

**PENANG
DIOCESAN
YOUTH 3
DAY 3**



**“Blessed Are The Pure In Heart,
For They Will See God”**

Mt 5:8

DATE : 19TH - 22ND SEPTEMBER 2015

VENUE : PERAK DEANERY

RESOURCE KIT

JOURNEY OF THE CROSS & ICON

OCT 2014 - JAN 2015 : NORTHERN DEANERY

FEB - APRIL 2015 : PENANG DEANERY

MAY - JULY 2015 : PERAK DEANERY



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Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3)

"Blessed Are The Pure In Heart, For They Will See God" - Mt 5:8



My Dear Young People,

***Congratulations! Today is your day for the
Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3.***

I am happy to note in your goal and objectives of this gathering, that you give importance to reaching out to others at Diocesan level. As you are called to be witnesses on this Mission Sunday, you are sent to go and share the *Joy of the Gospel* to all.

You are the first to be sent by me and to receive the mission crosses from me and this gives me great joy.

Together with Pope Francis, I have confidence in you, that all of you will be in the forefront of mission. Please have the courage and generosity to respond to the call of God, to live and to share the Joy of the Gospel wherever you are.

I am also aware of the challenges that will surface in this mission but be assured that the Holy Spirit will guide you. So, do not be afraid!

GO, LIVE AND SHARE!

With my blessings,

Sebastian Francis

Rt. Rev. Sebastian Francis
Bishop of Penang

*"To accomplish great things we must not only act, but also dream; not
only plan, but also believe." -Anatole France*



THE HEAD OF PENANG DIOCESAN YOUTH NETWORK'S ADDRESS

My dear young friends,

Two thousand years ago, twelve Apostles gave their lives to make Christ known and loved. Throughout the centuries since then, the Gospel has continued to spread by means of men and women inspired by that same missionary fervour. Today too there is a need for DISCIPLES of Christ who give unstintingly of their time and energy to serve the Gospel. There is a need for young people who will allow God's love to burn within them and who will respond generously to his urgent call, just as many young martyrs and saints did in the past and also in more recent times. In particular, I assure you that the Spirit of Jesus is inviting you today my dear young people to be bearers of the good news of Jesus to your friends in Church, BEC's, school and various other places.



I would like to offer some reflections based on the scripture text taken from 1Timothy 4:12, which is actually addressed to young people. The Apostle Paul was writing to young Timothy. And he wrote, 'Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in SPEECH, in LIFE, in LOVE, in FAITH and in PURITY.'

Timothy was being criticized for being too young to be in leadership. Now the context of these words, the reason the Apostle Paul wrote these lines to Timothy, was that Timothy was being criticized for his leadership. There wasn't anything wrong with Timothy's leadership per se, with the things the young man was doing as a leader. Rather, Timothy was being criticized for being too young to be a leader, too young to hold the level of responsibility that a leader in the church finds himself or herself in. Now that wasn't the only root of the problem. Timothy's teachings were at odds with his critics'. But here, Timothy was taking flak for being too young to have the kinds of responsibilities he held in life.

So, what was Timothy supposed to do about that? How was he supposed to handle this criticism? Well, we learn to handle criticism in different ways. Sometimes we leave. Sometimes we go quiet. Sometimes we lash back in anger. But the Apostle Paul's advice to Timothy as to how he should handle criticism was, 'Don't give those peoples any grounds for criticism'. How?



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‘Set an example!’ Paul told him, ‘Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers!’ But example in what?

Well, Paul here cites five areas where this young man, or any of us for that matter, might set an example with our lives. He lists: SPEECH, CONDUCT, LOVE, FAITH AND PURITY. Two of them, speech and behavior, refer to our public life, what other people would see about us. And three of them, love, faith, and purity, they are more inner qualities. They have to do with our inner selves, the life of our spirit, our hearts. They are inner qualities. But our inner qualities, they have a way of coming out, manifesting themselves, in our public lives. People see them in our daily walk. So our spirits offer up examples. But Paul cites these five areas where young Timothy might set an example to those around him: ‘speech, behavior, love, faith and purity.’

My dear friends, we say we’re Christians. So, ‘SET AN EXAMPLE IN YOUR BEHAVIOR!’ The Christ in you is the only Christ a lot of people in this world are ever going to see! Set an example in your behavior! People are watching: The way we treat others, how we react when we are wronged, the way we spend our time. Set an example in your behavior! Be gentle and godly.

Let me tell you a story of how someone can recognize the Jesus in YOU.

A group of salesmen attended a convention in Penang. They were rushing to catch their plane back home. And in their rush, one of the salesmen inadvertently kicked over a table that held a display of apples that this young woman was selling. Apples flew everywhere. But they were late. So without stopping or looking back, they all kept running and just managed to reach their plane in time for boarding. All but one! He felt guilty. He paused, took a deep breath, got in touch with his inner guilt, and told his buddies to go on without him. He would catch the next flight. He returned to where the apples were all over the floor. And looking, he saw that the young woman selling the apples was blind! She was crying in frustration as she groped around on the floor for her produce. In the busy terminal the crowd was swirling about her. And no one had stopped to help her. The salesman said nothing as he knelt on the floor with her and helped her gather up the apples. He helped put them back on her display. As he did so, he noticed that several of them had become bruised. “Are you okay?” he asked. She nodded through the tears. And he pulled out his wallet and said, “Here, I’ll buy all these bruised ones”. As the salesman started to walk away to catch the next flight, the bewildered blind girl, she called out to him, “Mister...” He looked back. “ARE YOU JESUS?” As he walked away to catch the next flight home that question kept bouncing about in his mind, “Are you Jesus?”

BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, THEY WILL SEE GOD.” (Mt 5:8).

My dear friends, the Christ in you is the only Christ a lot of people in this world will ever see! ‘Set an example with your love.’

