



25TH NOTIFICATION & UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG



QUEEN OF HEAVEN (REGINA CAELI)

QUEEN OF HEAVEN, REJOICE, ALLELUIA.
FOR HE, WHOM THOU DID MERIT TO BEAR, ALLELUIA.
HAS RISEN, AS HE SAID, ALLELUIA.
PRAY FOR US TO GOD, ALLELUIA.

REJOICE AND BE GLAD, O VIRGIN MARY, ALLELUIA.
FOR THE LORD HAS RISEN INDEED, ALLELUIA.

LET US PRAY.

O GOD, WHO GAVE JOY TO THE WORLD
THROUGH THE RESURRECTION OF THY SON
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
GRANT WE BESEECH THEE,
THAT THROUGH THE INTERCESSION
OF THE VIRGIN MARY, HIS MOTHER,
WE MAY OBTAIN THE JOYS OF
EVERLASTING LIFE.
THROUGH THE SAME CHRIST OUR LORD,
AMEN.



**Month of May Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Focus –
FAMILY LIFE (INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES)**

INTENDED FOR ALL THE CATHOLIC FAITHFUL IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

For internal circulation only

**THEREFORE, ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD ONE ANOTHER UP,
AS INDEED YOU DO. (1 THESS 5:11)**



GREETINGS



With the blessings and graces, we experience throughout these 50 days of the Sacred Season of Easter, we gradually focus our attention on the infilling and outpouring of the Holy Spirit through the great Solemnity of Pentecost, as we commemorate the descent and the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles, the beginnings of the Church, and the start of Her mission to all tongues and peoples and nations.



Encouraged and affirmed by the first experience of Pentecost, may the infilling and outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our very own lives, inspire and guide us to be missionary disciples of Joy, Mercy and Hope in our every thought, desire, decision, and acts of love each single day. Let us continue the mission of the Church entrusted to each one of us with zeal and vigor.

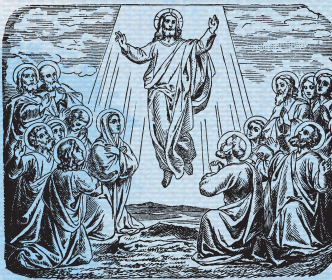
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1st May
Feast of St. Joseph the Worker



13th May
Feast of Our Lady of Fatima



18th May
Solemnity of the Ascension
of the Lord



28th May
Solemnity of Pentecost



29th May
Memorial of the
Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of the Church

31st May
Feast of the Visitation of the
Blessed Virgin Mary



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UPDATES & HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

1. HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR DEAR LATE BISHOP EMERITUS JAMES CHAN SOON CHEONG D.D.

I humbly ask you to join me in prayer and celebrate the life and gift of Late Bishop Emeritus James Chan, originally from the Diocese of Penang, as we thank God for the gift of him to our diocese, the Diocese of Malacca-Johore, as its first Bishop and to all whom he encountered throughout his life journey. [CLICK HERE](#)

2. REV. FR. PETER WANG ASSURES HIS UNITY WITH THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

Rev. Fr. Peter Wang, a priest from the Diocese of Penang residing in Canada, was recently gifted by the Diocese of Penang with the statue of Our Lady of the Jubilee on his 100th birthday celebration. He assures us of his prayers and unity as he commits to pray for the diocese every day through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother. [CLICK HERE](#)

3. APPOINTMENT OF REV. FR. JOSEPH STEPHEN CSSR AS PARISH PRIEST

Rev. Fr. Joseph Stephen CSsR has been appointed Parish Priest of Church of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Ipoh with effect from 1st May 2023. My heartfelt thanks to Rev. Fr. Patrick Massang, CSsR for his contributions in his priestly ministry as Parish Priest at the parish of Our Mother of Perpetual Help as I welcome Rev. Fr. Joseph Stephen, CSsR with gratitude for his generous availability in accepting this role and mission once again.

4. REV. FR. FABIAN DICOM ACCEPTS ROLE AS NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF CARITAS MALAYSIA

The Diocese of Penang is pleased to offer the services, talents, experiences and resources of Rev. Fr. Fabian Dicom to take up the role as National Director of Caritas Malaysia under the leadership of Bishop Bernard Paul, Bishop President of Caritas Malaysia. I thank Fr. Fabian for his kind acceptance and generosity in availing himself for this role.

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UPDATES & HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

5. HEAD OF PENANG DIOCESAN HEALING AND DELIVERANCE MINISTRY

Deacon Charles Lazaroo will take over from Deacon Clement Samuel as Head of Penang Diocesan Healing and Deliverance Ministry with effect from 1st May 2023. We thank both Deacon Charles and Deacon Clement for their commitment in this ministry. Let us pray and entrust this ministry to the powerful intercession of Our Blessed Mother.

6. SECRETARY OF PENANG DIOCESAN FINANCE COMMITTEE (PDFC)

Ms. Mary Yeo has been appointed as Secretary of the Penang Diocesan Finance Committee (PDFC) effective 1st May 2023. I thank Mr. Patrick Morton for his faithful service in this role and his continued commitment to the Penang Diocesan Finance Committee (PDFC) as ex-officio while welcoming Ms. Mary Yeo on board.

7. PENANG DIOCESE CLERGY RETIREMENT HOME

A Retirement Home for the Clergy of Penang Diocese is being set up at the St. Joachim's Spirituality Centre situated at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam. The team of three headed by Fr. Dominic Santhiyagu, will consist of members of the clergy from each deanery for a period of three years with effect from 18th April 2023.

