



32ND NOTIFICATION & UPDATES IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG



❖ December ❖

My prayers and blessings are with each one of you as we journey through Advent and Christmas during this beautiful Season of Grace. I wish to invite you to embrace fully and live with intensity these events of the Good News - Hope, Peace, Joy, Love; as we make a conscious effort to BE OF GOOD CHEER in this season of giving and sharing. Let us enlarge the tents of our hearts and welcome Jesus in all persons, situations, challenges, struggles, blessings in disguise and every little blessing bestowed upon us as we strive to live well each present moment, as an offering of love for the good of all creation. May God be praised in all we do and the gift of Christ's Love be shared with all!

Cardinal Sebastian Francis



FEASTS AND SOLEMNITIES FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER



8th December 2023
**Feast of the Immaculate
Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary**



25th December 2023
**Christmas – the Nativity
of our Lord**

28th December 2023
Feast of the Holy Innocents



30th December
**The Feast of the Holy
Family of Jesus, Mary
and Joseph**

**JUST SO, THE SON OF MAN DID NOT COME TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE
AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM FOR MANY." (MT 20:28)**



UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

1. PENANG DIOCESAN PASTORAL ASSEMBLY 2023 |

“Enlarge the space of your tent” (Isaiah 54:2)

I praise and thank God for the fruitful and spirit-filled participation by all the faithful throughout our diocese at the recent Diocesan Pastoral Assembly. I wish to thank all those who were involved in the preparation of this event and each one of you who continue this spirit of solidarity from wherever you are in every way possible. I am pleased to share with you the keynote address and the homily in this continuous journey of synodality.

[CLICK HERE](#)



2. SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION | ADVENT 2023

Sharing with you the schedule for the Sacrament of Reconciliation available throughout the Diocese of Penang during the Season of Advent. United with you as we partake and rejoice in this liberating grace-filled experience of God’s Love and Mercy.

[CLICK HERE](#)



3. KASIH FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE FOR THE SOCIAL MISSION OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN MALAYSIA

The Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Malaysia has called for a nationwide special collection on the 9th and 10th December 2023 (2nd Sunday in Advent), during the 2nd Collection at all Masses. Proceeds will be channeled to the KASIH fundraising initiative for the Social Mission of the Catholic Church in Malaysia. Relevant materials on this initiative along with the campaign kit consisting of videos and bulletin inserts in four languages, can be downloaded and shared with all starting from this weekend and the following weekend masses via this link:

[CLICK HERE](#)





UPDATES AND HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE

4. EPISCOPAL REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL COMMUNICATION

Daniel Roy Santiyagu has been elected as the Chairman of the Episcopal Regional Commission for Social Communication with effect from 4th November 2023. We congratulate him on this new role as he undertakes this new responsibility and mission.

5. REST IN GOD'S ETERNAL EMBRACE, FRIAR ARUL SAGAYARAJ MARIADASS, OFM

We thank and praise God for the gift and blessing of Fr. Arul Mariadass, OFM, a son of our diocese, who journeyed with us here in the Diocese of Penang as Parish Priest of Church of the Risen Christ, Air Itam, Penang. He was a joyful disciple and faithful pastor, serving with genuine sincerity until the very end of his life. Having professed his Solemn Profession in 1995, Ordained a Franciscan Priest on 18th July 1997 at the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows, Penang and having celebrated his Sacerdotal Silver Jubilee last year, we remember with gratitude and thanksgiving for his significant contributions in building God's Kingdom of Love through his dedicated and humble service. We have another intercessor with God and the mission continues with us. With heartfelt prayers and deepest condolences to the family, the Franciscan Community and to all. [CLICK HERE](#)





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| 2 Dec 6.00pm | Confirmation Mass City Parish - Church of St. Francis Xavier, Penang |
| 3 Dec 9.00am | Confirmation Mass Church of St. Anthony, Teluk Intan |
| 4 Dec 6.30pm | Silver Jubilee Mass – Rev. Fr. James Rajendran Melaka-Johor Diocese |
| 4-7 Dec | Visitation Singapore |
| 8 Dec 8.00pm | Confirmation Mass Church of St. Anthony, Nibong Tebal |
| 9 Dec 11.00am | Meeting with CHARIS Penang Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam |
| 9 Dec 6.00pm | Confirmation Mass Church of the Holy Name of Mary, Permatang Tinggi |
| 10 Dec 8.00am | Confirmation Mass Church of St. Mary, Tapah |
| 10 Dec 4.00pm | Mass with Consecration of the Altar & Blessing of Grotto Chapel of St Jude, Gopeng |
| 10 Dec 7.30pm | Dinner with National Cancer Society Malaysia and Caritas Homes of Hope Ipoh |
| 13 Dec 11.00am | Meeting with SEEDS Ministry Catholic Diocesan Centre, Penang |
| 14 Dec 6.30pm | St. Joseph's Home Thanksgiving Mass Church of St. Francis Xavier, Penang Road. |
| 19 Dec 10.00am | Mass & Meeting with Seminarians of the Diocese of Penang Bishop's Residence |
| 24 Dec 10.00pm | Christmas Vigil Mass Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang |
| 25 Dec 10.00am | Christmas Day Mass Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam |
| 25-31 Dec | On Leave |

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DECEMBER – FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation.