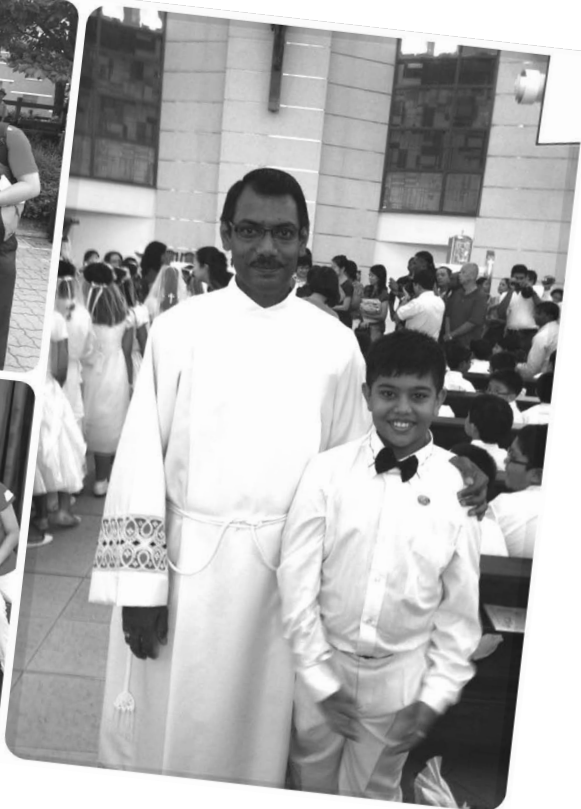
Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3)

“Blessed Are The Pure In Heart, For They Will See God” - Mt 5:8



Let Jesus' love shine in your mind, hearts and lives. Be a Jesus to the world by your life. As young people, you have been CALLED, CHOSEN and now SENT on a mission to be evangelizers. You are young and you may not yet be allowed to leave your homes and families but there are a hundred and one ways to evangelize. Just look at the lives of our saints and our modern missionaries. Know that they carried Jesus in their lives through their, SPEECH, CONDUCT, LOVE, FAITH AND PURITY.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, watch over and protect us. May St John Paul II, patron of all youths, intercede for all of us. I am together with you in prayer, and I bless each one of you with all my heart.



Rev.Fr.Martin Arlando
Head of PDYN



Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3)

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CHRONICLE OF WORLD YOUTH DAYS

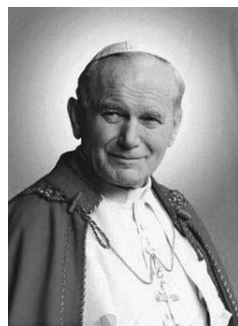
- 1984 Rome. St Peter's Square, Palm Sunday (15 April 1984)
International youth meeting on the occasion of the Holy Year of the Redemption.
The Pope presents and entrusts young people with the Cross (22 April 1984)
- 1985 Rome. St Peter's Square - Palm Sunday (31 March 1985)
International youth meeting on the occasion of International Youth Year.
The Holy Father addresses an Apostolic Letter to the youth of the world (31 March 1985)
He announces the institution of World Youth Day (20 December 1985)
- 1986 1st World Youth Day
Theme: "Always be prepared to make a defence to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you" (1Pt 3:15)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (23 March 1986)
- 1987 2nd World Youth Day
Theme: "We ourselves have known and put our faith in God's love towards ourselves" (1Jn 4:16)
Celebration (international level) - Buenos Aires, Argentina (11-12 April 1987)
- 1988 3rd World Youth Day
Theme: "Do whatever he tells you" (Jn 2:5)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (27 March 1988)
- 1989 4th World Youth Day
Theme: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" (Jn 14:6)
Celebration (international level) - Santiago de Compostela, Spain (15-20 August 1989)
- 1990 5th World Youth Day
Theme: "I am the vine, you are the branches" (Jn 15:5)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (8 April 1990)
- 1991 6th World Youth Day
Theme: "You have received a spirit of sonship" (Rom 8:15)
Celebration (international level) - Czestochowa, Poland (10-15 August 1991)
- 1992 7th World Youth Day
Theme: "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel" (Mk 16:15)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (12 April 1992)

Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3)

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- 1993 8th World Youth Day
Theme: “I came that they might have life, and have it to the full” (Jn 10:10)
Celebration (international level) - Denver, USA (10-15 August 1993)
- 1994-1995 Theme: “As the Father sent me, so am I sending you” (Jn 20: 21)
9th World Youth Day
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (27 March 1994)
- 10th World Youth Day
Celebration (international level) - Manila, Philippines
(10-15 January 1995)
- 1996 11th World Youth Day
Theme: “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life” (Jn 6:68). Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (31 March 1996)
- 1997 12th World Youth Day
Theme: “Teacher, where are you staying? Come and see” (cf. Jn 1:38-39) Celebration (international level) - Paris, France (19-24 August 1997)
- 1998 13th World Youth Day
Theme: “The Holy Spirit will teach you all things” (cf Jn 14:26)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (5 April 1998)
- 1999 14th World Youth Day
Theme: “The Father loves you” (cf. Jn 16:27)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (28 March 1999)
- 2000 15th World Youth Day - Youth Jubilee
Theme: “The Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (Jn 1:14)
Celebration (international level) - Rome, Italy (15-20 August 2000)
- 2001 16th World Youth Day
Theme: ““If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me” (Lk 9:23)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (8 April 2001)
- 2002 17th World Youth Day
Theme: “You are the salt of the earth ... you are the light of the world” (Mt 5: 13,14)
Celebration (international level) - Toronto, Canada (23-28 July 2002)





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- 2003 18th World Youth Day
Theme: "Behold, your mother!" (Jn 19,27)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (13 April 2003)
- 2004 19th World Youth Day
Theme: "We wish to see Jesus" (Jn 12,21)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (4 April 2004)
- 2005 20th World Youth Day
Theme: "We have come to worship Him" (Mt 2,2)
International celebration - Cologne, Germany (August 16-21)
- 2006 21st World Youth Day
Theme: "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps 119, 105)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (9 April 2006)
- 2007 22nd World Youth Day
Theme: "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (Jn 13, 34)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (8 April 2007)
- 2008 23rd World Youth Day
Theme: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses" (Acts 1, 8)
International celebration - Sydney, Australia (15-20 July 2008)
- 2009 24th World Youth Day
Theme: "We have set our hope on the living God" (1 Tm 4:10)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (5 April 2009)
- 2010 25th World Youth Day
Theme: "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Mk 10:17)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (28 March 2010)
- 2011 26th World Youth Day
Theme: "Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith" (cf Col 2:7)
International celebration - Madrid, Spain (16-21 August 2011)
- 2012 27th World Youth Day
Theme: "Rejoice in the Lord always!" (cf. Phil 4:4)
Celebration (diocesan level) - Palm Sunday (1^o April 2012)
- 2013 28th World Youth Day
Theme: "Go and make disciples of all nations!" (cf. Mt 28:19)
International celebration - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (22-29 July 2013)

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- 2014 29th World Youth Day
Theme: “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Mt 5:3).
Celebration (diocesan level)
- 2015 30th World Youth Day
Theme: “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God” (Mt 5:8).
Celebration (diocesan level)
- 2016 31st World Youth Day
Theme: “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy” (Mt 5:7).