Rev. Fr. Dominic Santhiyagu (Northern Deanery)

Msgr. Stephen Liew (Perak Deanery)

Msgr. Jude Miranda (Penang Island Deanery)

8. MOVEMENT OF RELIGIOUS SISTERS IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

Following up from the recent movement of the Congregation of the Daughters of Carmel (Kongregasi Putri Karmel) from Bukit Mertajam to Balik Pulau, the Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (FSIC) will move from Penang to Bukit Mertajam, taking over the previous residence of Karmel Putri at No. 16 & 18, Jalan Kolam Air Off Jalan Kulim, 14000 Bukit Mertajam.

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9. SEMINARIANS OF THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

We have a total of 7 seminarians at present from the Diocese of Penang currently under formation. The full list of the seminarians can be found at the link provided below. Continue to keep them in your prayers as we pray for more vocations and all who are discerning. May the Good Shepherd lead them and guide them in their discernment journey.

[CLICK HERE](#)

10. DIAMOND JUBILEE | FRANCISCAN MISSIONARIES OF THE DIVINE MOTHERHOOD (FMDM) IN MALAYSIA

The Franciscan Missionaries of the Divine Motherhood will be celebrating their 60 years of presence in Malaysia since 1963 to 2023 on 23rd May 2023. There will be a Eucharistic Celebration at Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Ipoh to commemorate this event. Let us continue to pray for their mission and for the sisters of the congregation.

11. 57TH WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS 2023

In conjunction with the 57th World Day of Social Communications 2023, the Diocesan Social Communications Ministry will be organizing a day of formation with several workshops on 20th May 2023, Saturday, from 9.00am to 6.00pm at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam. Parish representatives and all who are interested in social communications are most welcome to join in this celebration which will conclude with the Holy Mass (Sunset Mass) presided by me. [CLICK HERE](#)

12. MESSAGE FOR THE FEAST OF VESAK 2023

I am pleased to share with you the message from the Dicastery for Inter-Religious Dialogue titled "Buddhists and Christians, Healing Wounded Humanity and the Earth through Karuna and Agape" in conjunction with the Feast of Vesak which is celebrated on Thursday, 4th May 2023. It is a beautiful message in the spirit of fraternal humanism. Feel free to share it to the Buddhist communities around you. [CLICK HERE](#)

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13. PENANG DIOCESAN CATECHETICAL RETREAT 2023

I thank Deacon Clement Samuel and the Diocesan Catechetical team for a fruitful and unprecedented retreat for 224 Catechist and RCIA facilitators in four languages at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam commissioned by me with a renewed identity and designation as Evangelizing Catechist with effect from 23rd April 2023. [CLICK HERE](#)

14. HEAD OF CHOICE FOR PENANG DIOCESE

Rev. Fr. Raymond Raj has been appointed as Head of CHOICE for Penang Diocese replacing Rev. Fr. Francis Andrew with effect from 1st May 2023. We thank Fr. Francis Andrew for his dedicated and committed services in this ministry, and welcome Fr. Raymond Raj with gratitude for his generous availability in accepting this new role and mission.

15. PESTA KAAMATAN & HARI GAWAI 2023

Wishing a joyous celebration of praise and thanksgiving to all celebrating the harvest festival of Pesta Kaamatan (Sabah) on 30th & 31st May and Hari Gawai (Sarawak) on 1st & 2nd June 2023. The diocesan celebration will take place on 18th June 2023 at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam. More information on this will be provided later. May God's abundant blessings flourish and be fruitful in and through the labour of your hands.



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16. PREPARATION FOR PENTECOST | RENEWAL WEEKEND

As a preparation for the great Feast of Pentecost, there will be a Renewal Weekend at our Cathedral of the Holy Spirit open to all in the Diocese of Penang. This weekend will be conducted by Rt. Rev. Bernard Paul. I welcome all of you and invite you to come for this time of journeying together through the Sacraments. [CLICK HERE](#)

17. FEAST OF THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The General Secretariat of the Synod has invited the Synods of the Eastern Catholic Churches, Episcopal Conferences and Marian Shrines to celebrate a moment of prayer on Wednesday, May 31, 2023, the liturgical memorial of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the end of the Marian month, to entrust to Mary, Mother of the Church, the work of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. [CLICK HERE](#)



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

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Bishop's Diary for May 2023

4 May 9.00am	Mass & Meeting Penang Diocese Seminarians of St. Peter's College, Kuching, Bishop's Residence
4 May 4.00pm	Mass Diocesan Tamil Catholic Charismatic Rally, Church of Our Lady of Good Health, Parit Buntar
5 May 8.00am	Mass Pusat Keuskupan Katolik, Penang
5 May 11.30am	Meeting Canossian Sisters – Sr. Christin Law & Sr. Theresa Chew
6 May 10.00am	Fr. Andrew Khoo's First Mass, Church of the Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus
6 May 3.00pm	Penang Island Chorus and Musica Sinfonietta, Church of Assumption, Penang
9 - 11 May	Penang Diocese Clergy Outing, Vietnam
17 May 3.30pm	Meeting Dr. Luis Chen KCHS, President of Penang Section - West Australia Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
19 May 4.00pm	Meeting 2nd FABC Meeting regarding Radio Veritas Asia (RVA), ZOOM
20 May 6.00pm	Mass Celebration of 57th World Day of Social Communications, Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM
22-25 May	Meeting Episcopal Regional Liturgy Commission (ERLC), Kuching, Sarawak
28 May 10.00am	Mass Solemnity of Pentecost – Feast Day Mass, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang
31 May 8.00pm	Mass Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Church of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Butterworth

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POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

FOR CHURCH MOVEMENTS AND GROUPS

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.