



AUGUST 2023

28TH NOTIFICATION AND UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE *of Penang*

“Renewal without Reform is the Corruption of the Church”, says St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, whose memorial we celebrate on the 9th of August every year. Focusing on the Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Theme for this month, the renewal of the Church is a journey; slowly yet progressively evolving and being renewed with the accompaniment and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

As we walk together along this journey of renewal, I encourage you to be open to the invitation and promptings of the Holy Spirit in allowing ourselves to be reformed, as individuals and as a community, as the Church continues the journey of purification and renewal. Let us constantly be reformed and refined in His Light.



INTENDED FOR ALL THE CATHOLIC FAITHFUL IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

**Month of August Peninsular Malaysia
Pastoral Focus – AGGIORNAMENTO
(1976) - (JOURNEY OF RENEWAL)**

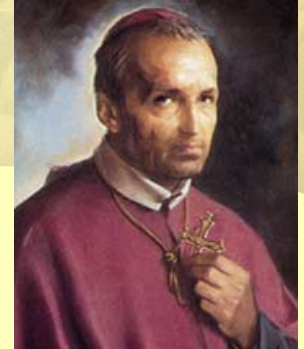
HIS CHILDREN SHALL BE AS OF OLD, HIS ASSEMBLY SHALL STAND FIRM IN MY PRESENCE,
I WILL PUNISH ALL HIS OPPRESSORS (JER 30:22)



FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

1 August 2023

Memorial of St. Alphonsus Liguouri,
Founder of the Redemptorist



4 August 2023

Feast of St. John Mary Vianney,
Patron of Priests



5 August 2023

Dedication of the Basilica
of St. Mary Major in Rome



6 August 2023

Feast of the Transfiguration
of the Lord



9 August 2023

Memorial of St. Teresa Benedicta
of the Cross (Edith Stein)





FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

12 August 2023

Memorial of St. Jane Frances de
Chantal (Chapel of Bruas Sitiawan)



15 August 2023

Solemnity of the Assumption of
the Blessed Virgin Mary



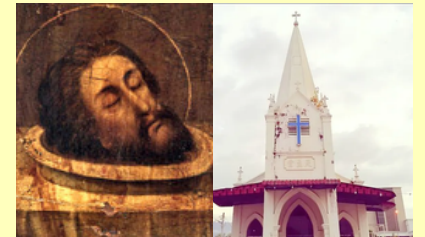
24 August 2023

Feast of St. Bartholomew,
the Apostle



29 August 2023

Memorial of the Passion of St. John
the Baptist (Sungai Siput Church)



31 August 2023

Hari Kebangsaan Ke-65
65th National Day





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

1. AN ENCOUNTER TO REMEMBER AT THE FEAST OF ST. ANNE & ST. JOACHIM, BUKIT MERTAJAM

My heartfelt thanks to all the pilgrims, volunteers, donors, celebrants & con-celebrants and every single person who has contributed in making the Feast of St. Anne this year an enriching, grace-filled and memorable celebration for all. May you experience the power of prayer and intercession in your lives as your faith continues to be strengthened. St. Anne & St. Joachim, pray for us.

2. NEW APPOINTMENT | CARDINAL-ELECT SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

I sincerely thank you for your continued prayers, congratulatory wishes and warm greetings for me on my recent appointment by the Holy Father announced at the Angelus on 9th July 2023 as Cardinal-Elect to the Consistory to be held on the 30th of September 2023 in Rome. I humbly ask of your continued prayers for me in my priestly journey.

[CLICK HERE](#)



3. INVITATION FOR A THANKSGIVING SOLEMN MASS | MINOR BASILICA OF ST. ANNE, BUKIT MERTAJAM

I take this opportunity to invite all of you for this historical celebration to unite as one Universal Church to give thanks and celebrate my appointment to the College of Cardinals along with my brother Bishops from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei which will be held on 8th January 2024, Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, at 6.00pm. Those who are unable to be physically present may also follow the celebration through the live broadcast.

[CLICK HERE](#)





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

4. CONGRATULATIONS TO FR. MARTIN ARLANDO

We praise and thank God for His graces and blessings bestowed upon Fr. Martin Arlando who has recently completed his 2 years of full-time studies online on Academic Program Ecclesiastical Licentiate in Canon Law at Saint Paul University, Canada. We rejoice together with him and congratulate him on his successful completion of his studies.

[CLICK HERE](#)



5. SILVER SACERDOTAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION | REV. FR. NELSON JOSEPH JACOB

With grateful hearts we celebrate 25 years of faithfulness in the Priestly Silver Jubilee of Rev. Fr. Nelson Joseph Jacob, Assistant Priest of the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam on 7th August 2023. Continue to keep him in prayers as we praise and thank God for the gift of priesthood.