THE JOURNEY OF ASIAN YOUTH DAY

- 1997 Youth in the Socio-Economic Development of Asia: A Challenge to Integrate Faith in Youth Life and Work
BILA on Youth, Tagaytay Manila
“We are the Church” Asian Youth Gathering
World Youth Day, France
- 1999 Asian Youth Journeying with Jesus Towards the Third Millennium
Asian Youth Day 1
Asian Youth Ministers’ Meeting 1
Hua Hin, Thailand
- 2001 We are called to Sanctity and Solidarity
Asian Youth Day 2
Asian Youth Ministers’ Meeting 2
Taipei, Taiwan
- 2003 Asian Youth for Peace
Asian Youth Day 3
Asian Youth Ministers’ Meeting 3
Bangalore, India
- 2006 Youth, Hope of Asian Families
Asian Youth Day 4
Asian Youth Ministers’ Meeting 4
Hong Kong
- 2009 YAsia Fiesta:
Young Asians Come Together Share the Word,
Live the Eucharist
Asian Youth Day 5
Asian Youth Ministers’ Meeting 5
Imus, Philippines
- 2014 Asian Youth, Wake Up!
The Glory of the Martyrs Shines on You!
Asian Youth Day 6
Asian Youth Ministers’ Meeting 6
Daejeon, South Korea
- 2017 Asian Youth Day 7
Indonesia





MESSAGE OF POPE FRANCIS TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Dear Young People,

1. Listen within: Christ is knocking at the door of your heart.
2. Christ asks you to be wide awake and alert, to see the things in life that really matter.
3. Do not be mediocre; the Christian life challenges us with great ideals.
4. Do not give up your dreams of a more just world!
5. Don't be afraid to marry. A faithful and fruitful marriage will bring you happiness.
6. Jesus gives us life, life in abundance. If we are close to him we will have joy in our hearts and a smile on our face.
7. Let us not be satisfied with a mediocre life. Be amazed by what is true and beautiful, what is of God!
8. Jesus wants to be your friend, and wants you to spread the joy of this friendship everywhere.
9. Put your talents at the service of the Gospel, with creativity and boundless charity.
10. Always be missionaries of the Gospel, every day and in every place.
11. Do not be afraid of making decisive choices in life. Have faith; the Lord will not abandon you!
12. You have many plans and dreams for the future. But, is Christ at the center of each of your plans and dreams?
13. Pray with me for peace in the world
14. It is worth wagering one's life on Christ and on the Gospel, risking everything for great ideals!
15. Be true "athletes of Christ"! Play on his team!



16. Learn to pray every day: this is the way to know Jesus and invite him into your lives.
17. Christ has confidence in you and he entrusts his own mission to you: Go and make disciples!
18. The Church expects great things of you and your generosity. Don't be afraid to aim high.
19. Learn from Saint Joseph. He went through difficult times, but he always trusted, and he knew how to overcome adversity.
20. Do not bury your talents, the gifts that

God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!



Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3)

“Blessed Are The Pure In Heart, For They Will See God” - Mt 5:8

HISTORY OF PDYD 1

In 2008, our first ever PDYD (Penang Diocese Youth Day) was celebrated at the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes, Silibin with over 1000 youth present to join in the celebration. Taking the theme of the WYD, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses” (Acts 1:8).

The one day PDYD celebration saw youth coming together for:

- (i) a time of worship,
- (ii) a time of sharing on the theme,
- (iii) a special Lourdes experience in line with the parish Lourdes celebration and culminating with
- (iv) the Eucharistic celebration presided and celebrated by our very own Bishop Selva, Antony Selvanayagam.

HISTORY OF PDYD 2

Penang Diocesan Youth Day 2 (PDYD) was a continuation of the successful PDYD held in Our Lady of Lourdes Church (OLOL), Ipoh in 2008. The whole idea of PDYD is brainchild of Fr. Dominic Santhiyagu. When the youths in OLOL were planning for a district-level youth gathering, Fr. Dominic challenge them to turn it into a diocesan event. The youth took up the challenge, organizing the first PDYD which was a one-day event.

Early 2012, two committees were formed. Firstly, Main-Organising-Committee (MOC) acts as the brain of the whole planning process. The members were well represented from all 5 districts namely Island, Northern Region, North Perak, Central Perak and South Perak. The chairman of MOC was Mr. Martin Wong from The Church of Sacred Heart, Kulim.

Secondly, Local-Organising-Committee (LOC) acts as the muscle to execute plans envisioned by MOC. The members mainly volunteers from Island and Northern Region Districts. The chairman of LOC was Mr. Simon Joseph from The Church of Immaculate Conception, Pulau Tikus.

A 5-membered dismantable cross was made to represent the youths in 5 districts/states within the Diocese of Penang.

PDYD2 was officially launched by the then Bishop Antony Selvanayagam in Feb 2012 at The Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ipoh. He blessed the cross and icon during the launching. PDYD 2 was celebrated in 3-stages. Firstly, parish-level celebration took place in all the parishes between March and September.

Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3)

“Blessed Are The Pure In Heart, For They Will See God” - Mt 5:8



The PDYD Cross and Icon travelled to all the parishes during the Parish and District-Level Celebration. They have travelled more than 1800KM in visiting all the parishes in Penang Diocese.

The climax of the celebration was the diocesan-level celebration. The youths gathered in parishes throughout Penang Island district according to their language groups. On the final day, all the participants took part in the pilgrimage walk to walk from Assumption Church, Georgetown to Jetty and took a ferry to Nativity of Blessed Virgin Mary parish, Butterworth. An over-night vigil was held in St. Anne's sanctuary, Bukit Mertajam. The host of PDYD3 was announced at the end of the Closing mass.



