



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 and  
The Redemptorist Community  
would like to thank all Parishioners & friends for their  
gifts, greetings and all who help decorate the  
church and the crib for this Christmas season.  
The Parish appreciates your service and contribution.*

*Wishing you all God's Blessing on this  
Christmas Day.  
Merry Christmas.*



#### 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.

#### CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

O.M.P.H. Church:-

**Thurs. 24/12/15** (Christmas Midnight)

\* 7.30 pm - Carols (T)

8.00 pm – Christmas Midnight Mass (T)

\* 10.30 pm – Carols (E)

11.00 pm – Christmas Midnight Mass (E)

**Fri. 25/12/2015** (Christmas Day)

\* 8.30am – Carols (E)

9.00 am – Christmas Day Mass (E)

\* 11.00 am – Christmas Day Mass (C)

**St.Mary's Chapel, Tersusun**

\* 7.30 am – Carols (T)

8.00 am – Christmas Day Mass (T)

**Rangers Camp, Tambun**

\* 8.00 am – Christmas Day Mass (BM)

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

Mater de Perpetuo Succursu, or as we used to call her, Mother of Perpetual Succour, comes from the Latin words 'currere' – to run- and 'sub' meaning 'under': she is as a mother who runs to catch her falling child. She is always at hand to help us,- being as she is the greatest disciple, and mother of her Son, mother of the whole 'body of Christ', his people. She cares for the whole body of Christ, all God's people, as she cared for Jesus. 'Mother, behold your son', said Jesus from the cross to her, as she stood beside the beloved disciple,- and he represents all of us. She is watching out for us at all times.

Where did the icon come from? It is generally agreed that the icon was 'written' in Crete, in the Mediterranean. Sometime in the 1400 s, it was stolen from there by a merchant who brought it on his ship to Rome. A violent storm arose, and they prayed to Mary, and all were saved through her intercession. Shortly before his death, the merchant gave the icon to a friend to be put in some church in Rome. The friend never did so, until near the end of his own life, when his daughter had a dream in which the Virgin expressed the desire that the icon be placed in a church between St. Mary Major's basilica and that of St. John Lateran. Eventually the icon was given to the church of St. Matthew, then in the care of the Irish Augustinians in Rome,- as this church was between the two basilicas, above. This was about the year 1500. The picture was venerated there for three hundred years, but when Napoleon attacked Rome in the early 1800 s, the icon was put into hiding in a chapel in St. Mary's at Posterula. There it remained for over sixty years. Meantime, St. Matthew's had been destroyed. A new church, San Alfonso was built by the Redemptorists on the former site of St. Matthew's, and opened for worship in 1859. A Redemptorist, Michael Marchi, remembered as an old man that he had seen the famous icon of the Mater de Perpetuo Succursu when he was an altar server in the St. Mary's at Posterula. The icon was recovered, it was in bad repair, but was restored by a Polish artist, Leopold Nowotny. In 1866, after it was restored, and remembering the story of where Our Lady wished the picture to be placed, Pope Pius IX entrusted it into the care of the Redemptorists, and since April 26 of 1866, it has been venerated in the church of San Alfonso, on the Via Merulana, -between St. Mary Major's and St. John Lateran's. Within a year, the first copy of the icon arrived in Mt. St. Alphonsus' Church in Limerick. In Esker, the Dominicans had a stained glass window made of the Mother of Perpetual Help, and it was in the Esker Church during their time. Later, when the Redemptorists came to Esker, and the church had to be extended, the icon window was removed, and it can now be seen on the stairway in the Retreat House.

So, this coming year, from the Feast of the Mother of Perpetual Help, June 27, until her feast day next June, Redemptorist celebrate the gift we have been given, of this Icon of Mary, our Mother.

**MARRIAGE:**

Please contact the Parish Priest at least **SIX MONTHS** in advance.

**WEDDING BANNIS:** (3<sup>rd</sup> Publication)

\* *Christopher Martin & Annusha Lee*

**BAPTISM:**

Please contact the Parish Priest at least **ONE MONTH** in advance.

**PARISH ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS:**

(December, 2015/January, 2016)

- \* 20/12/2015 - 10.00 am - PHDC Distribution of food rations  
- PHDC Christmas buffet lunch treat for F.I.NS (Wallace hse)  
- 8.00 pm - St. Augustine choir practice (church)
- \* 29/12/2015 - 6.30 pm - St. Peregrine Support Group AGM (St. Mark's Rm.)
- \* 3/1/2016 - Retreat (E)(11 am)/ (C)( 1.30pm) (Haven resort)
- 12.00 noon- Retreat (T) (St.Mark's Rm.)  
- 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)
- \* 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)
- \* 17/1/2016 - 3.00 pm - RCIA (E) (St.Mark's Rm.)  
- Eucharistic Ministers (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)

**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 at the OMPH parish office. Contribution by cheque payable to the **“Penang Office Human Development”** with an indication at the back of the cheque, for *“Disaster Relief Aid”*.

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

**OMPH PARISH MINISTRIES RETREAT**

The Parish is organizing a 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 & Tea will be provided.*

For the Tamil-speaking they will have their Retreat at the Pastoral Centre, St.Mark’s Room from 12.00 noon to 4.00pm. Lunch will be provided.  
Fellowship dinner will be in the OMPH parish hall @ 7 pm.

**YEAR END PRAYER SERVICE & THANKSGIVING MASS -**

- \* Thurs. 31/12/2015 – 10.15 pm Praise & Worship followed by Mass at 11 pm
- SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**
- \* Fri. 1/1/2016 – Mass at 8 am (E)  
- Mass at 10 am (T)

**CAROLLING**

CAROLLERS OF O.M.P.H. will be visiting homes to bring Christmas joy and glad tidings to one and all starting on

**Sun. 20, Mon. 21, Tues. 22 December, 2015.** *To welcome the spirit of Christmas*, please fill the request form at the parish office or contact – Christopher (017 5785 223)

**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.

**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.

**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.**

