

# NEWBEC

NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH

19 January 2025

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)

CELEBRATING, LISTENING AND WALKING AS PILGRMS OF HOPE

MONTHLY FOCUS & RATIONALE CHURCH - CALLED TO BE MERCIFUL

## Do Whatever He Tells You

The image of weddings captivates us in the readings. The setting in Isaiah 62 is that of an exilic people, sitting desolate in Babylon. The prophet consoles them with these words, ‘... your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.’ In short, God is affirming His people that he will restore them and seals the covenant with them.



Our Lord, who is the fulfilment of God’s covenant with his people shows his divinity during the Wedding at Cana when he hears his mother says, ‘they have no wine.’ Note the mediator role that Mary is to play in the history of salvation. **In telling the servants to do as He tells you, Mary is nudging us to do likewise.**

As the wedding scene plays on, one cannot help but reflect on the role of the unnamed servants who listen to Mary. A teeny-weeny role of carrying the water but an essential one at that. Perhaps they remain oblivious to the miracle that has taken place for the head servant to remark that the bridegroom (who is also not named) that the best wine is kept to the last. Nevertheless, they partake in the first recorded miracle of Jesus.

“I am not only  
the Queen of  
Heaven, but also  
the Mother of  
Mercy, and your  
Mother”

*Diary of St. Faustina, 330.*

Today, we know that the Bridegroom is Jesus, who comes to inaugurate the Supper of the Lamb, the banquet of the Lord. We know that the best wine is the gift of the Holy Spirit given us, the co-heirs, sons and daughters who are baptised. We have our Jesus’ stories and the Psalmist tells us to proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations, announcing his salvation, day after day. St Paul tells us *there are different spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; different forms of service but the same Lord, different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone.*

### SCRIPTURE of the DAY

Isaiah 62: 1-5

Psalm 95: 1-3, 7-10

1 Corinthians 12: 4-11

John 2: 1-11

Given our diverse background and cultures, how rich our Church will be when we come together to exercise our gifts. Mother Teresa of Calcutta says *to do small things with great love. Just do as He tells us*, like carrying pitchers of water if we are asked to. The Lord will do the rest. Selfless living, that is the way to go. Look to Mother Mary for her mediation – she leads us to Jesus. ❖

INTERNAL CIRCULATION ONLY  
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# CHS BULLETIN

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*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 19 (Sun) <i>Is 62:1-5</i> <i>1 Cor 12:4-11</i> <i>Jn 2:1-11</i>	8.00 am	MASS (M) MASS (E)	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) No Livestream Livestream
	10.30 am		
Jan 20 (Mon)	5.30 pm	MASS (T) (Ponggol)	22 <sup>ND</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF DEDICATION OF CHS AS CATHEDRAL, SOLEMNITY No Livestream
	6.40 am 7.00 am 8.00 pm	Lauds MASS (E) MASS (ETM)	St. Fabian, Pope, Martyr / St. Sebastian, Martyr No Livestream Livestream
Jan 21 (Tue)	6.40 am 7.00 am	Lauds MASS (E)	St. Agnes, Virgin, Martyr No Livestream
Jan 22 (Wed)	6.10 pm 6.30 pm	Vespers MASS (E)	St. Vincent, Deacon, Martyr No Livestream
Jan 23 (Thu)	6.10 pm 6.30 pm	Vespers MASS (E)	No Livestream
Jan 24 (Fri)	6.30 pm	MASS (E) followed by Holy Hour	St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor No Livestream
Jan 25 (Sat)	6.40 am 7.00 am	Lauds MASS (E)	The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle, Feast No Livestream
	5.30 pm 6.00 pm	Novena to OMPH followed by MASS (E)	Livestream
Jan 26 (Sun) <i>Neh 8:2-6,8-10</i> <i>1 Cor 12:12-30</i> <i>Lk 1:1-4,4:14-21</i>	8.00 am 10.30 am	MASS (M) MASS (E)	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) Sunday Of The Word Of God No Livestream Livestream

E = English M = Mandarin T = Tamil BM = Bahasa Malaysia

## BANNS OF MARRIAGE

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	Public Bank Berhad	RHB Bank Berhad	RHB Bank Berhad
Account Number	309 3049812	20708 2000 39510	20708 2000 39928
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 11 & 12 January 2025: RM 8,874.30**

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

### 1. 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.

### 2. 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.

**3. THANKSGIVING POT BLESS GET TOGETHER | 08 FEBRUARY 2025**

Looking back and reflecting on our synodal journey as a parish there are many things we are thankful for. For one, we are very privileged to have daily and weekend masses to receive Christ and to be in communion with God. All this is only made possible through the vocation of our priests.

We would like to invite you to join us in a Thanksgiving Pot Bless Get Together to thank God for blessing us with Fr Joachim who will be leaving for College General mid-Feb, and Fr Raymond who will continue to shepherd us together with Fr FA, Fr Fabian, Fr James Tan and Dcn Andrew.

Let us share our 5 loaves and 2 fish as our appreciation and offering to this Thanksgiving Pot Bless and fellowship with one another after the breaking of the word and bread in our Sunset Mass on Saturday:-

Date : 8 February 2025 (Saturday)

Time : 7.30pm

Venue : Dewan Holy Spirit

Kindly keep this day/time open to join us and look out for more details in the upcoming weeks.

**4. THANK YOU FROM THE PRISON MINISTRY**

All Praise to God and thanks to the generosity of donors, 700 prisoners from 9 prisons in Penang Diocese enjoyed a special Christmas lunch. Father Raymond Raj celebrated Christmas 2023 Service in January 2024 and Father Joachim Robert celebrated Christmas 2024 Mass in December 2024 at Jawi Prison.

The Prison Ministry under Caritas CHS thanks all generous donors for the funds raised for the Share-A-Meal campaign.

Interested in being part of the Penang Diocesan Prison Ministry?

Please contact Chan Lilian (016-5571964) for more information.

Let us be Pilgrims of Hope and 'turun padang' to the prisons.

**5. 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.

**6. FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD | 01 & 02 FEBRUARY 2025**

Candles will be blessed during Masses on Saturday (1 February) and Sunday (2 February). Please bring your candles, wrap and labelled with your name.

**7. OLD BLESSED PALMS**

Old blessed palms will be used for ashes for Ash Wednesday. Please bring your old blessed palms and place them in the basket by 9 February 2025, the latest.

**8. BADMINTON COURTS | 19 JANUARY 2025**

The courts will not be available for use on 19 January due to a parish event.

**9. 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 of 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



14 January 2025

**Pastoral Statement for dispensation from fasting  
during Chinese New Year 2025**

Dear People of God,

This year, the Lunar / Chinese New Year falls on 29 January 2025, and most Chinese celebrate the event for fifteen days, ending 12 February 2025.

The Catholic Bishops Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei, in consultation with the Episcopal Regional Liturgy Commission of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei offer the following guidance:

- (1) That the Fridays of January 31, 2025 and February 7, 2025, dispensation is given from abstinence.
- (2) That the faithful substitute these days with other forms of penance, especially works of charity and exercises of piety during this Year of Jubilee.

Wishing you the Lord's abundant blessings and joyous celebration of the Chinese New Year.

**H. Em Cardinal William Goh**

President

Episcopal Regional Liturgy Commission

Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei

**THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE & BRUNEI (CBCMSB)**

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