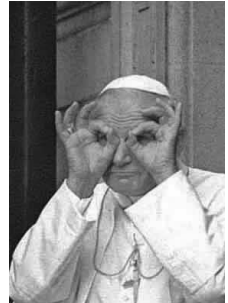
GET TO KNOW ST. JOHN PAUL II

His younger years

He was the third of three children born to Karol Wojtyła and Emilia Kaczorowska, who died in 1929. His elder brother Edmund, a physician, died in 1932, and his father, Karol, a non-commissioned officer in the army, died in 1941.

He was nine years old when he received his First Communion and eighteen when he received the Sacrament of Confirmation. After completing high school in Wadowice, he enrolled in the Jagellonian University of Krakow in 1938.

When the occupying Nazi forces closed the University in 1939, Karol worked (1940-1944) in a quarry and then in the Solvay chemical factory to earn a living and to avoid deportation to Germany.



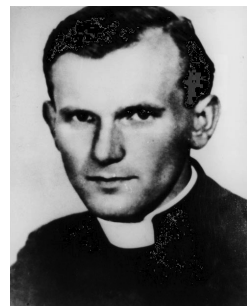
His vocation



Feeling called to the priesthood, he began his studies in 1942 in the clandestine major seminary of Krakow, directed by the Archbishop Adam Stefan Sapieha. During that time, he was one of the organizers of the “Rhapsodic Theatre”, which was also clandestine.

After the war, Karol continued his studies in the major seminary, newly reopened, and in the school of theology at the Jagellonian University, until his priestly ordination in Krakow on 1 November 1946. Father Wojtyła was then sent by Cardinal Sapieha to Rome, where he attained a doctorate in theology (1948). He wrote his dissertation on faith as understood in the works of Saint John of the Cross. While a student in Rome, he spent his vacations exercising pastoral ministry among Polish emigrants in France, Belgium and Holland.

On 4 July 1958, Pope Pius XII appointed Father Wojtyła auxiliary bishop of Krakow, with the titular see of Ombi. Archbishop Eugeniusz Baziak ordained him in Wawel Cathedral (Krakow) on 28 September 1958.



Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3)

“Blessed Are The Pure In Heart, For They Will See God” - Mt 5:8



On 13 January 1964, Pope Paul VI appointed Bishop Wojtyła as Archbishop of Krakow and subsequently, on 26 June 1967, created him a Cardinal.

Bishop Wojtyła took part in the Second Vatican Council (1962- 1965) and made a significant contribution to the drafting of the Constitution *Gaudium et Spes*. He also took part in the five assemblies of the Synod of Bishops prior to the start of his Pontificate.



On 16 October 1978, Cardinal Wojtyła was elected Pope and on 22 October he began his ministry as universal Pastor of the Church.



Pope John Paul II demonstrated his pastoral concern by erecting numerous dioceses and ecclesiastical circumscriptions, and by promulgating Codes of Canon Law for the Latin and the Oriental Churches, as well as the Catechism of the Catholic Church. He proclaimed the Year of Redemption, the Marian Year and the Year of the Eucharist as well as the Great Jubilee Year of 2000, in order to provide the People of God with particularly intense spiritual experiences.

He also attracted young people by beginning the celebration of World Youth Day. Since 1985 from its first convocation, the charismatic Pope has brought joy, and zeal, capturing the hearts of millions of young people all over the world who have gathered in many different venues where the WYD was held. Filled with youthful energy, PJP II would meet and listen to these young people who shared about the realities of the young in their respective countries. Nineteen World Youth Days have been organized during his Papacy.



Pope John Paul II died in the Apostolic Palace at 9:37 p.m. on Saturday, 2 April 2005, the vigil of unday in albis or Divine Mercy Sunday, which he had instituted. On 8 April, his solemn funeral was celebrated in Saint Peter's Square and he was buried in the crypt of Saint Peter's Basilica.

John Paul II was beatified in Saint Peter's Square on 1 May 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI. He was raised to the level of sainthood together with his predecessor, Blessed John XXIII on 27th April 2014 by Pope Francis. Saint Pope John Paul II is the Spiritual Patron of World Youth Day.

WORLD YOUTH DAY ICON AND CROSS

WYD CROSS

The World Youth Day cross has many names: the Jubilee Cross, the Pilgrim Cross, the Youth Cross. It was entrusted to the youth as they were given the commission to “carry it throughout the world as a symbol of Christ’s love for humanity, and announce to everyone that only in the death and resurrection of Christ can we find salvation and redemption. “The cross set out with the young people



from St. Peter’s in 1984 and has since been carried around the world, making a pilgrimage from parish to parish, diocese to diocese, and country to country.

WYD ICON

The cross does not journey alone, however. In our time it will always be accompanied by an icon of the Blessed Virgin Mary (as Christ Himself was accompanied by his mother in history.)

Pope John Paul II entrusted to the youth an icon of the Blessed Mother that would accompany the cross. “It will be a sign of Mary’s motherly presence close to young people who are called, like the Apostle John, to welcome her into their lives,” said the pontiff.



The cross and icon are carried together through the world touching hearts and inspiring holiness.

How would you feel once the Cross and the icon come to your parish?



PENANG DIOCESAN YOUTH DAY 3 (PDYD3)

Theme

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God” (Mt 5:8)

Goal

Young people, who are humbled and strengthened to be true witnesses of Jesus.

Objectives

1. Young people to accept, love, forgive and be good to themselves.
2. Young People who are strengthened through Jesus, with Jesus and in Jesus.
3. Young People who are committed to themselves to share the joy of the Gospel with their friends, families, BEC and neighbours.

PDYD 3 Parish Level Celebration – Half day Program held while the Cross and other PDYD Icons are in the Parish.

Objectives

1. Joyful gathering of young people and bringing back their laid back brethren.
2. Feeling, ONE with other young people in celebrating the Good News.
3. Young people work together to Make A Difference (MAD) in the community.

