

15 OCTOBER 2021

PKK/BDN/2021/10/118

BISHOP SEBASTIAN FRANCIS



# 8TH NOTIFICATION

## *in the Diocese of Penang*

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2021



For a synodal Church  
communion | participation | mission

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

FOR INTERNAL  
CIRCULATION ONLY



*My Dear People of God,*

*I am overjoyed to greet you in this beautiful Month of Mission, accompanied by the intercession of our Blessed Mary, the Mother of Missions!*

*The vision of a synodal Church calls for: a journey of personal conversion; and obedience to the direction of the Holy Spirit, through the Church.*

*As a synodal Church, journeying together with Pope Francis, I invite all of us to walk in harmony, united in diversity through this synodal process, pondering on the 3 verbs emphasized by the Holy Father at the Opening Mass for the Synod of Bishops 2021-2023: Encounter - Listen - Discern.*

*"May we be pilgrims in love with the Gospel and open to the surprises of the Holy Spirit. Let us not miss out on the grace-filled opportunities born of encounter, listening and discernment. In the joyful conviction that, even as we seek the Lord, he always comes with his love to meet us first."*

*You are baptised and sent! You are called to be signs of JOY! | mission*

*Let us walk together in Creative, Inclusive and Bridge-Building ways, allowing the Holy Spirit to be the protagonist in journeying, leading and guiding us throughout this process of synodality.*

*I remain united with all of you in communion, participation and mission!*

**I EARNESTLY REQUEST ALL CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND LAITY, TO BE UNITED WITH ME IN JOINING TOGETHER AS ONE, AT THE LIVE-STREAMING OF THIS LAUNCHING MASS. LET US WALK WITH POPE FRANCIS ON THIS JOURNEY FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH.**

*Journeying Together*

**16<sup>th</sup> ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS, ROME**  
2021 - 2023

**Launching Mass**  
**Diocesan Synodal Phase**

Diocese of Penang

**17 October 2021**  
**Sunday | 9.00 am**

LIVE Broadcast from Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Penang

**THEME**  
For a synodal Church:  
communion, participation and mission.

**CLICK HERE**





## SHARING WITH YOU SOME OF THE HAPPENINGS IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG AND SOME IMPORTANT DATES FROM OCTOBER - DECEMBER TO REMEMBER.



- The Bishops from all over the world will gather in order to assist the Pope, Bishop of Rome, with "providing for the good of the universal Church" at the **Synod of Bishops in 2023, Rome**. The process of journeying together as People of God begins in October 2021. How can we be involved and "walk together" as a synodal Church? Click here to find out more:

[CLICK HERE  
PG DIOCESE](#)

[CLICK HERE  
CBCMSB](#)



### The Sacraments



- I take this opportunity to thank all priests and deacons for your faithfulness and perseverance in remaining hopeful for the people of God during this time of grace. I humbly request all parishes to provide **liturgical and sacramental services of Baptism for Infants & Adults, 1st Holy Communion, Confirmation and Matrimony in creative ways** while adhering to the current regulations and guidelines advised by the authorities. I will be granting all priests in the Diocese the faculty to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation until end of this year. Nevertheless, I can still be present if I am available.

- Caritas Penang** is supportive of the initiative taken by PKRCS in Penang, set up by churches with CREST (Crisis Relief Services and Training for B40 Low Risk Covid Patients).
- The parishes of Holy Name of Mary, Permatang Tinggi, Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Butterworth, Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam and St Michael's, Alor Setar have contributed 2 oxygen concentrators to Hospital Seberang Jaya.
- Caritas Penang in collaboration with MSF (Doctors Without Borders) donated RM13,000 personal care items for Migrants and Refugees in part on 17th of August and the remaining in Oct 2021.
- The Diocese in collaboration with Caritas Penang have made a contribution of RM60,000 to Monfort Boys Town for their urgent need to sustain operations.
- Following up from my letter to you with regards to the Official Catholic Hymnal, **Sing Your Praise to God**, I am sharing with you the list of the Public Domain hymns that can be projected along with the earlier letter sent dated 7th March 2021. There is also a Q & A attachment for those who seek clarification on this.
- Details on **Christmas Masses 2021 & Feast of Assumption 2022** have been issued by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei (CMCBM).
- The **Final Profession of Sr. Winnie Vun, FMM** will coincide with the Feast of Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Closing of the Year of St. Joseph at the Church of Our Lady of Fatima of the Holy Rosary, Kota Baru, Kelantan. This triple celebration will be on 8 December 2021 at 7.30pm. I will be present to celebrate this Mass.

