

# NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH | The Baptism of the Lord | 12 January 2025

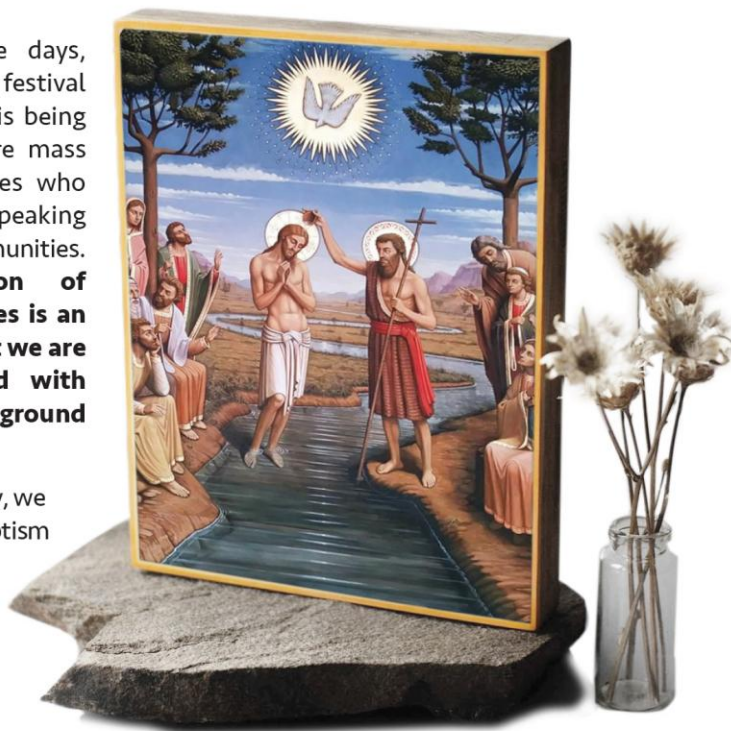
CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE

MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE  
CHURCH - CALLED TO BE MERCIFUL

## Celebrating the Diversity of Communities

During these days, the Pongal festival of thanksgiving is being celebrated before mass by many parishes who have Tamil speaking among the communities. **The integration of cultural practices is an affirmation that we are people of God with diverse background and ethnicity.**

Liturgically today, we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord.



The Catechism teaches us that *'the baptism of Jesus is on his part the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners.'* (536)

St Luke gives a poignant narration and connects us to the heart of the Father. As Isaiah has foretold, God speaks of Jesus as His Beloved Son, in whom He is well pleased. The gospel also narrates that after his baptism, while Jesus is praying, heaven opens and the Holy Spirit descends upon Him.

This affirmation of the Father strengthens Jesus and sets him for mission. Gone is the obscurity surrounding his life up to that point even as he emerges into public ministry. The gospel acclamation brings us to another level as God tells us to *listen to Jesus*. God has revealed His Son in all his glory - Jesus is God with us and among us. The eye witnesses at the scene of the baptism are called to respond. This reminds us of our baptism.

When we are baptised, we enter into communion with Christ who joins us to Himself so that we might experience the fruits of his suffering on the Cross. The Cross is a symbol of love and forgiveness which we are privileged to receive through the gift of baptism.

What must be our response? Do we listen to Jesus, as God commands us? After his baptism, Jesus prays. Prayer connects him to His Father. Prayers open up heaven and *God bless His people with peace*. At the start of this Jubilee Year, as pilgrims of hope, let us take every God-given moment to pray, to listen to God, and allow the Holy Spirit to change us interiorly. We will never tire to encounter Christ anew each time in the confessional, knowing that the Father is ever forgiving and loving.

Then, with God's anointing, as Church called to be merciful, we can emulate Jesus by *doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God is with us.*✠

“There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither slave or freeman, there can be neither male nor female – for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

*Galatians 3:28*

### SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11

Psalm 103: 1-4, 24-25, 27-30

Titus 2: 11-14, 3: 4-7

Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22

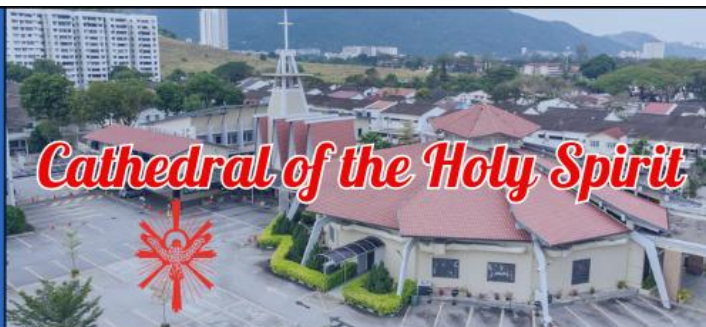
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# CHS BULLETIN

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## Cathedral of the Holy Spirit

**Rector:** FR RAYMOND RAJ  
**Deacon:** DCN ANDREW LOH

**Priests-in-Residence:** FR FRANCIS ANTHONY, FR FABIAN DICOM  
& FR JAMES TAN

### Get Connected With Us

We would love to connect with you!