Proposed Program for Parish Level Celebration

- Prayer
- Introduction of PDYD 3 theme and icons.
- Energizer – Action oriented
- Session/Workshop – Planning and presentation of their proposed outreach activity
- Closing prayer & commitment
- Fellowship

PDYD 3 Deanery Level Celebration – A whole day Program held in each Deanery of Penang Diocese

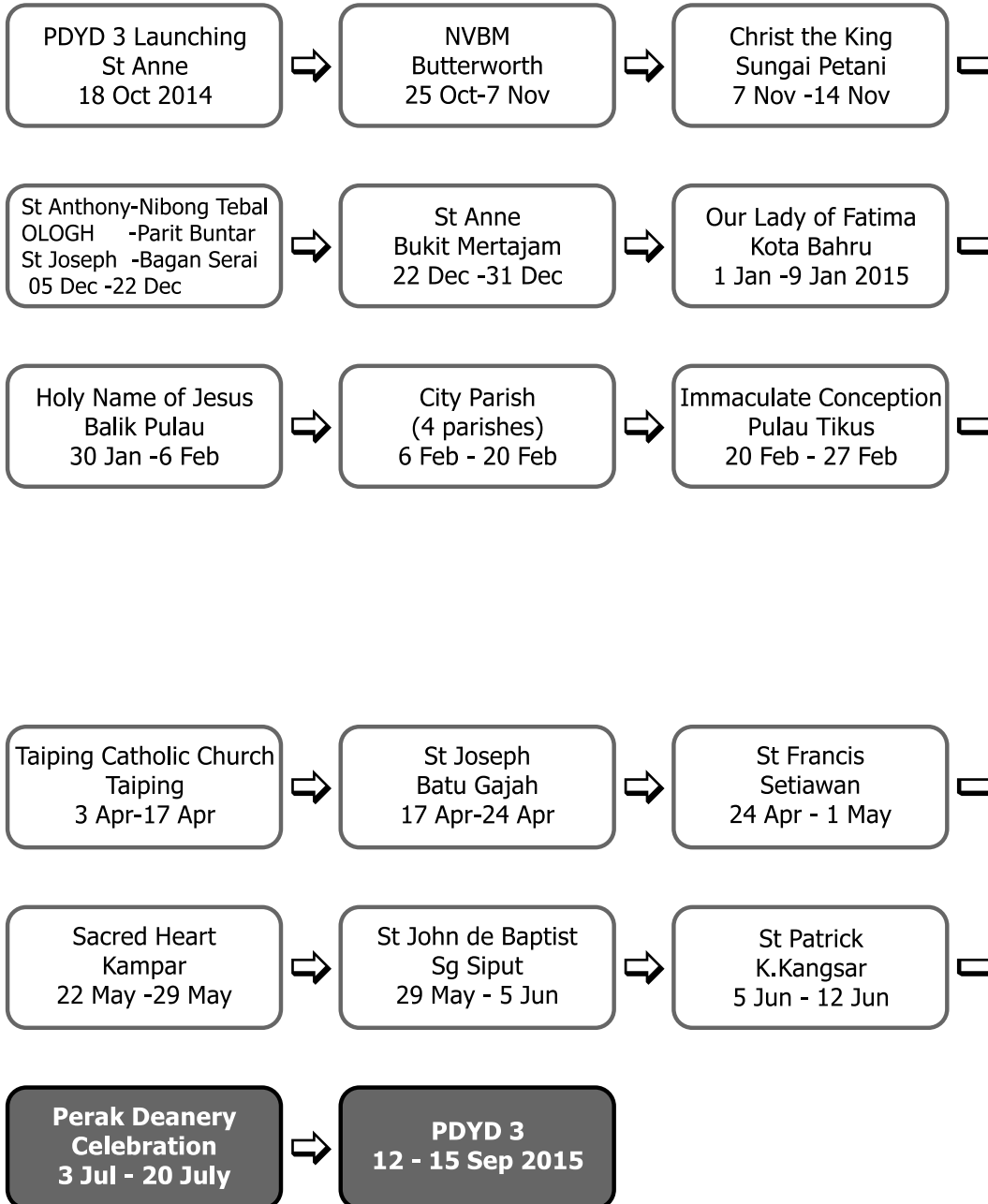
Objectives

1. Gather and have fellowship within the deanery to share their experiences of making a difference in their communities.
2. Celebrate to keep the flame of their desire of serving others joyfully.

