



# 27TH NOTIFICATION AND UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG



## World Day of Grandparents and Elderly (Caring for the Elderly)

Citing from the Holy Father's message on the Third World Day for Grandparents & Elderly, God wants young people to bring joy to the hearts of the elderly, as Mary did to Elizabeth, and gain wisdom from their experiences. This year, the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly takes place close to World Youth Day.

Both celebrations remind us of the "haste" (cf. v. 39) with which Mary set out to visit Elizabeth. In this way, they invite us to reflect on the bond that unites young and old. This precious sign of hope for the whole Church is an invitation to make this day an occasion of a joyful and renewed encounter between young and old. Let us never forget the importance of ageing gracefully as we reflect on the theme for this celebration: "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1:50).

As we remember all grandparents and the elderly, I invite you to pray also very specially for the elderly bishops, priests, religious and deacons. With great affection, I reiterate His Holiness Pope Francis' humble request to also pray for him as he imparts his blessings upon each one of us, "May the blessing of the embrace between Mary and Elizabeth come upon you and fill your hearts with peace".

United with you in the bond of prayer.



## FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

**22 July 2023**

Feast of St. Mary Magdalene,  
Apostle to the Apostles  
(Apostolorum apostola)



**23 July 2023**

3rd World Day for Grandparents  
and the Elderly  
(#ElderlyandGrandparents)



**26 July 2023**

Feast of St. Anne & St. Joachim,  
Parents of the Virgin Mary





# UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

## 1. THIRD WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY 2023 | "HIS MERCY IS FROM AGE TO AGE" (Lk 1:50)

I am pleased to share with you the attached letter regarding the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly from H.E. Kevin Card. Farrell from the The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life (Prot. n.2023/430) along with the pastoral guidelines, message from the Holy Father and the Prayer for the 3rd World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2023.

[CLICK HERE](#)



## 2. WORLD YOUTH DAY LISBON 2023 | "MARY AROSE AND WENT WITH HASTE" (LK 1:39)

Young people from all over the world will gather at Lisbon, Portugal to rediscover, with God's help, the joy of a fraternal embrace between peoples and generations, an embrace of reconciliation and peace, and an embrace of new missionary fraternity as they gather for World Youth Day Lisbon 2023. From the Diocese of Penang, there will be 34 pilgrims participating in this adventure and journey as they begin the Days in the Diocese of Porto from 26th July onwards. Let us keep them close in prayer as they partake in this journey of communion with Christ and participation in His mission.

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## 3. DAY OF RECOLLECTION FOR PENANG DIOCESAN HEADS OF MINISTRIES AND TEAM

The Heads of Ministries of the Diocese of Penang, together with their team will be gathering at the Church of Immaculate Conception from 9am – 5pm on 1 July 2023 for a Day of Reflection. I invite you to pray with them for the constant presence of the Holy Spirit to journey, guide and assist them in their respective ministries for the greater glory of God.



## UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

### 4. FEAST OF ST. ANNE & ST. JOACHIM, MINOR BASILICA OF ST. ANNE, BUKIT MERTAJAM

The Novena and Feast of St. Anne this year will begin from 21st July 2023 and culminate on 30th July 2023. Let us pray for all pilgrims, volunteers, celebrants and confessors as we experience a meaningful and grace-filled celebration through the intercession of St. Anne and St. Joachim.

[CLICK HERE](#)



### 5. INSTRUMENTUM LABORIS | XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS – FIRST SESSION (OCT 2023)

I am pleased to share with you the Final Working Document compiled from the feedback all over the world including Malaysia and Asia for the upcoming Synod in Rome in October 2023. Emphasizing on this document, I invite you to explore and deepen the practice of “Conversation in the Spirit” as a dynamic of discernment and discussion in the synodal Church.

[CLICK HERE](#)



### 6. CARITAS DIOCESE OF PENANG | LAUNCHING OF NEW ONLINE EDUCATION GRANT APPLICATION

I thank Caritas Penang on the initiatives taken to digitalize the application, approval and disbursement of education grants for the Diocese of Penang. This effort will be implemented with effect from 1st July 2023 upon completion of the training for each deanery.

