



PARISH OF OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP
Redemptorist Community
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"Be merciful, just as your father is merciful."

The Parish Administrator, Assistant Parish Priest together with the Redemptorist Community wish all Parishioners of O.M.P.H, Visitors and Friends the dawn of New Year which leads you to the path of beautiful tomorrows and brings abounding joys, filling

your heart with life and home with happiness.

Happy New Year 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

33 Days TO MORNING GLORY RETREAT.....

This Retreat (5 weeks) will begin on

Friday., 8 January, 2016

at 8.00 pm in the Parish Hall.

It will end in February with the Consecration to Our Mother Mary.

Those interested may register at the OMPH Parish office together with a donation of RM32/- for book materials.

YEAR END PRAYER SERVICE & THANKSGIVING MASS -

* **Thurs. 31/12/2015** – 10.15 am Praise & Worship followed by Mass at 11 pm

As the year comes to a close, let us thank God for all that we have experienced and as we enter into the New Year, we pray that we will once again walk with God and our parish community.

SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

* Fri. 1/1/2016 – Mass at 8 am (E)

- Mass at 10 am (T)

OMPH PARISH MINISTRIES RETREAT

Parish retreat for all the ministries on (date) **Sunday, 3 January, 2016.**

(venue) The Haven Lakeside Resort, Ipoh.

11.00 am to 4.00 pm (English-speaking)

1.30 pm -5 pm (Chinese-speaking)

Lunch (12.45 pm) &

Tea (4 pm) will be provided.

Tamil-speaking will have their Retreat at the Pastoral Centre, St.Mark's Room

from 12.00 noon to 4.00pm

Please collect your name tag from your ministries.

Fellowship dinner will be in the OMPH parish hall @ 7 pm.

150 Years with the Redemptorist - Icon of the Mother of Perpetual Help (1866 – 2016)

WHAT IS THE MEANING AND MESSAGE OF THE ICON?

As we look at the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, it is important to remember that it is an ICON, painted on wood by an anonymous artist, in the style of the Virgin of the Passion that represents the Christian mystery of Redemption.

What is an icon? Icon comes from the Greek word meaning 'image'. Christians first used the word icon to describe Jesus who as the image of the invisible God. Then they used the word for all Christians who through baptism were formed in the image of Christ as icons of God and temples of the Holy Spirit.

AN ICON

When we speak of an icon as a piece of art we mean, a representation of Christ, of the Blessed Virgin, or a Saint that has been painted according to specific technical and theological norms.

THERE ARE THREE THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT ICONS:

1) Icons are more than a simple representation of events or persons of the past. An icon makes present that which it remembers. It is a meeting point between the mystery of God and the reality of human beings. An icon is not a decoration for the altar; it is in fact the actual altar. Therefore in the Eastern Church, icons are venerated along with the Bible.

2) Icons are the result of prayer. the artist that paints an icon composes the painting in an atmosphere of penance and prayer. They spent hours praying and meditating on the mystery of God and presented in images and colours their spiritual insights. They shared their faith, their prayer with others through art.

3) An icon is an object of meditation. when we come before an icon, we come with an attitude of prayer, we deepen our understanding of the mysterious reality that it represents and we better appreciate the value of prayer. Icons were created to foster prayer and contemplation.

Therefore, when we come to the Icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, we come with this awareness, that the icon leads us to the mystery of redemption, of salvation, of God saving us. That is the mystery being represented in our icon. God saves us, redeem us.

MARRIAGE:Please contact the Parish Priest at least **SIX MONTHS** in advance.**BAPTISM:**Please contact the Parish Priest at least **ONE MONTH** in advance.**PARISH ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS:***(December, 2015/January, 2016)*