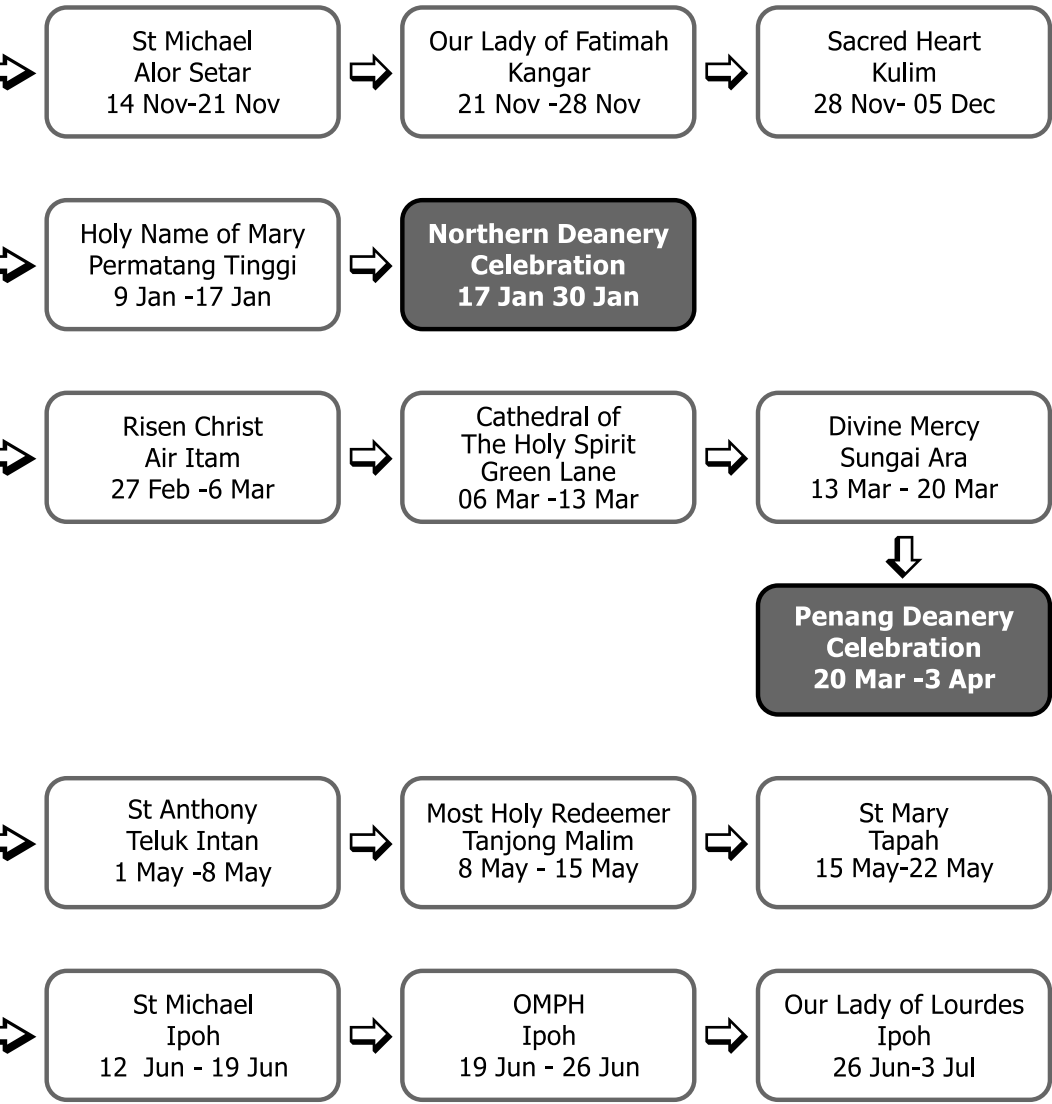
Proposed Program for Deanery Level Celebration

- Opening prayer/Mass
- Energizer – Action oriented
- Team building
- Session/Workshop – Sharing of experiences of their outreach project at parish level
- Fellowship

JOURNEY OF THE



CROSS AND ICON





BEATITUDES

The Beatitudes are the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-10). Jesus teaches us that if we live according to the Beatitudes, we will live a happy Christian life. The Beatitudes do not provide specific directions on how we should live our lives, as the Ten Commandments do. Rather, they inspire us to adopt a certain mindset or vision for our lives, namely, the vision of Jesus Christ. The Beatitudes challenge us to be people of virtue. Virtue is a firm attitude, mindset, or disposition to do good. For the virtuous person, doing good is a habit. Through the Beatitudes, Jesus calls us to change our vision and learn that in order to be happy (blessed), we must be peace-loving, merciful, clean of heart, and meek.

Matthew 5:1-12a

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went onto the mountain.
And when he was seated his disciples came to him.
Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:
“How blessed are the poor in spirit: the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
Blessed are the gentle: they shall have the earth as inheritance.
Blessed are those who mourn: they shall be comforted.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for uprightness:
They shall have their fill.
Blessed are the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.
Blessed are the pure in heart: they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be recognised as children of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of uprightness:
the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
Blessed are you when people abuse you and persecute you
and speak all kinds of calumny against you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.”

Living the Beatitudes is a lifelong task because the Beatitudes turn upside down the values of the world. The world sets up the rich to be first; Jesus puts the poor on top of the world. The world tells us to seek happiness at all costs; Jesus saw happiness in mourning. The world values power over others; Jesus praised the meek. The world encourages self-fulfillment; Jesus told us to work for justice. The world says that the merciless succeed; Jesus proclaimed blessed the merciful. The world announces, Go for the gold!; Jesus taught us to keep our hearts pure. The world honors the winners of wars; Jesus celebrated peacemakers. The world sees the persecuted as losers; Jesus declared them the winners.



So what are some ways that we can develop the Beatitudes in our own lives? First, we can rest assured that the Holy Spirit is already at work within us, drawing us toward God and inspiring our desire to be a Beatitudes-type of person. Second, like anything we hope to develop in ourselves, we must be open, learn, and study. Pay attention to the people you know who model a particular beatitude. Think of ways you can model their behavior in your own life. Finally, talk with God in prayer. Ask him to help you out and to teach you how to develop the Beatitudes in your mind, heart, and actions.

Dialogued Prayer on the Beatitudes

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Keep us from being preoccupied with money and worldly goods, and with trying to increase them at the expense of justice.

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.” Help us not to be ruthless with one another, and to eliminate the discord and violence that exists in the world around us.

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.” Let us not be impatient under our own burdens and unconcerned about the burdens of others.

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be filled.” Make us thirst for you, the fountain of all holiness, and actively spread your influence in our private lives and in society.

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.” Grant that we may be quick to forgive and slow to condemn.

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.” Free us from our senses and our evil desires, and fix our eyes on you.

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.” Aid us to make peace in our families, in our country, and in the world.

Lord Jesus, you said, “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of justice, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.” Make us willing to suffer for the sake of right rather than to practice injustice; and do not let us discriminate against our neighbors and oppress and persecute them.



‘BLESSED ARE THE PURE IN HEART, FOR THEY WILL SEE GOD’

(Matt. 5:8)

The obvious deduction from this beatitude is that the Saviour is concerned about the state of a person’s inner life. This is the common feature of the Beatitudes, which they focus on the condition of a person’s soul before God. Further, it is a description of a believer before he or she reaches heaven, although they shall have it to a greater degree in heaven.

Purity of heart is not the same as a sinless heart. Instead a disciple has a pure heart because it has been cleansed by the blood of Christ. Such a heart is marked by penitence and by sincerity. Such are the ones who will see God in this life.

The reward of seeing God does not refer to a visible experience because God is invisible. Even so, there are at least five ways in which the pure in heart can see God.

