

# 31ST NOTIFICATION AND UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

As we focus on young people, I wish to greet the young people and the entire people of God with the same greeting of Pope Francis in his Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation, "Christ is alive! He is our hope, and in a wonderful way he brings youth to our world, and everything he touches becomes young, new, full of life. The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive!



He is in you, he is with you and he never abandons you. However far you may wander, he is always there, the Risen One. He calls you and he waits for you to return to him and start over again. When you feel you are growing old out of sorrow, resentment or fear, doubt or failure, he will always be there to restore your strength and your hope."

*- Cardinal Sebastian Francis*

Month of November  
Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Focus – YOUNG  
PEOPLE (YOUNG PEOPLE DAY)

**INTENDED FOR ALL THE CATHOLIC FAITHFUL  
IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG**



# FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

**1st November 2023**

**All Saints Day**



**2nd November 2023**

**All Souls Day –  
The Commemoration of  
All the Faithful Departed**

**9th November 2023**

**Dedication of St. John Lateran  
Basilica in Rome**



**19th November 2023**

**World Day of the Poor**



# FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

**20th November 2023**

**Feast of Christ the King –  
World Youth Day  
Celebration in local Churches**



**21st November 2023**

**Feast of the Presentation of  
the Virgin Mary**

**30th November 2023**

**Feast of St. Andrew, the Apostle**





## UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS

## OF THE DIOCESE

### 1. SYSTHESIS REPORT OF THE FIRST XVI ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS

We praise and thank God for the conclusion of the 1st Phase of the Synod. I thank you for all your prayers for this assembly with the Holy Father. Sharing with you the Synthesis Report, “A Synodal Church on Mission”. This is not a final document, but an instrument at the service of ongoing discernment. Let us continue to journey together as we reflect on this synthesis report.

[CLICK HERE](#)



### 2. DIOCESAN PASTORAL ASSEMBLY 2023

The Diocesan Pastoral Assembly for our diocese will be held on 18th November 2023 from 8.00am – 8.00pm at the Church of Immaculate Conception, Penang. I humbly request you to pray for all the delegates involved in this assembly representing our diocese.

In order to foster a greater participation of Clergy at the assembly, there will be no sunset masses celebrated in the entire Diocese on 18th November 2023. The sunset mass will be live streamed that evening from the venue and the faithful are invited to join in the Eucharistic celebration online at 6.00 pm. The weekend masses will be celebrated on Sunday, 19th November in the parishes as usual.

[CLICK HERE](#)



### 3. INSTITUTE OF FORMATION FONDACIO ASIA

I am pleased to share with you a brochure on a comprehensive program and live-in experience organized by Institute of Formation Fondacio Asia to develop young leaders for a renewed Asian Church and society. More information can be found here.

[CLICK HERE](#)





## UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS

## OF THE DIOCESE

### 4. UPDATES ON INFANT JESUS COMMUNITY IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG

- Sr. John Baptist Lee from Melaka has joined the Bukit Mertajam community.
- Sr. Lucy Chen from Asrama Cahaya, Kuala Lumpur has joined the Bukit Mertajam community.
- Sr. Agnes Ng has moved from Waterfall community to Convent Light Street.

### 5. APPOINTMENT OF PARISH PRIEST & ASSISTANT PRIEST | CHURCH OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS, BALIK PULAU

Rev. Fr. Dominico Evan CSE has been appointed as Parish Priest and Rev. Fr. Rudolf de Aquaviva CSE has been appointed as Assistant Priest of the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus, Balik Pulau with effect from 30th October 2023. These Fathers from the Congregation of Carmalitae Sancti Eliae (CSE), will be part of the clergy of Penang Diocese. My heartfelt thanks to Rev. Fr. Nelson Chitty for his contributions in his priestly ministry in the parish of Balik Pulau.

### 6. NEW LEADERSHIP FOR NEW THESSALONIAN APOSTOLATE (NTA)

With effect from 15th November 2023, I am pleased to inform that New Thessalonian Apostolate (NTA) of the Diocese of Penang will be headed by Marianne See and assisted by Rev. Fr. Bernard Hycinth SJ. Serving this ministry as the Spiritual Advisor will be Deacon Dave Kameron. Let us pray for the mission of this ministry as they reach out to those in the peripheries, especially refugees.

### 7. APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT PRIEST | MINOR BASILICA OF ST. ANNE, BUKIT MERTA JAM

Rev. Fr. Bernard Hycinth SJ will be appointed as Assistant Priest of the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam with effect from 15th November 2023.



## BISHOP'S DIARY

1 Nov 1.15pm	Meeting with Menteri Besar of Kelantan   Kota Bahru, Kelantan
1 Nov 8.00pm	Mass   Church of Our Lady of Fatima of the Holy Rosary, Kota Bahru, Kelantan
3-5 Nov	Meeting with Regional Commission of Office of Social Communications – Catholic Bishops Conference of Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei   Stella Maris, Penang
4 Nov 6.00pm	Confirmation Mass   Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam
5 Nov 10.00am	Confirmation Mass   Church of Sacred Heart, Kampar
5 Nov 5.30pm	Ground Breaking Ceremony   Chapel of Christ the King, Buntong Tiga, Ipoh
7 Nov 2.30pm	Catholic Welfare Services (CWS) AGM   Stella Maris, Penang
8 Nov 9.00am	College General Bishops'-Staff Meeting   College General Major Seminary, Penang
8 Nov 6.00pm	Mass   College General Major Seminary, Penang
10 Nov 11.00am	Meeting with PPC Chairman of Bagan Serai   Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam
11 Nov 11.00am	Meeting with Penang Diocesan Bahasa Apostolate   FSIC Convent, Bukit Mertajam
11 Nov 6.00pm	Confirmation Mass   Church of Sacred Heart of Jesus, Kulim



# BISHOP'S DIARY

12 Nov  
9.00am Confirmation Mass | Church of Risen Christ, Air Itam

13 Nov Deepavali Visitation

14 Nov  
10.00am Penang Diocesan Education Council (PDEC) Meeting, Pusat Keuskupan Katolik

18 Nov  
8.00am - 8.00pm Penang Diocesan Pastoral Assembly | Church of Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus, Penang

20-24 Nov Meeting with Federation of Asian Bishops' Conference  
- Office of Social Communications | Bangkok, Thailand

25 Nov  
6.00pm Confirmation Mass | Church of St. Michael, Ipoh

26 Nov  
10.30am Confirmation & 1st Holy Communion Mass | Church of St. Francis de Sales, Sitiawan

27 Nov  
10.00am Curia Meeting | Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam

28 Nov-1 Dec Overseas Engagement | Manila, Philippines

# THANKSGIVING SOLEMN MASS



Let us unite as  
**One Universal Church**  
to give thanks and celebrate  
the appointment of

**CARDINAL SEBASTIAN FRANCIS**  
to the College of Cardinals.

Celebrated by Cardinal Sebastian Francis  
together with his brother bishops' from the  
Catholic Bishops' Conference of  
Malaysia - Singapore - Brunei

**Date : Monday, 8th January 2024**  
**(Feast of the Baptism of the Lord)**

**Time : 6:00 p.m.**

**Venue : Minor Basilica of St. Anne,  
Bukit Mertajam, Penang, Malaysia**





## **FOR THE POPE**

**We pray for the Holy Father, as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.**