[CLICK HERE](#)



6. APPOINTMENT AS ADMINISTRATOR FOR PARISH OF NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, BUTTERWORTH

Rev. Fr. Raymond Raj has been appointed as the Administrator for the Parish of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Butterworth, for a period of four (4) months from 1st August to 30th November 2023 in the absence of parish priest, Rev. Fr. Dominic Santhiyagu who will be away on Sabbatical Leave.

7. THE BISHOPS OF MALAYSIA PLEDGE TO BE ECOLOGICAL DIOCESES

At the recent Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore & Brunei, all bishops have signed a declaration to affirm our pledge for our dioceses to be an Ecological Diocese in perpetuity. This initiative is a work in progress as every diocese takes concrete steps in responding to the call of Pope Francis' letter on Care of Our Common Home - Laudato Si'.

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UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

8. ORDINATION TO THE ORDER OF DEACONS | SEMINARIAN GEORGE VAITHYNATHAN

Brother George Vaithynathan will be called to the Order of Deacons on 17th August 2023 at Church of the Sacred Heart, Kampar. I invite you to pray with him and for him as he prepares for his ordination to the Order of Diaconate.

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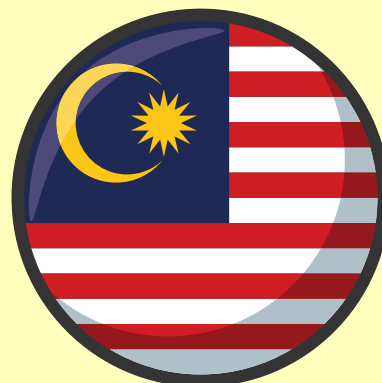


9. PENANG DIOCESAN FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

We thank Martin & Rose Kang for their commitment and contributions towards the Penang Diocesan Family Life Ministry as Head of the ministry. They will be released of their responsibilities with effect from 1st August 2023. We wish them the very best in their continued mission for the Lord as He reveals His plan and will for their lives. The new Head of Penang Diocesan Family Life Ministry will be determined and notified once available.

10. POLLING DAY | 12 AUGUST 2023

The polling day for elections in Selangor, Penang, Negeri Sembilan, Kedah, Kelantan and Terengganu is on 12 August 2023. Together with you, I pray for the potential leaders of our states, and for each one of you, as we do our part in contributing to the growth of the states and nation through our responsibility in casting our votes, with the help of the Holy Spirit. May you be graced with wisdom, charity and peace.





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

11. SINGAPORE-PENINSULAR MALAYSIA CHINESE APOSTOLATE GATHERING

Penang Diocesan Chinese Apostolate is tasked to organize this year 4-diocesan Chinese Apostolate seminar in Taiping. This annual event will be held on 24-28/8 at St. Louis Church, Taiping. 131 Chinese speaking participants from the Singapore Archdiocese, KL Archdiocese, Johor-Melaka Diocese and Penang Diocese will be attending this year event. This year is also the 50th anniversary of 4 diocesan Chinese speaking Catholics coming together for formation and fellowship.

12. GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

I impart my blessings and prayers for the success of this event and for the continued impact of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Malaysia from 31 August – 2 September 2023 in Kajang. I wish the participants, organizers and speakers a profound and spiritually uplifting experience, as they journey together with the theme: **REBUILD, RESTORE, RENEW.**

[CLICK HERE](#)





BISHOP'S DIARY

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| 3 August 11.30am | Meeting Fr. David Reegon and Fr Francis D'Sousa, ICPE Mission Priest of the Archdiocese of Malta, Bishop's Office |
| 4 August 8.00am | Mass Catholic Diocesan Centre, Penang |
| 5 August 11.00am | Interview with Herald, Bishop's Residence |
| 6 August 10.30am | Confirmation Mass Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang |
| 6 August 2.00pm | Mass - Worship Seminar organized by CHARIS Penang & Penang Diocesan Bible Apostolate & Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam |
| 7 August 11.00am | Meeting New Thessalonians Apostolate (NTA), Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM |
| 7 August 7.00pm | 25th Sacerdotal Anniversary Mass – Rev. Fr. Nelson Joseph Jacob Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM |
| 8 August 11.00am | Meeting with Fr. Bernard Hycinth, Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM |
| 12 August 6.00pm | Thanksgiving Mass & Dinner for St. Anne's Feast Volunteers |
| 13 August 9.00am | Confirmation Mass Church of Divine Mercy, Penang |
| 14 August 8.00pm | Vigil Mass - Feast of Assumption Church of the Assumption, Penang (Rosary at 7.30pm) |
| 15 August 10.00am | Blessing of Monastery of the Putri Karmel Sisters & Mass Balik Pulau |
| 16 August 4.00pm | Blessing of the Diocesan Archives Pusat Keuskupan Katolik, Penang |
| 17 August 7.00pm | Diaconate Ordination Mass – Bro. George Vaithynathan Church of Sacred Heart, Kampar |
| 20 August 11.30am | Confirmation Mass Church of Immaculate Conception, Penang |



