A Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Exploration Day by the CDM Learning Centre. Open to all ages with limited slots.

Registration fee: RM5

Date/Time: **Sun, 13 Sep 2026 (11.00am - 1.00pm)**

Contact: Alicia (016-4411411) / Dhinesh (013-2489563)

Mass & Prayer Times	Date	Description
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am Sun 23 Aug	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 22: 19-23 Rom 11: 33-36 Mt 16: 13-20
No Mass	Mon 24 Aug	St Bartholomew, Apostle
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Tue 25 Aug	St Louis St Joseph Calasanz, Priest
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Wed 26 Aug	
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Thu 27 Aug	St Monica
Lauds Mass DM Chaplet	6.20am 6.45am 3.00pm Fri 28 Aug	St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor
DM Chaplet Prayer for the sick Novena to OMPH Mass	9.30am 10.00am 5.15pm 5.30pm Sat 29 Aug	The Passion of St John the Baptist
DM Chaplet Mass	8.30am 9.00am Sun 30 Aug	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Jer 20: 7-9 Rom 12: 1-2 Mt 16: 21-27

MEDITATION / CHARISMATIC

Charismatic Renewal Group:

Wed, 26 Aug, 9 & 23 Sept (8.00pm) at St. Faustina Hall

Christian Meditation:

Wed, 2 & 16 Sept (8.30pm) at St JP II Adoration Room



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CODE FOR ALL
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