



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...

After focusing for several Sundays on our call to work in the vineyard of the Lord, this week we reflect on a wonderful invitation. God is inviting us to a marvellous feast! This is "a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines." Not only does God promise to fill us abundantly with good things, but the prophet also tells us that God will "wipe away the tears from every face," and He will remove "the reproach of His people." We will have no cause for sadness or shame. In the Gospel this week, Jesus tells a parable about the same feast where He describes it as a wedding feast. This makes it even more amazing than what Isaiah described, because now we see that this is more than a great banquet with God; it is the celebration of a wedding. The son of the king is marrying His beloved bride and we are that bride!

Sadly, the response of the invited guests in the parable is not good. They refuse to come to the feast. When the king sends his servants to them a second time, some ignore the servants, while others mistreat them and even kill them. Jesus is speaking specifically to "the chief priests and elders of the people." He is trying to prod their consciences. They pride themselves on being the Chosen People of God, and He is telling them, yes, they are the first ones to be invited, but they have not responded well to God's invitation, and so He will invite others. Jesus' warning to the Jewish leaders, His description of how badly they are responding to God's call, certainly applies to us as well. Very often we, too, respond badly to God when He invites us into a closer relationship with Him. To put it bluntly, we think that we have better things to do with our time. And if someone challenges us or suggests that our priorities might be out of order, we grow angry and perhaps even abusive towards him.

We see in the parable that the king finally sends out his servants to invite anyone at all, "good and bad alike." This should be a check on our pride. We are not invited into God's banquet because of any great talent or attribute of ours. He invites anyone and everyone. We do not earn the invitation. We are not somehow better than others, that God has showered us with more grace. Our being invited shows us God's greatness, not ours. Jesus goes on to describe someone who had come into the banquet but was not properly dressed.

It was traditional at that time for the host to supply garments for the guests to wear at such a feast. As such, the problem was not that the man did not have a wedding garment. Rather, he chose not to put it on. He preferred to stay in his own clothes, and therefore he was cast out of the banquet hall.

What can we learn from this? We must come to the wedding feast wearing the proper garment. And what is that? St. Paul describes the wedding garment in Colossians 3:12-14: "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these, put on love." In another passage, Paul sums it up this way: "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ." In other words, interiorly we are to look like Christ; our hearts must look like His heart. In the parable, the man did not want to put on the king's garment. We must be wary of giving in to this attitude. Perhaps we do not want to put on compassion. Perhaps our pride rebels at the idea of putting on humility. Perhaps our impatient, impulsive nature rejects the thought of being patient and gentle. And maybe we simply do not want to forgive certain people. But Jesus' warning is clear. We cannot celebrate the feast if we reject His gracious offer to transform us into His likeness. St. Paul assures us in the second reading that "God will fully supply whatever you need, in accord with His glorious riches in Christ Jesus." God will accomplish the transformation of our hearts so that we can participate in the wedding banquet. But we must accept His invitation and cooperate with the process. We must open ourselves to the working of His Holy Spirit in our lives. We must be willing to put off our own "garments" and put on Christ.

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Psalm 23:6

- Do I strive to clothe myself with "heartfelt mercy, kindness, humility, meekness and patience?"
- How am I putting off the Lord's call to a deeper relationship with Him?
- What prevents me from putting off my own "garments" and putting on Christ?

PARISH / DIOCESE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MASS COLLECTIONS

Sat, 3 Oct (5.30pm): RM1551 (1st Collection) RM1617.80 (Poor)
Sun, 4 Oct (9.00am): RM2440 (1st Collection) RM1768.10 (Poor)

FLORAL ARRANGEMENT WORKSHOP

Come and join us for a fun and creative Flower Arrangement Workshop! Learn, create and enjoy a time of fellowship together. Fees: RM10/pax.

Date/Time: **Sat, 24 Oct (9.30am)**

Venue: St. Faustina Hall, CDM

For enquiries, please contact Amy Wong (012-4569434) / Anne Chong (012-4387818).

CHNM CARITAS FUNDRAISING DINNER

The CARITAS team from the Church of the Holy Name of Mary, Permatang Tinggi will be holding a fundraising dinner on **Sun, 6 Dec 2026** at their St. Mary Hall. A booth will be set up for registrations and the continuous support of the Catholic community is much appreciated.

Date of visit to CDM: **Sun, 25 Oct 2026 after morning Mass**

Contact: Paul 010-5654212 / Patricia 012-4738827

AN OVERVIEW OF PARISH PRAYER GROUPS

A formation programme by CHARIS Penang Diocese Service of Communion if you are interested to find out more about starting or rejuvenating a parish prayer group or just curious about what parish prayer groups are about.

Fee/Venue: RM20 per pax at Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang

Date/Time: **Sat, 24 Oct 2026 (9.00am - 1.00pm; breakfast from 8.15am)**

CATHOLIC FORMATION FOR EVANGELIZERS

To encourage, prepare, and equip Catholics to be effective witnesses of the gospel.

Dates/Times: **Sat, 17 Oct (8.30am - 4.30pm) & Sun, 18 Oct (12.30pm - 6.45pm)**

Venue: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER PENANG

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

Weekend #149: **Fri, 13 Nov - Sun, 15 Nov 2026** at Domus, MBSA

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

MEDITATION / CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING TIMES

Charismatic Renewal Group:

Wed, 14 & 28 Oct (8.00pm) at St. Faustina Hall

Christian Meditation:

Wed, 21 Oct (8.30pm) at St. JP II Adoration Room

Mass & Prayer Times		Date	Description
			28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Rosary	8.30am	Sun 11 Oct	Is 25: 6-10
BM Mass	9.00am		Phil 4: 12-14, 19-20
			Mt 22: 1-14 (or 22: 1-10)
Lauds	6.20am	Mon 12 Oct	<i>Feast of St. Carlo Acutis</i>
Mass	6.45am		
Lauds	6.20am	Tue 13 Oct	
Mass	6.45am		
DM Chaplet	3.00pm		
Lauds	6.20am	Wed 14 Oct	St Callistus I, Pope & Martyr
Mass	6.45am		
DM Chaplet	3.00pm		
Lauds	6.20am	Thu 15 Oct	St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin & Doctor
Mass	6.45am		
DM Chaplet	3.00pm		
Lauds	6.20am	Fri 16 Oct	St Hedwig, Religious
Mass	6.45am		St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin
DM Chaplet	3.00pm		
Lauds	6.20am	Sat 17 Oct	St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop & Martyr
Mass	6.45am		
Novena to OMPH	5.15pm		
Mass	5.30pm		
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION			MISSION SUNDAY
DM Chaplet	8.30am	Sun 18 Oct	29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mass	9.00am		Is 45: 4-6
			1 Thes 1: 1-5
			Mt 22: 15-21



SCAN THE LINKTREE QR CODE FOR ALL REGISTRATION FORMS TO EVENTS / FORMATIONS.

LINKTR.EE/CDMPENANG