



35th Notification in the Diocese of Penang

I greet you with **JOY, MERCY** and **HOPE** in your synodal journey of Lenten Penance as Missionary Disciples of Christ. May you **PRAY, FAST, GIVE AND RECEIVE** with an unwavering focused on our Father in Heaven. Encouraged by the Lenten Message of Pope Francis, "Through the Desert God Leads us to Freedom", let us make a personal journey of reflection leading us to action according to His Will.

The Holy Spirit who stirs us for communion and mission, will help us in this journey. I assure all of you my unity during this grace-filled season as we accompany our elects in prayer, for their preparation to answer the call of Baptism.

Cardinal Sebastian Francis



**MONTH OF MARCH
PENINSULAR MALAYSIA
PASTORAL FOCUS - LIVING
IN THE PASCHAL MYSTERY**



CELEBRATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH



19th March 2024

**Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**



19th March 2024

Installation of Pope Francis



24th March 2024

**Palm Sunday, Beginning of
Holy Week**

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CELEBRATIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

28th March 2024
Maundy Thursday



29th March 2024
Good Friday

30th March 2024
Holy Saturday



31st March 2024
Easter Sunday

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UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE OF PENANG :



1. LENTEN 2024 MESSAGE

I am pleased to share with you the Lenten message from the Holy Father [CLICK HERE](#) and also the Lenten Message from me. [CLICK HERE](#)

Wishing you a continued journey of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving as you draw closer to God.

2. SCHEDULE OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

Sharing with you the schedule for confessions at the parishes in the Diocese of Penang. I pray for all of us to draw into a closer and intimate relationship with God through the gift and treasure of this sacred Sacrament. [CLICK HERE](#)

3. ANNUAL COLLECTION FOR HOLY LAND

The annual collection for Holy Land is on Maundy Thursday. Parishes can make their contributions by cheque or online transfer. Payable to: DIOCESE OF PENANG | RHB Account No: 2-07082-0005132-4 | Kindly notify payment to: trcfin@gmail.com

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4. SOLIDARITY FUND FOR PENANG DIOCESE

The parish monthly collection for the solidarity fund of all parishes in the Diocese of Penang can also be made following the same banking details and method as above.

5. RCIA ELECTS FOR BAPTISM AT EASTER

The Rite of Election for the Diocese of Penang took place on 17th Feb & 18th Feb at the Church of the Assumption, Penang and Church of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, Ipoh. I am delighted to inform you that about 250 adults, which includes the RCIA candidates together with several other adults, will be baptised at Easter in our diocese. Please join me as I invite you to pray with me for them, everyday until their Baptism.

6. PRIEST FOR KOREAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

We welcome Rev. Fr. Antony Lee Chang Seub, a Catholic Priest from the Diocese of Chuncheon, South Korea to the Korean Catholic Community of the Diocese of Penang.

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UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE OF PENANG :



7. CHARIS PENANG TEAM

I am pleased to share with you the team of CHARIS PENANG, a service of communion with all the expressions of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Church in the Diocese of Penang. [CLICK HERE](#)

8. ARISE YOUTH DAY | 30TH MAY - 1ST JUNE 2024 | MINOR BASILICA OF ST. ANNE, BUKIT MERTAJAM, PENANG, MALAYSIA

Young People, ARISE and shine! Let's rejoice in Christ with this unforgettable gathering presented by CHARIS Peninsular Malaysia - Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Prepare for an inspiring journey featuring Fr. Rob Galea as our keynote speaker, known for his dynamic sermons and soul-stirring music ministry. [CLICK HERE](#)

Register Now via [bit.ly/ARISEYouthDay!](https://bit.ly/ARISEYouthDay)

9. PENANG DIOCESE CLERGY RETIREMENT HOME | MINOR BASILICA OF ST. ANNE, BUKIT MERTAJAM

Priests from the Diocese of Penang who have gracefully reached the age of retirement of 75 or prior due to medical reasons, may reside at the retirement home for priests situated within the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam. Priests who are interested, may contact Rev. Fr. Dominic Santhiyagu directly. [CLICK HERE](#)

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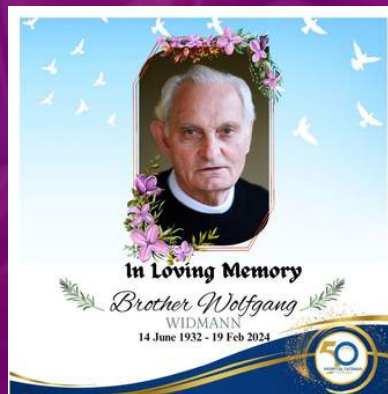


UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE OF PENANG :



10. IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE OF BROTHER WOLFGANG

In July 1975, the Superior General of the Brothers of Mercy of Our Lady of Perpetual Help sent Brother Wolfgang Widmann to Malaysia as a delegate to assist in managing Hospital Fatimah in Ipoh, Perak. He dedicated 8 years of service to Hospital Fatimah in the Diocese of Penang before returning to Germany in 1983 for a period of 12 years. In 1995, responding to the request of Hospital Fatimah again, he returned to Malaysia and continued his service until 2015, and went back to Germany eventually. Brother Wolfgang Widmann peacefully returned to the Lord on 19th February 2024 in Trier, Germany, at the age of 91. Light and Peace to the Soul of Brother Wolfgang. Rev. Fr. Michael Cheah and a team from Fatimah Hospital, Ipoh represented the Diocese of Penang and Hospital Fatimah at the funeral in Germany. Mass was offered for his soul at the Cathedral of Holy Spirit, Penang on 25th February 2024, 2nd Sunday of Lent at 10.30am by me. Blessings and thanks for his life and ministry as a Consecrated Religious Brother at Fatima Hospital in Penang Diocese, Malaysia.



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11. ADMINISTRATOR FOR THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA OF THE HOLY ROSARY, KOTA BAHRU, KELANTAN

Sr. Angela Wong Chin Chin, FMM will take up responsibility as Administrator for the Parish of Our Lady of Fatima of the Holy Rosary, Kota Bahru, Kelantan with effect from 1st March 2024. We thank Fr. Konstend Gnanapragasam for his dedicated and committed services in his priestly ministry at the parish, and welcome Sr. Angela Wong with gratitude for her generous availability in accepting this new role and mission. Fr. Konstend will be going to India for an ongoing formation. Msgr. Henry Rajoo, the Dean 1 of Northern Deanery will assist Sr. Angela Wong in allocating priests for weekend Masses.

12. A LETTER FROM BROTHER MATTHEW OF TAIZÉ | "JOURNEYING TOGETHER"

With gratitude for the ecumenical prayer vigil that took place on 30th September 2023, I am pleased to share with you a letter entitled "Journeying Together" written by the current Prior of Taizé, Brother Matthew who took over from Brother Roger, the founder of Taizé Community. Let us reflect on this beautiful letter as we journey together as pilgrims of peace.

[CLICK HERE](#)

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13. THE DICASTERY FOR EVANGELIZATION OFFERS RESOURCE FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER

As we move closer to the Jubilee of 2025, Pope Francis wants 2024 to be dedicated to prayer. Thus, he is inviting the whole Church to a time of intense commitment in preparation for the Opening of the Holy Door.

[CLICK HERE](#)



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BISHOP'S DIARY



1st Mar 9:00 am	Mass Church of Our Lady of Fatima of the Holy Rosary, Kota Bahru, Kelantan
5th Mar 6:00 pm	Graduation of ACU Participants Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre (APC)
6th Mar 9:00 am	Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Team Meeting Archdiocesan Pastoral Centre, KL
6th Mar 3:00 pm	Peninsular Malaysia Finance Meeting Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur
9th Mar 11:00 am	Meeting – Relic Team Penang Diocesan Catechetical Commission Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Silibin, Ipoh
12th Mar 9:00 am	College General Bishops-Staff Meeting College General Major Seminary, Penang
12th Mar 6:00 pm	College General Inaugural Mass - Academic Year 2024 College General Major Seminary, Penang
13th Mar 3:00 pm	Meeting - Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (EOHSJ) - Penang Section Bishop's Office
14th Mar 11:00 am	Meeting - Seeds Ministry Bishop's Office
15th Mar 4:00 pm	Digital Coffee "Spilling the Boba Tea Towards Full Presence" by Dicastery for Office of Social Communications, Vatican ZOOM
16th Mar 10:00 am	Mass & Meeting - Auxiliary of the Apostolate, Bishop's Residence
18th Mar 8:00 pm	Chrism Mass Church of Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus
18th-19th Mar	Council of Priests (COP) & Clergy Monthly Recollection (CMR) Stella Maris, Penang
19th Mar 12:00 pm	Meeting – Superior General of Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (FSIC) Stella Maris, Penang
21st-31st Mar	Palm Sunday & Holy Week Church of Our Lady of Fatima of the Holy Rosary, Kota Bahru, Kelantan



MARCH

FOR THE NEW MARTYRS

WE PRAY THAT THOSE WHO RISK THEIR LIVES
FOR THE GOSPEL IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE
WORLD INFLAME THE CHURCH WITH THEIR
COURAGE AND MISSIONARY ENTHUSIASM.