

# 21st

## NOTIFICATION & UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG (JANUARY 2023)

*new year*

**Month of January Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Focus:  
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION**



INTENDED FOR ALL THE  
CATHOLIC FAITHFUL IN  
THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

*For internal circulation only*

Blessings of the New Year of the Lord 2023 as we joyfully celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Praying for God's grace upon you as we usher this year with the same zeal to continue being missionary disciples of JOY, MERCY and HOPE.

I WILL TEACH YOU AND SHOW THE WAY THAT YOU SHOULD FOLLOW.  
I WILL WATCH OVER YOU AND GIVE YOU COUNSEL  
(PSALM 32:8)



*Rest in Peace*

**POPE EMERITUS  
BENEDICT XVI**

*Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger*

31st December 2022

Heaven rejoices and joyfully welcomes home a faithful successor of St. Peter, the Apostle, and a missionary disciple of Christ. Let us celebrate gloriously the birth and new life into heaven. Rest in Eternal Bliss and Perpetual Light, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

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## 1927

From the Lord on April 16,  
named Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger

## 1951

Ordained as a priest on 29th June



## 1977

Appointed to the College of  
Cardinals

## 1981

Made Prefect of the Congregation  
for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF)

## 2005

Elected as the Pope, &  
took the name  
Benedict XVI



## 2013

Takes the title 'Pope  
Emeritus' upon Resignation  
on 28th February



## 2022

Returns to the Lord  
after completing his  
mission at 95



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## UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE

### 1. INVITATION FOR THE INAUGURATION OF MINOR BASILICA OF ST. ANNE, BUKIT MERTAJAM

9 days from today, we will joyously celebrate together the historical celebration of the inauguration of the Minor Basilica of St. Anne which will be on 9th January 2023, Feast of the Baptism of our Lord at 6pm. I invite all of you to be part of this celebration either physically or through the live broadcast. This invitation is open to all.



TAP ABOVE FOR THE LINK

### SOLEMN DECLARATION

## THE MINOR BASILICA OF ST. ANNE

BUKIT MERTAJAM, PENANG, MALAYSIA

Granted by the Dicastery for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments, Holy See, by Decree Prot. N 42/19 dated 5 September 2019

With joy, praise and thanksgiving to God,  
**His Lordship Rt. Rev. Dato' Seri Sebastian Francis D.D.,**  
Bishop of Penang Diocese, Clergy, Religious and Lay Faithful,  
cordially invite you to the occasion of the SOLEMN DECLARATION made in the  
name of our Holy Father POPE FRANCIS.

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION  
FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**09 JAN 2023 | MONDAY at 6PM**

See how good and how pleasing it is for brothers and sisters to be living together in harmony. ~ Psalm 133:1

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(PSALM 32:8)





## UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE

### 2. CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, BRUNEI (CBCMSB) AND CONFERENCE OF RELIGIOUS MAJOR SUPERIORS | MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE-BRUNEI (CRMS - MSB)

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei will be held from 10th – 13th January 2023 at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM. Simultaneously, the Conference of Religious Major Superiors of Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei (CRMS-MSB) will also be held on the same dates and venue. Continue to keep all the clergy and religious in your prayers



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## UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE

### 3. YEAR 2023 PASTORAL ASSIGNMENT AND UPDATES OF SEMINARIANS AT MAJOR SEMINARY

#### SEMINARIANS OF PENANG DIOCESE AT MAJOR SEMINARY

##### 1. Dennis Raj s/o Rasu

- *Philosophy Year 2, College General Major Seminary, Penang*
- *1 month Pastoral Assignment at Church of the Holy Name of Mary, Permatang Tinggi (15 Jan - 5 Feb 2023)*

##### 2. Leon James Gautier

- *1 Year Pastoral Exposure at Church of Sacred Heart, Kampar*

##### 3. Melvin Dawson Michael Dass

- *Theology Year 1, St. Peter's College Major Seminary, Kuching*

##### 4. Ron Fernandez Sandanasamy

- *Theology Year 1, St. Peter's College Major Seminary, Kuching*

##### 5. Patrick Hilary Sandnasamy

- *Theology Year 2, St. Peter's College Major Seminary, Kuching*

##### 6. Ashley Stephen Chau

- *Theology Year 2, St. Peter's College Major Seminary, Kuching*

##### 7. George Vaithynathan

- *Theology Year 5, St. Peter's College Major Seminary, Kuching*





## UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE

### 4. ADMINISTATOR FOR PARISH OF OUR LADY OF GOOD HEALTH, PARIT BUNTAR, PERAK

Msgr. Henry Rajoo has been appointment as the Administrator for the Parish of Our Lady of Good Health, Parit Buntar, Perak, with effect from 18th December 2022 until further notice.

### 5. SILVER SACERDOTAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION

With grateful hearts we celebrate 25 years of faithfulness in the Priestly Silver Jubilee of Rev. Fr. Arulnathan Joseph, Parish Priest of the Church of St. Anthony, Nibong Tebal on 19th January 2023. Continue to keep him in prayers as we praise and thank God for the gift of priesthood.

### 6. PENINSULAR MALAYSIA PASTORAL THEME & FOCUS FOR 2023

The Liturgical Celebrations for 2023 along with the overall theme and monthly focus for the year has been compiled for your easy reference.

[CLICK HERE](#)

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## Bishop's Diary For January 2023

1. *5th January 2023 at 6:00p.m.*

Penang Diocesan Finance Committee Meeting

2. *7th January 2023 at 10:00a.m.*

Rehearsal for the Inauguration of the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam

3. *9th January 2023 at 6:00p.m.*

Eucharistic Celebration

Inauguration of the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam

4. *10th-13th January 2023*

Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei (CBCMSB) Meeting

5. *10th-13th January 2023*

Conference of Major Religious Superiors (CMRS) Meeting

6. *13th January 2023 at 6:00p.m.*

Penang Diocesan Heritage Committee Meeting & Appreciation Dinner

7. *15th January 2023 at 8:00a.m.*

Sacrament of Confirmation | Church of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Ipoh

8. *17th January 2023 at 10:00a.m.*

Council of Priests (COP), Stella Maris

9. *17th and 18th January 2023*

Clergy Monthly Recollection (CMR), Stella Maris

10. *18th January 2023 at 7:00p.m.*

Eucharistic Celebration | 25th Sacerdotal Anniversary of

Rev. Fr. Arulnathan Joseph, Church of St. Anthony, Nibong Tebal

11. *18th and 19th January 2023*

Permanent Deacons' Formation, Stella Maris





*Happy*  
**NEW YEAR**  
**2023**



**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY**  
**JANUARY – For Educators**

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.