



SEPTEMBER 2023

29TH NOTIFICATION

**AND UPDATES IN THE
DIOCESE**

of Penang

“With gratitude in our hearts, let us give thanks and praise to God for the gift of migrants and refugees in our midst, for their services and contributions through their talent, time and treasure, for their presence in contributing to the economic growth wherever they may be and for being God’s tangible sign of hope when the future seems bleak. The flight of the Holy Family into Egypt required taking a leap of faith and this one similar attribute resonates in all migrants and refugees who leave their home country for a hopeful future for them and for their families.

Pope Francis in his 109th WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES 2023 reiterates the seriousness of responding to those in need through the Scripture text found in Matthew 25: 35 – 36, “For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me”. This call is an invitation to see each other not simply as brothers and sisters but as Christ himself present in and through each individual in need. May we respond with love, courage and generosity, every time He knocks at our door.



INTENDED FOR ALL THE CATHOLIC FAITHFUL IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

**Month of September Peninsular
Malaysia Pastoral Focus – WORLD
DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
(PEOPLE LIVING ON THE MARGINS)**

**WHO EXECUTES JUSTICE FOR THE ORPHAN AND THE WIDOW, AND LOVES THE RESIDENT ALIEN,
GIVING THEM FOOD AND CLOTHING (DEUT 10:18)**

FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

1 September 2023

World Day of Prayer
for the Care of Creation



5 September 2023

Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta

8 September 2023

Feast of the Nativity of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
(Butterworth & Parit Buntar Parish)



12 September 2023

Feast of the Most Holy Name of
Mary (Permatang Tinggi Parish)

14 September 2023

Feast of the Exaltation of the
Holy Cross (Arau Chapel)



15 September 2023

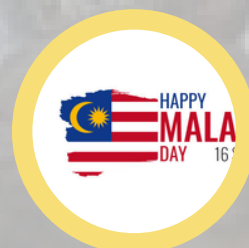
Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows
(Macalister Road Parish & Alma
Chapel)



FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

16 September 2023

Malaysia Day



20 September 2023



Feast of St. Andrew Kim Taegon,
Paul Chong Hasang and
Companions (College General
Major Seminary, Penang)

21 September 2023

Feast of St. Matthew,
Apostle & Evangelist



21 September 2023



Feast of Sts. Chastan & Imbert
(Chai Leng Park & Immaculate
Conception, Pulau Tikus Parish)

23 September 2023

Feast of St. Padre Pio of
Pietrelcina (Church of St.
Michael, Ipoh – Devotion)



24 September 2023

109th World Day of Migrants and
Refugees



FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

27 September 2023

**Feast of St. Vincent de Paul
(Society of St. Vincent de Paul
SSVP & Selama Chapel)**



29 September 2023

**Archangels Michael, Gabriel,
Raphael (Alor Setar & Ipoh Parish)**

30 September 2023

**Feast of St. Jerome (Bible
Apostolate – Doctor of the
Church)**



30 September 2023

**Ecumenical Prayer in Preparation
for Synod, Rome**





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

1. CLERGY ANNUAL RETREAT 2023

I invite you to join me and all the clergy in prayer as we prepare for our annual retreats in this month. Wishing all clergy a fruitful and grace-filled retreat throughout the month of September 2023.

Retreat 1 | 3 – 8 Sep: Father's House, Cameron Highlands ; Retreat 2 | 10 – 15 Sep: Stella Maris, Penang ; Retreat 3 | 17 - 22 Sep: MAJODI Centre, Johor Baru ; Retreat 4 | 24 – 29 Sep: Father's House, Cameron Highlands.

2. BISHOP'S TRAVEL ABROAD | SEPTEMBER 2023

Please be informed that I will be away from the diocese and travelling to Rome from 18th September to 7th October 2023 for the Consistory of Cardinals and the Opening Mass of the Synod in Rome. In my absence, Msgr. Stephen Liew will be responsible for all urgent diocesan matters. I humbly ask of your continued prayers for me, for all the newly elected cardinals and for all those involved in the upcoming Synod in Rome.

3. APPOINTMENT AS ADMINISTRATOR | REV. FR. NELSON JOSEPH

Rev. Fr. Nelson Joseph has been appointed as the Administrator for Gereja Immaculate Conception, Changloon, Church of Our Lady of Fatima, Kangar and Holy Cross Chapel, Arau, Perlis from 1st August until further notice while Rev. Fr. Francis Xavier, who is currently on medical leave, recuperates. Let us lift our priests up in prayer.



UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

4. PERMANENT DIACONATE ORDINATION | DIOCESE OF PENANG

Andrew Loh Su Aun, Devakumaran S Narayanasamy @ Dave Kameron, Paul Kang Hian Beng and Richard Wilson who has been under formation for the vocation to the Permanent Diaconate will be called to the Order of Permanent Deacons and ordained on 17th September 2023 @ 6.00pm at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam. All are welcome to witness and join in this Eucharistic Celebration. I invite you to pray with them and for them as they prepare for their ordination.

[CLICK HERE](#)



5. PROFESSION OF PERPETUAL VOWS – SR. MARIA FILIA DOCILIS

Sr. Maria Filia Docilis (Amy Cheah) from the Church of Immaculate Conception, Penang who has completed her formation with the Institute of the Incarnate Word will be professing her perpetual vows on 8th September 2023 at 8.00pm at the Church of Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus, Penang. Please keep her in your prayers as we remember the community and their mission.

6. APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | MT. MIRIAM CANCER HOSPITAL, PENANG

Paul Kang Hian Beng has been appointed as CEO of Mt. Miriam with effect from 1st September 2023. We congratulate him on this new appointment at Mt. Miriam Cancer Hospital as he embarks on this role and mission in this field.

[CLICK HERE](#)



7. UPDATED PORTFOLIO OF THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE OF MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, BRUNEI

I am pleased to share with you the updated portfolio and the offices held by the respective Archbishops and Bishops in our region, finalized at the last Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei in July 2023 at MAJODI.

[CLICK HERE](#)





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

8. DIOCESAN PASTORAL ASSEMBLY 2023

The Diocesan Pastoral Assembly for our diocese will be held in November 2023. Details of the assembly and information on the masses during that weekend can be found here.

[CLICK HERE](#)



9. THE SEEDS YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

Sharing here the Seeds Young Adults Ministry new leadership with effect from September 2023. Let us pray for this ministry as they begin physical gatherings in different locations and continue with their digital evangelization.

[CLICK HERE](#)



10. SEPTEMBER - SEASON OF CREATION

As we celebrate the Season of Creation in the month of September, Caritas Penang Diocese in collaboration with Church of the Risen Christ, Air Itam and Creation Justice Commission will be organising a moment of prayer and contemplation with Mass on 1st September at 7.30pm at the Church of Risen Christ, Air Itam. All are welcome to join in this celebration of the Season of Creation.

[CLICK HERE](#)



11. A DAY OF RECOLLECTION | FEAST OF ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA

In conjunction with the Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta and International Day of Charity, Caritas Malaysia will be conducting a day of recollection which is open to all on 5th September via zoom.

[CLICK HERE](#)





BISHOP'S DIARY

2 Sep 11.30am	Closing Mass - Golden Jubilee of Catholic Charismatic Renewal – Peninsular Malaysia Service Team Church of the Holy Family, Kajang
2 Sep 1.00pm	Handing Over of Presidency for Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Church of the Holy Family, Kajang
2 Sep 2.00pm	Handing Over of CREST medical van to Caritas Penang Church of the Holy Family, Kajang
4 Sep 4.00pm	Consecration and Blessing of Chapel with Mass Stonyhurst International School, Penang
5 Sep 3.00pm	Meeting with Jesuit Provincial – Rev. Fr. Francis Lim, SJ Bishop's Office
5 Sep 6.00pm	Penang Diocesan Finance Committee (PDFC) Meeting Catholic Diocesan Centre, Penang
6 Sep 12.00pm	Meeting with Dialysis Board Members Catholic Diocesan Centre, Penang
7 Sep 6.30pm	Mass - Congregation of Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (FSIC) Bukit Mertajam
8 Sep 11.00am	Meeting with Provincial Superior of the Institute of the Incarnate Word (IVE) Bishop's Residence
8 Sep 8.00pm	Mass - Profession of Perpetual Vows - Sr. Maria Filia Docilis (Amy Cheah) Church of Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus
10 Sep 8.00am	Mass Church of St. John Britto, Penang
10-15 Sep	Clergy Retreat 2 Stella Maris, Penang
16 Sep 7.00am	Malaysia Day Mass Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang
16 Sep 10.00am	Meeting with Bishop Simon Kim, Bishop of Chuncheon & Apostolic Administrator of Hamhung, Korea Bishop's Residence, Penang
17 Sep 6.00pm	Ordination Mass to the Permanent Diaconate Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam
18 Sept to 7 Oct	Consistory of Cardinals and the Opening Mass of the Synod in Rome



FOR PEOPLE LIVING ON THE MARGINS

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

**WHO EXECUTES JUSTICE FOR THE ORPHAN AND THE WIDOW, AND LOVES THE RESIDENT ALIEN,
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