Please follow us on our social media platforms and email for the latest updates on our events.



admin@holyspiritcathedral.com



holyspiritcathedral.com



CHSpenang



chspenang



youtube.com/CHSPgTv

2025 THEME  
JANUARY

CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRIMS OF HOPE  
**CHURCH – CALLED TO BE MERCIFUL**

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY	MASSES IN THE PARISH
Jan 12 (Sun) <i>Is 40:1-5,9-11</i> <i>Tit 2:11-14,3:4-7</i> <i>Lk 3:15-16,21-22</i>	8.00 am 10.30 am	MASS (M) MASS (E)	<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, FEAST</b> No Livestream Livestream
Jan 13 (Mon)	6.40 am 7.00 am	Lauds MASS (E)	<b>St. Hilary, Bishop, Doctor</b> No Livestream
Jan 14 (Tue)	6.40 am 7.00 am	Lauds MASS (E)	No Livestream
Jan 15 (Wed)	6.10 pm 6.30 pm	Vespers MASS (E)	<b>St. Paul the Hermit, Confessor</b> No Livestream
Jan 16 (Thu)	6.10 pm 6.30 pm	Vespers MASS (E)	No Livestream
Jan 17 (Fri)	6.10 pm 6.30 pm	Vespers MASS (E)	<b>St. Anthony, Abbot</b> No Livestream
Jan 18 (Sat)	6.40 am 7.00 am 5.30 pm 6.00 pm	Lauds MASS (E) Novena to OMPH followed by MASS (E)	No Livestream Livestream
Jan 19 (Sun) <i>Is 62:1-5</i> <i>1 Cor 12:4-11</i> <i>Jn 2:1-11</i>	8.00 am 10.30 am 5.30 pm	MASS (M) MASS (E) MASS (T) (Ponggol)	<b>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)</b> No Livestream Livestream No Livestream
<i>E = English M = Mandarin T = Tamil BM = Bahasa Malaysia</i>			
<b>BANNS OF MARRIAGE</b>			
Jan 25 (Sat)	11.00 am	Wedding Service of Lucas Moral Raj a/l Alphonse and Thiviya Letchumi a/p Praboo	

## PARISH NEWS

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Offerings of Mass Intentions, financial giving of monthly tithing, love offerings or donations to the Parish can be made through online transfers to the following designated bank account:-

Online Payment for	Donations Mass Offering Hall Booking Wake Room Booking	Tithes	Sharing Hope Project Outreach Projects
Bank	<b>Public Bank Berhad</b>	<b>RHB Bank Berhad</b>	<b>RHB Bank Berhad</b>
Account Number	<b>309 3049812</b>	<b>20708 2000 39510</b>	<b>20708 2000 39928</b>
Account Name	Cathedral of the Holy Spirit	Cathedral of the Holy Spirit	Cathedral CHS

Email Bank-in-Slip to [admin@holyspiritcathedral.com](mailto:admin@holyspiritcathedral.com)

**Our Collection on 31 December 2024 (New Year's Eve):** RM 2,589.85  
**Our Collection on 01 January 2025 (New Year's Day):** RM 3,536.10  
**Our Collection on 04 & 05 January 2025:** RM 9,972.00  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection on 04 & 05 January 2025:** RM 7,641.00

*"God loves a cheerful giver." – 2 Cor. 9:7*

- 22<sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF DEDICATION OF CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT | 20 JANUARY 2025**  
The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit warmly invites everyone to commemorate the 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of its Dedication. This special occasion will be marked by a multilingual Mass in English, Tamil, and Mandarin, celebrated on Monday, 20 January 2025 at 8.00 pm by His Eminence Cardinal Sebastian Francis.  
Let us gather in faith and gratitude as we celebrate this important milestone in our spiritual journey.
- HAVEN YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY | JANUARY 2025 GATHERINGS**  
Hello to all young adults! We're excited to invite you to the Haven Young Adult Ministry's January Gathering, our first event of 2025!  
Every Tuesday from 8pm to 10pm, we have something different lined up for you each week—such as connecting over board games, diving into Bible study, and worshipping together in God's presence. This gathering is for 17–25-year-olds only, so if you're in that age range, come and be a part of our community.  
Join us on the 2nd Floor Classroom (St. Michael), and remember:  
**Everyone who hears, is thirsty, or wishes to receive the water of life is welcome** (Revelation 22:17).  
For more details, feel free to contact:-  
Julio (016-4339445), Michael (019-4585499), or Caitlin (016-4215027)  
Looking forward to see you there!
- INFANT BAPTISM IN CHS | 26 JANUARY 2025**  
For parents who wish to have their child baptised, infant baptism will be held in the main church on Sunday, 26 January 2025 at 12 noon. Please register at the parish office.  
There will be a pre-baptismal instruction and briefing for both parents and godparents.



