

THE TITULAR ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF PENANG DIOCESE OF PENANG

Catholic Diocesan Centre

290 Macalister Road, 10450 Georgetown, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia.

Tel: +604-2292761 / 2292742 Fax: +604-2285671

E-mail: trcb@pgdiocese.org / penangdiocese@gmail.com

Website: www.pgdiocese.org

17 March 2020

PKK/BDN/2020/03/027

Dear Clergy, Religious, Heads of Ministries and the Lay Faithful,

Re: New Developments on Movement Control Order Implementation in the Diocese of Penang

Greetings of Joy, Mercy and Hope!

Following up from the recent directives issued today under ref: PKK/BDN/2020/03/026, there has been further developments and additional precautions which the Diocese of Penang will need to immediately take under clause (b) of the directives.

In strict compliance to the Movement Control Order (MCO), the churches, chapels, prayer rooms (where applicable) including the Shrine of St. Anne in Bukit Mertajam will be entirely closed during the period of restriction from 18th March to 31st March 2020.

Having said that, I earnestly urge you, People of God, to pray without ceasing privately at homes while the priests continue their private masses in the parishes. Throughout the duration of this restriction, parishes are required to remain reachable to the people in cases of emergency.

I prayerfully invite you to embrace this moment of grace as you personalize this inward journey in the Lord with the Spirit of God who is present and dwelling within you. Be assured of my constant prayers and blessings as we deepen our faith this Lent through this desert experience.

With the intercession of our Blessed Mother, and Her Spouse St. Joseph, I entrust you and your families into the Hands of our Merciful Father who watches over each one of us day and night.

"Be Disciples of Hope"

Sincerely in Christ,

Rt. Rev. Sebastian Francis Bishop of Penang