



THE TITULAR ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF PENANG DIOCESE OF PENANG

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PRESS STATEMENT

The official website of the Minor Basilica of Saint Anne, Bukit Mertajam has been launched today, on 1st July 2020. Pilgrims and devotees of St. Anne can now easily access the schedule and program for the Feast of St. Anne this year which will be fully live-streamed.

This website will be a means to stay connected with one another very specially this year, as being physically present together during the Feast of St. Anne from 24th July 2020 – 2nd August 2020, will not be possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Among the many initiatives taken to continue the mission to love and serve others in Creative, Inclusive and Bridge-Building ways throughout the 10 days of the Feast of St. Anne this year are as follows:

1. Live-streaming of Adoration and Benediction each day for an hour.
2. The Novena and Masses in Bahasa, Tamil, English and Mandarin will also be live-streamed each day.
3. The original statue of St. Anne which is in the shrine can be viewed live through this website.
4. Pilgrims and devotees who wish to light a candle, offer garlands and flowers, write petitions and prayer request to St. Anne may also do so through this digital means.
5. Priests and the Bishop are just a call away, every day during the Feast of St. Anne, should there be a need to speak to a priest for prayers and blessings.
6. The Counseling Team will also be readily available for those who need a listening ear to share their struggles and doubts.
7. Pilgrims and devotees are encouragingly invited to share, in all languages, their experiences and testimonies through the intercession of St. Anne in this website so that it may be a source of inspiration for others.

All these and many more details on the timing and program for the Feast of St. Anne 2020 is attainable through this website. Further information on the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, can be explored and discovered on the official website www.minorbasilicastannebm.com

I take this opportunity to thank all pilgrims and devotees of St. Anne, wherever they may be, with the variety of backgrounds, to witness to the world that the Minor Basilica of St. Anne is truly a Shrine of Harmony. May God bless you all and always.

**Issued by Rt. Rev. Dato' Sebastian Francis, D.D., DSPN
The Titular Roman Catholic Bishop of Penang**