**4. PONGGOL CELEBRATION | 19 JANUARY 2025**



Thai Ponggol is a harvest festival equivalent to a thanksgiving event celebrated by Indians across the world. It's not a Hindu celebration but an Indian Celebration. Ponggol in Tamil means "boiling over or spill over."

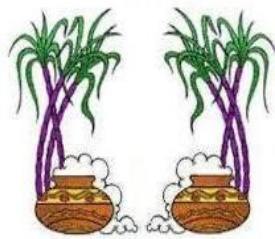
The act of boiling over of milk in the clay pot is considered to denote future prosperity for the family. For Indians, it is considered a good sign to watch it boil over, since it means that favour and prosperity is forthcoming. Traditionally celebrated at harvest time, it is a celebration of the prosperity associated with the harvest by thanking God for the rain, sun and the farm animals that have helped in the harvest.

**CHS will celebrate this Ponggol festival on the 19.01.2025 @ 5.30pm Mass. Before Mass, around 3.30pm boiling of milk with rice (Ponggol rice) will take place. There will be a special prayer during the preparation of the Ponggol.**



Nb: It is not a competition but participation. We invite and welcome ALL parishioners of CHS to come and participate in the boiling of milk. You will be given a clay pot, bottle of milk & you need to set up fire (firewood given) for boiling the milk. This will take place around 3.30pm. As we need to finalise the number of pots to purchase(10pots), please register yourself for this event at our parish office or contact Alice Anthony 0164377190. Closing date 15.01.2025 at 12.00nn

Let us, as one parish make our vision of Unity in Diversity a reality by making ourselves available to come together as one body of Christ to celebrate this festival and build the Kingdom of God.



**பொங்கல் கொண்டாட்டம்/ PONGGOL CELEBRATION 2025**

மகிழ்ச்சி மற்றும் நன்றியுடன், இந்த பொங்கல் கொண்டாட்டத்தில் பங்கு பெற உங்களை அன்போடு அழைக்கின்றோம்  
With joy and gratitude, we extend a warm invitation to join us for a special Pongal Celebration 2025.

- தேதி/Date: **19 January 2025 (Sunday)**
- நேரம்/Time: **3:30 pm**
- இடம்/Venue: **Cathedral of the Holy Spirit .Penang.**

பொங்கல் கொண்டாட்டத்துடன் மாலை 5.30 மணிக்கு தமிழ் திருப்பலி அதன் பின் கலந்துரையாடல்/ஒன்றுகூடுதல் நடைபெறும்.  
Following the Ponggol Celebration, we are blessed to continue the spirit of worship with a **Tamil Mass at 5:30 pm followed by fellowship.**

**5. CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD OPEN DAY | 19 JANUARY 2025**

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a 3-year Montessori-based faith formation program for children aged 3 years old onwards. With the support of the Catechetical Commission of the Diocese of Penang, we are hosting a CGS Open Day, and we encourage parents with children aged 3 to 4 years old (in 2025) and other interested members of the faith community to "Come and See."

Date: Sunday, 19 January 2025

Time: 10 am – 12 noon

Venue: Church of the Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus, Penang

**Catechesis of the GOOD SHEPHERD**

**NURTURING FAITH IN THE HEARTS OF CHILDREN**

**OPEN DAY**

**SUNDAY**  
19 JANUARY 2025

**10 AM - 12PM**

**IPOH**  
THE ATRIUM, WISMA LIGUORI,  
CHURCH OF OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

**PENANG**  
THE ATRIUM, L2, PARISH CENTRE,  
CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Explore the enchanting world of CGS, where your child's spirituality comes to life through interactive sessions, a guided atrium tour and engaging activities.

**Heaven**

**YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

**TUESDAY | 8PM - 10 PM | AGE 17 - 25**  
**2ND FLOOR CLASSROOM (ST. MICHAEL)**

**07<sup>TH</sup> CONNECT (BOARDGAMES)**

**14<sup>TH</sup> WORD (BIBLE STUDY)**

**21<sup>ST</sup> PRESENCE (WORSHIP)**

**28<sup>TH</sup> NO MEET (CNY BREAK)**

**REVELATION 22: 17**  
LET EVERYONE WHO HEARS, COME!  
LET EVERYONE WHO IS THIRSTY, COME!  
LET ANYONE WHO WISHES, TAKE THE WATER OF LIFE AS A GIFT.

**JANUARY GATHERING**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, YOU CAN CONTACT:**  
JULIO GERONIMO: 016-4339445 | MICHAEL ANDREWS: 019-4585499 | CAITLIN TECH: 016-4215027