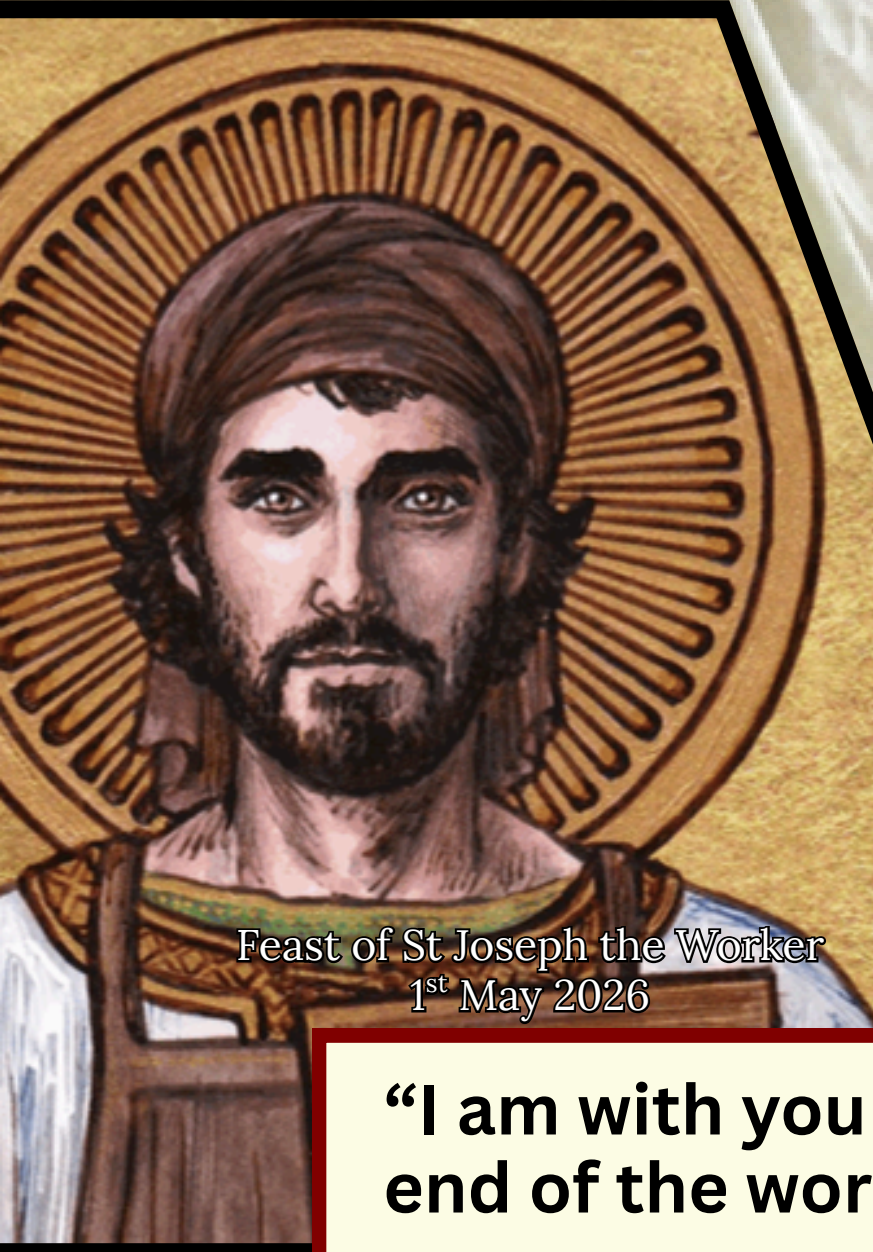


61st NOTIFICATION IN THE DIOCESE OF PENANG May 2026



Feast of St Joseph the Worker
1st May 2026

**“I am with you always, until the
end of the world.”**
Matthew 28:20

**PENINSULAR MALAYSIA PASTORAL THEME –
Family – Accompanying one another, sharing moments,
offering comfort and praying together. (FD#64)**

UPDATES & HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE



1. DIOCESAN CELEBRATION OF PESTA KAAMATAN, GAWAI & KESYUKURAN 2026

Wishing a joyous celebration of praise and thanksgiving to all celebrating the harvest festival of Pesta Kaamatan (Sabah) and Hari Gawai (Sarawak). The diocesan celebration will take place on 2nd May 2026 at the Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam. All are invited to join in this celebration. May God's abundant blessings flourish and be fruitful in and through the labour of your hands. [CLICK HERE](#)

2. SISTERS OF THE INFANT JESUS COMMUNITY

Sr. Francisca Chong has been recently transferred to the community house in Bukit Mertajam after being in Johor Bahru for the past 13 years. Together in this community are Sr. Elizabeth Wong who is the animator of this community while co-ordinating the life of all the Sisters in Penang including communities in Light Street Penang, Waterfall; Sr. Maureen Chew who stays in Tingkat Besi, Penang; Sr. Lily Bong who gives spiritual direction to some individuals and conducts retreats and Sr. Lucy Cheng who sees to the community services. Let us continue to pray for their mission.

