

30TH NOTIFICATION AND UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

I greet you with great joy from St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City upon having concluded the Ordinary Public Consistory for the creation of new cardinals and the Ecumenical Prayer Gathering called "Together" with world leaders of various Christian Churches here.

I am pleased to announce that the parish entrusted to me in Rome is the Church of Mary, Cause of Our Joy (Parrocchia S. Maria Causa Nostrae Laetitiae) located at Piazza Siderea, 1/A 00133 Rome, Italy.

It is truly a joy and a blessing to be present here and to represent all of you and to pray with you as One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. In a few days, on October 4, the Holy Father will open the first session of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops, "For a Synodal Church. Communion, Participation, Mission".

The Synod of Bishops is a momentous event in the life of the Church, where bishops from around the world come together to discuss and discern matters of great importance. As they embark on this important journey, let us keep them in our thoughts and prayers as we remember the words of Pope Francis, "Without Prayer There is No Synod". I remain united with all of you in the same spirit of solidarity, with mutual thanksgiving and blessings.

Cardinal Sebastian Francis



Month of October
Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Focus –
SYNODALITY (SYNOD 2021 – 2024)



FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

1 October 2023

Feast of St. Therese of Lisieux
(Patron of Missions)



5 October 2023

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi
(All religious congregations in
the diocese under the patronage
of St. Francis)

4th October 2023

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



4th October 2023

Holy Mass with the New Cardinals and
the College of Cardinals | Opening
Mass of the 16th Ordinary General
Assembly of the Synod of Bishops

4th-29th October 2023

16th Ordinary General Assembly
of the Synod of Bishops





FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

5th October 2023

Feast of St. Faustina Kowalska
(Parish of Divine Mercy, Sg. Ara, Penang)



7th October 2023

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary
(Parish of Our Lady of Fatima of the
Holy Rosary, Kota Bahru, Kelantan)

15th October 2023

Feast of St. Teresa of Avila



16th October 2023

Feast of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

18th October 2023

Feast of St. Luke, the Evangelist



22nd October 2023

World Mission Sunday

28th October 2023

Feast of Sts. Simon & Jude, the
Apostles





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

1. 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, 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](#)



2. REPRESENTING THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, BRUNEI AT THE XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

I am delighted to share with you the list of delegates from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia - Singapore - Brunei (CBCMSB) who have been chosen as Voting Members at the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023. They have been entrusted with the significant responsibility of being our voices at this Synod. May the Holy Spirit guide and inspire them as they actively participate in the discussions and decisions that will shape the future of our Church. I invite you to pray for these representatives from our region and for all representatives present at the synod in Rome.

Voting Members

- 1) His Eminence Cardinal William Goh, the Archbishop of Singapore
- 2) Rev. Fr. Clarence Devadass from the Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur
- 3) Ms. Anna Teresa Peter Amandus from the Diocese of Sandakan

Expert and Facilitator

- 1) Dr. Christina Kheng from the Archdiocese of Singapore



UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

3. SILVER SACERDOTAL JUBILEE CELEBRATION | REV. FR. VINCENT PAUL

With grateful hearts we celebrate 25 years of faithfulness in the Priestly Silver Jubilee of Rev. Fr. Vincent Paul, Parish Priest of the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Tanjung Malim on 7th October 2023. Continue to keep him in prayers as we praise and thank God for the gift of priesthood.

4. CONTRIBUTION FOR THE RECENT PAPAL VISIT TO MONGOLIA

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei has contributed a total sum of RM189,000 (USD41,000) to aid in the expenses of the recent visit of the Holy Father Pope Francis to Mongolia in September 2023. Let us continue to pray for the church and the community of Mongolia.

5. YOUNG PRIESTS GATHERING 2023 OF MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, BRUNEI

The Young Priest Gathering this year will be hosted in the Diocese of Keningau, Sabah from 9 - 13 October 2023. A total of 7 young diocesan and religious priests from our diocese will be participating, namely Fr. James Pitchay, Fr. Louis Loi, Fr. Konstend Gnanapragasam, Fr. Desmond Jansen, Fr. Raymond Raj, Fr. Crispus Mosinoh OFM and Fr. Gilbert James OFM Cap. Fr. James Pitchay will be the person in charge for the young priests from the Diocese of Penang.





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS

OF THE DIOCESE

6. PLACEMENT OF REV. FR. OLIVER THAM, OFM

Rev. Fr. Oliver Tham has been assigned as priest in residence at the Church of Immaculate Conception, Penang since 1st September 2023 after having concluded his role as Chaplain in Residence at the Little Sisters of the Poor (LSP) in Batu Lanchang, Penang. Let us remember him in prayer in his priestly ministry and vocation.

7. PENINSULAR MALAYSIA CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

We praise and thank God for a spirit-filled celebration at the recent Peninsular Malaysia CCR Golden Jubilee celebration from 31st August – 2nd September 2023 held at Church of the Holy Family, Kajang. I thank all those who have contributed your time, talent and treasure in making this event a renewed experience for all.

8. PENINSULAR MALAYSIA PASTORAL THEME & FOCUS FOR 2024

The Liturgical Celebrations for 2024 along with the overall theme and monthly focus for the year has been compiled for your easy reference.

[CLICK HERE](#)





BISHOP'S DIARY

4 Oct 9.00am	Holy Mass with the new cardinals and the College of Cardinals Opening of the 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops St. Peter's Square, Vatican City
12 Oct 11.00am	Meeting with Institute of Formation Fondacio Asia - IFFAsia team Bishop's Office
14 Oct 8.00am	Permanent Deacons' & Candidates Formation Minor Basilica of St. Anne, BM
14 Oct 6.00pm	Sunset Mass Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam
15 Oct 9.00am	Confirmation Mass Church of St. Louis, Taiping
15 Oct 5.30pm	Confirmation Mass Church of St. Joseph, Bagan Serai
16 Oct 2.30pm	Meeting - Malaysian Catholic Education Council Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur
17-18 Oct	Clergy Monthly Recollection with Religious Stella Maris, Penang
20 Oct 3.00pm	Signing of Tripartite MOU – Assumption International School
21 Oct 6.00pm	Thanksgiving Mass Church of Holy Redeemer, Tanjung Malim
24 Oct 10.00am	Signis Asia Assembly - Communicating the Gospel with the Heart in the Digital World Zoom
24-26 Oct	CHARIS Malaysia AGM Diocese of Kota Kinabalu
27 Oct 7.30pm	Confirmation Mass Church of St. Michael, Alor Setar
28 Oct 10.00am	Meeting with the Responsible of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem (Lieutenancy of Australia – Western) Bishop's Residence
28 Oct 6.00pm	Meeting with Fr. Laurence Freeman OSB, Director of the World Community for Christian Meditation
29 Oct 2.00pm	Meeting - CHARIS Penang Leaders Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

FOR THE SYNOD

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.