[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)





- Parishes or individuals who wish to submit their application to **College General Major Seminary Penang for the new academic year 2022**, may do so by 1st November 2021. All applications are to be submitted through the Bishop's Office.
- **The Penang Island Roman Catholic New Columbarium** at Western Road Christian Cemetery is open for use. More information on this can be found here: [CLICK HERE](#)
- Bishop Julius Dusin Gitom, Bishop of Sandakan has suspended **Deacon Andy Borine Tingadon** from exercising sacred orders. This decision was taken in accord with the provision of the Code of Canon Law (cf. Canon 50).
- **Sr. Angeline Poh, FMM** has been appointed as the counsellor heading the Kota Baru Desk in the Diocese of Penang for the counselling ministry with effect from 1st November 2021.
- **Adeline Teh Poh Choo** has been appointed as Head of CHARIS Penang Diocese with effect from 1st October 2021. She will also represent CHARIS Penang Diocese at the Peninsular Malaysia Service Team (PMST). We thank her for her generous availability in accepting this new role and mission.
- **Daniel Roy Santiyagu** has completed his term with the Penang Diocesan Youth Office. He now takes on a new role as Head of Social Communications cum Bishop's Personal Assistant with effect from 1st October 2021. We thank him for his contributions to the youth office as he embarks on another new mission.
- The overall and monthly **Peninsular Malaysia Pastoral Theme for 2022** in Bahasa Malaysia, Tamil, Mandarin & English can be found here: [CLICK HERE](#)

## BISHOP'S DIARY (OCT - DEC 2021)

### OCT

- 17 Oct - Synod of Bishops 2023  
*Launching Mass, 9am*
- 19 Oct - Council of Priests  
Tamil Charismatic Rally (Melaka-Johor)
- 20 Oct - Combined Clergy  
Monthly Recollection with Religious
- 23 Oct - Confirmation, St. Anne
- 26 Oct - Apostolic Nuncio, KL
- 26 Oct - Catholic Welfare Services Meeting

### NOV

- 1 Nov - Re-dedication of Altar  
*Sacred Heart Kampar*
- 2 Nov - All Souls' Day Mass  
*Sacred Heart, Kampar*
- 7 Nov - Mass & Service Award  
*NBVM, Butterworth*
- 7 Nov - Inter-religious  
Harmony Talk (Melaka)
- 9 Nov - Diocesan Finance  
Committee Meeting
- 14 Nov - Confirmation  
*Risen Christ, Air Itam*
- 15 Nov - Penang Diocesan  
Pastoral Team Mtg

### NOV / DEC

- 16 Nov - Council of Priests
- 17 Nov - Clergy Monthly  
Recollection
- 18 Nov - Mission Schools Mtg
- 21 Nov - 1st Holy Communion  
*St. Anne, BM*
- 22 Nov - Christ the King Talk  
(Melaka-Johor)
- 1 Dec - Parish Pastoral  
Assembly, St. Anne
- 8 Dec - Final Profession  
*Sr. Winnie Vun FMM, Kota Baru*
- 24-26 Dec - Christmas, St. Anne

*Wishing all a Blessed Journey this coming Advent & a Joyous Christmas in the Lord!*