- (1) They see him in creation which displays his power, wisdom and goodness. His hand is seen in a flower as well as in the Milky Way.
- (2) They see him in his sovereign providence, whether in goodness or in adversity.
- (3) They see the Lord in his Word. The pure in heart don’t read the Bible in a detached manner, assessing it merely from an aesthetic position or a grammatical assessment. Instead they enter into its spirit because its Author, the Holy Spirit, is also in them. In particular the pure in heart enjoy reading about Jesus, the perfect One.
- (4) They see God in his people as he sanctifies them.
- (5) They see God in his ordinances: in preaching, they hear his voice; in the water of baptism, they see a picture of his gracious commitment to cleanse them from their sins; in the elements of the Lord’s Supper, they see the signs indicating that Christ is present to feed their souls on himself.

What are some results of seeing God in these ways?

- (1) They retain a sense of his greatness as they see him as the Creator, the Sovereign of history, the author of the Bible, the Sanctifier of his people, the Sender of Jesus and the Supplier of ordinances.



- (2) Seeing God should give spiritual sensitivity. What can prevent us seeing him? Usually it is our sins. Our sins are like the effects a mist has on a spectacular view. One minute we are enjoying the splendour of a spectacular sight when a mist descends and hides it from us. That is what our sins do with our vision of God.
- (3) Seeing God should give us satisfaction because it gives us a sense of his glory. Alongside satisfaction, seeing God should provide us with solace. There will be many disappointments and unanswered questions in life. Job knew this more than most. What consoled him? It was the sight of God as Creator, Controller and Future Redeemer. It should be the same for us.

Further, seeing God should give us spiritual serenity, a sense of calm that comes on the souls of those who spend time with God. Serenity is not indifference; rather it is confidence that comes from seeing God out of a pure heart.



SUGGESTED PROGRAMS TO BE CARRIED OUT EITHER IN PARISH OR DEANERY LEVEL JOURNEY TOWARDS PDYD 3

A. Programs

The following programs may be to be conducted either in parish level or deanery level

A.1. Youth Serving Youth

Youth ministry is ministry with, for and by the young. Young people are not mere recipients but active disciples in evangelization work, especially towards their peers. This workshop aims to empower youth leaders towards a more effective and youth-friendly leadership of youth groups in parishes, youth movements and campuses. It hopes to create awareness among the participants in their call to become servant leaders and equip them with the skills necessary to be able to do it with impact and lasting results.

Modules will include:

- o Youth Generation: Changing Trends and Challenges
- o Youth Evangelization
- o Youth Animation Skills
- o Creating and building community
- o Youth Gospel Sharing Methods
- o Youth Group Management (planning, facilitating, organizing youth group life)
- o Youth Servant Leadership

A.2. Exploring Ecumenical Endeavors through the Word

This workshop aims to deepen our understanding on ecumenical dialogue especially in the vast region of Asia. With only 3% Christians, the Church in Asia calls us to let Christ be known and shared to the rest of the populace. This workshop aims to explore different approaches in ecumenical endeavors especially through the Word. It hopes to equip participants with skills in effectively proclaiming, sharing and studying the Word in ecumenical circles.

Modules and activities include:

- o Exposure to different institutes/centers that promote ecumenical dialogue through the Word of God / Scripture
- o Dialogue with Christian Churches through the Word of God
- o Introduction to Bible Translations
- o Biblical-Pastoral Programs for the Young
- o Biblical-Pastoral Projects for Young People



A.3. Communicating in Pastoral Ministry

This workshop aims to provide youth leaders in the church with communication skills that will respond to the challenges of the media landscape in Malaysia today. It will introduce the participants to the all-important theological basis of the Church's communication ministry. More than skills training, the workshop hopes to impart a holistic approach to communicating, shepherding, pastoring, and witnessing in today's context of ministry in Asia.

Modules will include:

- o Introduction to Pastoral Communication
- o Church and Journalism
- o Church and Broadcasting
- o Film Appreciation and Review Techniques
- o Church and New Media

A.4. Peace-building and Human Development Workshop

This workshop aims to provide youth leaders the skill of doing inter-religious dialogue, and the dynamics of peace-building in a multi-religious and multi-cultural context and inter-religious sensitivity. Participants will be introduced to the theological-biblical foundation of dialogue as an essential mission of the Universal Church, and the Churches of Malaysia in particular. Concretely, participants will be trained how to

- 1) behave/act in an interreligious meeting/gathering;
- 2) conduct peace-making in a multi-cultural and multi-religious context; and
- 3) how to promote harmony and dialogue through leadership and networking.

Modules and activities include:

- o Dialogue and proclamation: The Mission of the Church in Malaysia
- o Inter-religious Sensitivity
- o Peace-making and dialogue
- o Dialogue and Leadership
- o Dialogue and Networking

B. Exposure/Immersion

B.1. Prayer walk

For those who would love to stand in gap in prayer for Malaysia. As Joshua march around Jericho, to bring down the wall , prayer walk will bring down many wall of Jericho in our nation



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“Blessed Are The Pure In Heart, For They Will See God” - Mt 5:8

B.2. Community Immersion Experiences (Orang Asli)

For those who wish to have a direct encounter with this special community and discover best practices in this community, their culture, their realities and dreams, this might be for you!

B.3. Amazing Grace

An exposure to different youth ministry to experience out-reach through games. In each station, different exposure task will be required to carried out to move on to next station.

B.4. Soup Kitchen

Bring food to the street and to be distributed.

B.5. Chapel “Gotong-royong”

A common activity but can turn to be a monthly activity

B.6. Prayer Tree

To build a prayer tree for people to place the prayer request. And for anyone who loves to pray for others. A platform to be a prayer warrior.

B.6. Fountain of Life

To organize prison tour as part of awareness program.

B.6. Story of Jesus

To tell about Jesus to atleast 2 person that they meet in the street.



TO THE FACILITATORS: Instructions for the Small Group Sharing

- o When you get to your group, do not start sharing immediately. Create first the proper mood and an atmosphere of caring, trust, listening and reflection. You can do this by pausing for a minute or two of silent prayer, or a group prayer or by singing a prayerful song. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide the group in order that this simple human activity may become an instrument of God's life-giving action.
- o Do not impose any order on the sharing. Let each one share and when he or she feels ready to do so.
- o Do not make any homily. Do not give advice.
- o Remind the members of the group to
 - A) Talk only about themselves and avoid giving a homily or advice to the other participants.
 - B) Listen wholeheartedly when someone is sharing.
- o When everyone has finished sharing, celebrate your experience in any way you want: by praying or by singing.
- o When your group is through, go back to the session hall but do not disturb others who might still be in session.