3. 2026 FATHER JOSEF'S METHOD OF REFLEXOLOGY (FJM) ~ FJM FOOT REFLEXOLOGY BASIC COURSE ~

This course is from 14-17 May 2026, open to all who are interested. (14-16 May @ 9.00am-4.00pm; 17 May @ 10.00am-5.00pm) at the Persatuan Kebajikan Haemodialisis, St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam. Taiwan instructors, Sophie and Teacher Chi-Wang Hu will be conducting the sessions. The fee is RM1,200 which includes course materials, one reflexology stick and meals (lunch). Registration deadline is 3rd May 2026. For more information: [CLICK HERE](#)

UPDATES & HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE



4. FEAST OF ST. ANNE & ST. JOACHIM 2026

The Novena and Feast of St. Anne & St. Joachim this year will begin from 17th July 2026 and culminate on 26th July 2026. Let us pray for all pilgrims, volunteers, celebrants and confessors as we experience a meaningful and grace-filled celebration through the intercession of St. Anne and St. Joachim. The program for the Feast is available here: [CLICK HERE](#)

5. "AD LIMINA" VISIT 2026, VATICAN CITY, ROME

I wish to share with you that I will be away from 16th May 2026 to 27th May 2026 for the Ad Limina Visit which is the Bishops' Visit to the Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, the tombs of the Apostles Peter & Paul and the offices of the Holy See, together with the members of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei (CBCMSB). Please keep us in your prayers.

The visit "ad limina Apostolorum" by all the Bishops who, in communion with the Apostolic See, has a very definitive purpose: that is, the strengthening of their own responsibility as successors of the Apostles and of their hierarchical communion with the Successor of Peter. The point of reference is a visit to the tombs of St. Peter & Paul, pastors and pillars of the Roman Church. The "ad limina" visit is an important moment in the exercise of the Holy Father's pastoral ministry; whereby the Holy Father receives the Bishops of the various arch/dioceses and discusses with them questions concerning their ecclesial mission.

UPDATES & HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE



6. SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

As we celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost, we are reminded of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles—an event that transformed fear into courage, uncertainty into faith, and division into unity. The same Spirit continues to move among us today, renewing the Church and guiding us in truth and love. Pentecost invites each of us to open our hearts anew to the presence of the Holy Spirit. In a world often marked by confusion and hardship, the Spirit strengthens us with wisdom, kindles in us the fire of hope, and calls us to be witnesses of Christ in our daily lives. Let us pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our families, our communities, and our world. May we be instruments of peace, bearers of compassion, and faithful servants of the Gospel. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord—abide in you always.

I will be celebrating the Solemnity of Pentecost at my parish in Rome, the titular church, Parrocchia Santa Maria Causa Nostrae Laetitiae (Parish of Mary Cause of Our Joy) on 24 May 2026 and will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation at this Mass. We will remain united in prayer and faith, as we recall with gratitude, the birthday of the Church.

UPDATES & HAPPENINGS OF THE DIOCESE



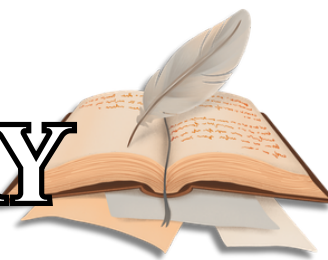
7. MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

This liturgical celebration which is celebrated annually on the Monday after Pentecost will be celebrated on 25th May 2026 this year. Sharing the official texts for this memorial. [CLICK HERE](#)

8. FEAST OF THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

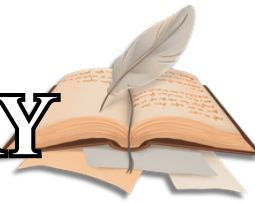
On this day, let us celebrate a moment of prayer, the liturgical memorial of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the end of the Marian month, as we entrust to Mary our prayers for unity, reconciliation, hope and peace in the world, and in the hearts of every person.

BISHOP'S DIARY



DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
2 nd May	2.00pm	Diocesan Celebration of Pesta Gawai & Kaamatan, Minor Basilica of St. Anne, Bukit Mertajam
5 th May	10.30am	Meeting with Friar Derrick Yap, OFM, Custos (Regional Superior) of the Franciscan Custody of St. Anthony (Malaysia-Singapore-Brunei), Bishop's Office
5 th May	12.00pm	Easter Celebration Mass & Pot-bless Lunch Pusat Keuskupan Katolik
11 th May	4.00pm	Meeting with Bro. Ashley Stephen Chau, Seminarian Theology Year 5, Bishop's Office
12 th May	10.00am	Council of Priests (COP), Stella Maris, Penang
12 th - 13 th May	-	Clergy Monthly Recollection (CMR), Stella Maris, Penang

BISHOP'S DIARY



DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
13 th May	4.00pm	<p>Signing of Agreement between the Titular Roman Catholic Bishop of Penang and the Father Josef Eugster Holistic Development Association, Taiwan (R.O.C.) for the establishment of FJM Southeast Asia Wellness Centre in the Diocese of Penang.</p>
16 th May - 27 th May	-	<p>Ad Limina Apostolorum, Rome Mandatory pilgrimage the Catholic diocesan bishops make every five years:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to venerate the tombs of the Holy Apostles, Peter and Paul. • to meet with the Successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome - our Holy Father. • and to report on the status of their arch/dioceses.
24 th May	-	<p>Pentecost & Confirmation Mass, Parrocchia Santa Maria Causa Nostrae Laetitiae, Roma</p>
2 nd June	10.00am	<p>Meeting with Bro. Patrick Hilary Sandnasamy, Seminarian Theology Year 5, Bishop's Office</p>

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR



May



THAT EVERYONE MIGHT HAVE FOOD

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

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