[CLICK HERE](#)



### 7. CHARIS PROPHETIC INTERCESSION TRAINING FOR ASIA REGION IN KOTA KINABALU, MALAYSIA | 14-19 Aug 2023

CHARIS Intercession Commission will be organizing a training program for all Catholic Charismatic Renewal (CCR) groups, prayer groups, ministries and all who are interested. More details on this event is available here.

[CLICK HERE](#)





## UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

### 8. APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT HEAD OF PENANG DIOCESAN VOCATION TEAM (PDVT)

Rev. Fr. Desmond Jansen has been appointed as Assistant Head for Penang Diocesan Vocation Team (PDVT) with effect from 16 June, Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, under the leadership of Rev. Fr. Louis Loi, the Head of PDVT. We thank and pray for Fr. Desmond Jansen as he takes on this new role and responsibility in assisting this team to promote and nurture vocations in the Diocese of Penang.

### 9. PENANG DIOCESAN PRISON MINISTRY (PDPM) | FEAST OF ST. PETER AND PAUL

9 years ago, the Penang Diocesan Prison Ministry (PDPM) was established on the Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul, 29 June. May St. Peter and Paul who themselves experienced life in prison, continue to intercede for all in this ministry as they minister and give witness to God's Compassionate and Merciful Love.

[CLICK HERE](#)



### 10. VISIT OF SUPERIOR GENERAL & ASIAN COUNCILLOR OF THE SISTERS OF THE INFANT JESUS | 1 - 20 JULY 2023

Sr. Brigitte Flourez, the Superior General and Sr. Jane Sinprayoon, the Asian representative of the General Council, will be visiting the Infant Jesus Sisters and their areas of apostolic involvement in the local Church. Let us remember the IJ sisters in prayers and for their continued mission. Their regional assemblies in the Diocese of Penang will be held as follows: -

2 - 4 JULY: SITIAWAN COMMUNITY

5 - 7 JULY: BUKIT MERTA JAM/PENANG COMMUNITY



# BISHOP'S DIARY

1 July 4.00pm	Mass – Penang Diocesan Pastoral Team Recollection   Church of Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus
2 July 1.30pm	Mass - Charis Malaysia Youth Conference   Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam
3 July 10.00am	Curia Meeting   Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam
3 July 5.00pm	Federation of Asian Bishops' Conference – Office of Social Communications   Zoom
5 July 11.00am	Meeting – Superior of the Institute of the Congregation of the Brothers of Mercy   Pusat Keuskupan Katolik, Penang
6 July 8.00am	Mass   Pusat Keuskupan Katolik, Penang
7 July 8.00am	Mass - Members of the Malaysian Catholic Youth Ministers' Committee (MCYMC)   Church of the Assumption, Penang
7 July 3.30pm	Visit of Superior General & Asian Councillor of the Sisters of the Infant Jesus, Bishop's Residence
10-14 July	Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei   MAJODI, Johor Bahru
17 July 4.00pm	Federation of Asian Bishops' Conference (FABC) - Radio Veritas Asia (RVA)   Zoom
18 July 10.00am	Council of Priests (COP) Meeting   Stella Maris Penang
18 - 19 July	Clergy Monthly Recollection (CMR)   Stella Maris Penang
19 & 20 July	Candidates & Permanent Deacons' Formation   Stella Maris, Penang
20 July 7.00pm	Flag Raising, Blessing & Mass for St. Anne's Feast Volunteers   Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM
22 July 7.00pm	Commissioning Mass for World Youth Day 2023 Pilgrims   Chapel of St. Peter, Malim Nawar
24-30 July	Novena & Feast of St. Anne, Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam



**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY**

**FOR A EUCHARISTIC LIFE**

**We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.**

**STAND UP IN THE PRESENCE OF THE AGED, SHOW RESPECT FOR THE OLD, AND FEAR YOUR GOD.  
I AM THE LORD. (LEV 19:32)**