BISHOP'S DIARY

**22 August
10.30am** Council of Priests (COP) Meeting | Stella Maris, Penang

22 & 23 August Clergy Monthly Recollection (CMR) | Stella Maris, Penang

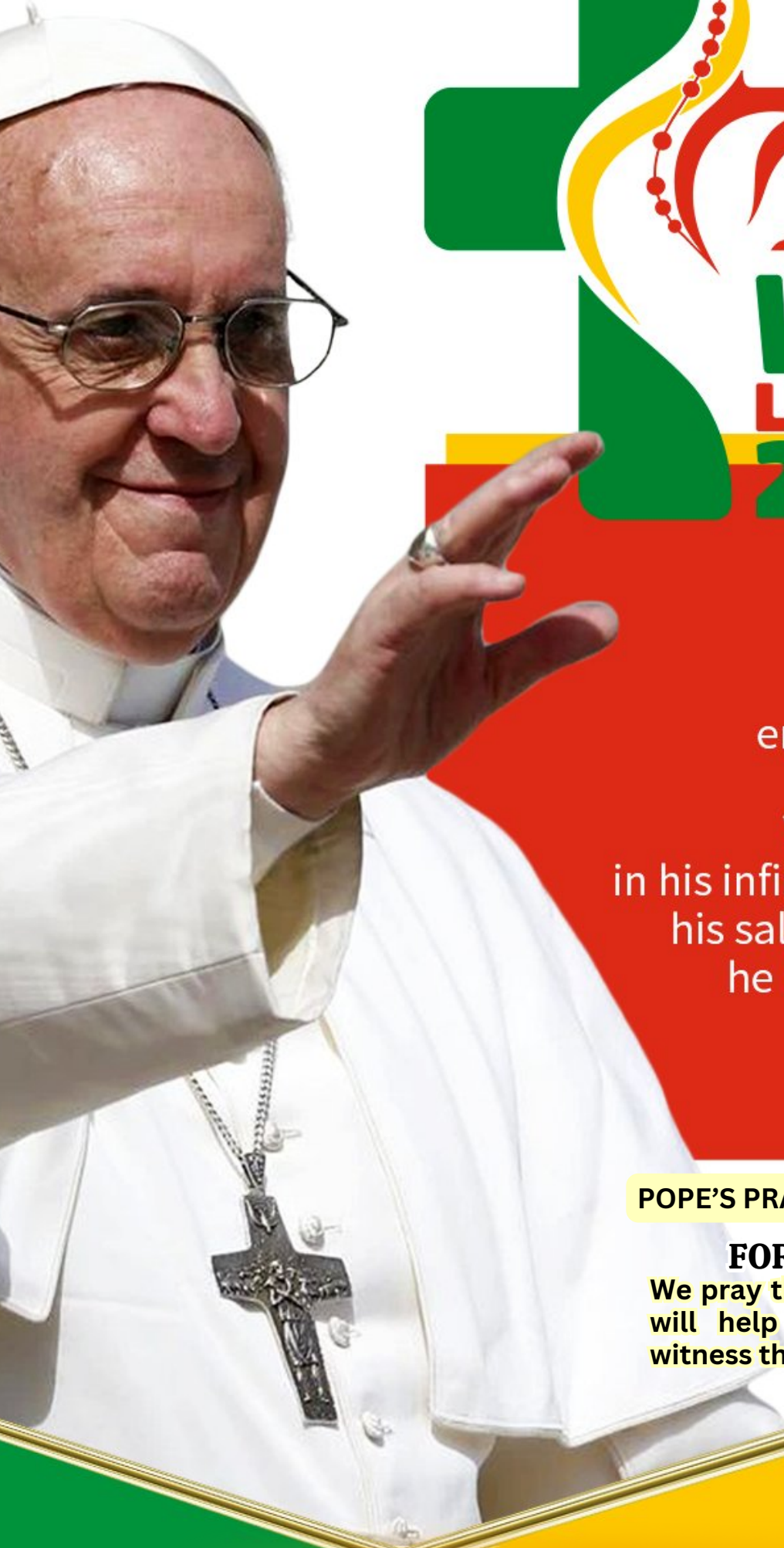
23 & 24 August Permanent Deacons' Formation | Stella Maris, Penang

**24 August
5.00pm** Opening Mass - Singapore-Peninsular Malaysia Chinese
Apostolate Gathering | Church of St. Louis, Taiping

**27 August
8.30am** Confirmation Mass | Church of Our Lady of Good Health, Parit Buntar

**29 August
3.30pm** Meeting - Malaysian students of Australian Catholic
University (ACU) | Stella Maris, Penang

**31 August -
2 September** CCR 50th Golden Jubilee, Kajang



My message for you,
dear young people,
the great message
entrusted to the Church,
is **JESUS!**

YES, JESUS HIMSELF,
in his infinite love for each of us,
his salvation and the new life
he has bestowed upon us.

Franciscus

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST

FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon
will help young people to live and
witness the Gospel in their own lives.