* 29/12/2015	- 6.30 pm - St.Peregrine Support Group AGM	(St. Mark's Rm.)
* 3/1/2016	- Retreat (E/T/C)	(Haven resort)
	- 7.00 pm - Fellowship	(Parish Hall)
* 5/1/2016	- 8.15 pm - Legion of Mary	(St.Matthew Rm.)
	- 8.00 pm - 'Family Day' Planning	(St.Mark's Rm.)
* 6/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - Chinese group	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
	- 8.00 pm - Liturgy Script Writers	(St.Mark's Rm.)
	- 8.00 pm - Charismatic Prayer group	(Wallace Rm.)
* 8/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - RCIA (C)	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
	- 8.00 pm - 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat	(Parish hall)
	- 8.00 pm - Eucharistic Ministers (C)	(Wallace Rm.)
* 10/1/2016	- 11.15 am - Tamil Apostolate	(St.Paul's Rm.)
	- 3.00 pm - RCIA (E)	(St.Mark's Rm.)
* 11/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - Chinese Apostolate	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
* 12/1/2016	- 8.15 pm - Legion of Mary	(St.Matthew Rm.)
* 13/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - Chinese group	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
* 15/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - RCIA (C)	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
	- 8.00 pm - 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat	(Parish hall)
* 17/1/2015	- 3.00 pm - RCIA (E)	(St.Mark's Rm.)
	- Eucharistic Ministers (E)	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
* 19/1/2016	- 8.15 pm - Legion of Mary	(St.Matthew Rm.)
* 20/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - Chinese group	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
* 22/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - RCIA (C)	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
	- 8.00 pm - 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat	(Parish hall)
* 24/1/2016	- 7.00 pm - Area Coordinators gathering	(Parish hall)
* 26/1/2016	- 8.15 pm - Legion of Mary	(St.Matthew Rm.)
* 27/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - Chinese group	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
* 28/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - Area Coordinators meeting	(St.Mark's Rm.)
* 29/1/2016	- 8.00 pm - RCIA (C)	(ven Francis Xavier Rm.)
	- 8.00 pm - 33 Days to Morning Glory Retreat	(Parish hall)

COFFEE MORNINGS 2016:*(All breakfast will go on till 11.30 a.m.)*

- 10/1/2016 – BEC St.Philip.
- 17/1/2016 – Lectors & Commentators.
- 24/1/2016 – St.Peregrine group. 31/1/2016 – BEC St.Augustine.

CHENNAI FLOOD RELIEF AID

In solidarity with the victims of the flood in Chennai, the Diocese of Penang, through the Penang Office for Human Development (POHD) will forward a sum of RM50,000 to the Archdiocese of Chennai for the relief efforts.

If you wish to assist, please make your contributions latest by 10/1/2016, so that the funds can be collected and safely delivered.

Let us continue to pray for all the victims of the flood and the volunteers and those who help in the relief efforts.

SUNDAY CATECHISM NEWS PARENTS' SESSION

FOR all Parents with children in Sunday Catechism school, there will be a meeting on (date) **Sunday, 10 January, 2016.** (time) 10.00 am (venue) OMPH Parish Hall. Looking forward to seeing you all.

New Registration for Sunday Catechism. Parents are requested to bring a Photostat copy of the child's baptism certificate. Catechism books –

- * Kindergarten = RM10/-
- * Primary = RM 25/-
- * Secondary = RM30/-

OMPH MASS RESCHEDULED

Effective from 1 January, 2016; There will be *no 8.30 am Mass* on Sundays. It will be scheduled to **8.00 am. Please take note.**

NOVENA PRAYERS TO**ST.PEREGRINE**

EVERY TUESDAY AT 5.45 PM in the Meditation Room. During this Novena Devotion, names of cancer patients will be lifted up. All are invited. For enquiries, call: 019-5769166/ 012-5833904.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION TIME

All are welcome to join the Christian Meditation group which meets

- * EVERY FRIDAY (6 PM TO 7 P.M.)
- * EVERY SATURDAY AT 11.00 A.M. – 12 NOON in the Meditation room.

ENGLISH EVENING FOR THE

ENGAGED 2016- Couples planning to get married in the year 2016, please take note of the EE Weekends which will be held in Penang Stella Maris. You are requested to register six (6) weeks before the weekend dates.

22-24 January, 2016
8-10 April, 2016
24-26 June, 2016
2-4 September, 2016
11-13 November, 2016

Please see your Parish Priest for registration.

TAMIL MARRIAGE PREPARATION WEEKEND – 2016

Stella Maris, Penang	Feb 26,27,28	Closing date: 1/2/2016
Domus St.Anne, Bukit Mertajam	27, 28,29 May	1/5/2016
Chapel St.Chastan & Imbert, Prai	Aug. 26,27,28	Closing date: 1/8/2016
Church of Sacred Heart, Kampar	Nov. 25,26,27	Closing date: 1/11/2016