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"Blessed Are The Pure In Heart, For They Will See God" - Mt 5:8

Questions for Reflection

FIRST DAY: Read Matthew 5:7.

1. Define pure.
2. What do you learn about your heart from the following passages? (Notice that some describe the heart ruled by the flesh, others show us the heart in which Christ reigns.)
Jeremiah 17:9-10
Ezekiel 36:26-27
Mark 7:20-23
3. Describe the "pure in heart"?
4. What does God promise the pure in heart?

SECOND DAY: Again look at Jesus your model and your life.

1. In these passages, how did He manifest purity of heart?
John 5:19, 30
John 10:30
Luke 4:1-8
Luke 5:16 and 6:12
2. How are you helped by His example? (Tell Him)

THIRD DAY: What do you learn about purity of heart in each of the following?

- 2 Cor. 11:2-3
- Col. 3:8-10, 12-17
- Heb. 10:19-23
- 1 Pet. 1:22

FOURTH DAY: David prayed, "Create in me a clean heart, O God..." When we seek purity of heart and are willing to co-operate with His process, he will accomplish it. (Phil. 1:6) In the following verses, what is God's part and what is your part in making you pure in heart?

- Josh. 24:15
- Matt. 26:41
- John 10:3-4
- Phil. 2:12-13

FIFTH DAY: Read Revelation 2:1-5. Purity of heart may be both instant and progressive. A new believer who chooses to let Jesus be Lord and King, may have greater purity of heart than more "mature" believers who "have lost their first love".

1. In vs. 1-3, God compliments the Ephesians with an impressive list of "good works". What were they doing for His name's sake? (Are you willing to do as much for Him?)
2. How is "first love" renewed and restored? (What steps can you take to fan the flame of love in your own heart? For example, see Luke 10:38-42 and Col. 3:16)
3. How does this passage help you understand what it means to be pure in heart?



SIXTH DAY: Read 1 John 3:1-3. The pure in heart shall see God. Those who put Him first, listen to Him and follow Him are seeing Him ever more clearly. Looking to Him, the impurities fade and you are being transformed into the likeness of Jesus. (2 Car. 3:18) Yet, only when we are freed from time, space and the bandages of this life will we see and know Him fully, “face to face”, in all His beauty and glory. (1 Car. 13:12)

1. Knowing who you are in Christ is basic to faith and joy in the relationship you share with Him. Who does John know he is? (Notice how he repeats this fact. Do you see his excitement?)
2. What will happen to you when He appears?
3. Something takes place inside you when you look forward to that day when you will see Him face to face. What is it?
4. Which statements in Ps. 27:4-9 express “first love”?
5. Write your response to these truths. Tell Him your hopes and desires, how He has encouraged you, how much you love Him... Share your heart with Him.





THE SMELL OF RAIN

A cold March wind danced around the dead of night in Dallas as the Doctor walked into the small hospital room of Diana Blessing. Still groggy from surgery, her husband David held her hand as they braced themselves for the latest news. That afternoon of March 10, 1991, complications had forced Diana, only 24 weeks pregnant, to Danae Lu Blessing.

At 12 inches long and weighing only one pound and nine ounces, they already knew she was perilously premature. Still, the doctor's soft words dropped like bombs. I don't think she's going to make it, he said, as kindly as he could. "There's only a 10 percent chance she will live through the night, and even then, if by some slim chance she does make it, her future could be a very cruel one." Numb with disbelief, David and Diana listened as the doctor described the devastating problems Danae would likely face if she survived. She would never walk, she would never talk, she would probably be blind, and she would certainly be prone to other catastrophic conditions from cerebral palsy to complete mental retardation, and on and on. "No! No!" was all Diana could say. She and David, with their 5-year-old son Dustin, had long dreamed of the day they would have a daughter to become a family of four. Now, within a matter of hours, that dream was slipping away.

Through the dark hours of morning as Danae held onto life by the thinnest thread, Diana slipped in and out of sleep, growing more and more determined that their tiny daughter would live, and live to be a healthy, happy young girl. But David, fully awake and listening to additional dire details of their daughter's chances of ever leaving the hospital alive, much less healthy, knew he must confront his wife with the inevitable. David walked in and said that we needed to talk about making funeral arrangements. Diana remembers, 'I felt so bad for him because he was doing everything, trying to include me in what was going on, but I just wouldn't listen, I couldn't listen. I said, "No, that is not going to happen, no way! I don't care what the doctors say; Danae is not going to die! One day she will be just fine, and she will be coming home with us!"'

As if willed to live by Diana's determination, Danae clung to life hour after hour, with the help of every medical machine and marvel her miniature body could endure. But as those first days passed, a new agony set in for David and Diana. Because Danae's under-developed nervous system was essentially raw, the lightest kiss or caress only intensified her discomfort, so they couldn't even cradle their tiny baby girl against their chests to offer the strength of their love. All they could do, as Danae struggled alone beneath the ultraviolet light in the tangle of tubes and wires, was to pray that God would stay close to their precious little girl. There was never a moment when Danae suddenly grew stronger.



But as the weeks went by, she did slowly gain an ounce of weight here and an ounce of strength there. At last, when Danae turned two months old, her parents were able to hold her in their arms for the very first time. And two months later-though doctors continued to gently but grimly warn that her chances of surviving, much less living any kind of normal life, were next to zero. Danae went home from the hospital, just as her mother had predicted.

Today, five years later, Danae is a petite but feisty young girl with glittering gray eyes and an unquenchable zest for life. She shows no signs, what so ever, of any mental or physical impairment. Simply, she is everything a little girl can be and more-but that happy ending is far from the end of her story.

One blistering afternoon in the summer of 1996 near her home in Irving, Texas, Danae was sitting in her mother's lap in the bleachers of a local ballpark where her brother Dustin's baseball team was practicing. As always, Danae was chattering non-stop with her mother and several other adults sitting nearby when she suddenly fell silent. Hugging her arms across her chest, Danae asked, "Do you smell that?" Smelling the air and detecting the approach of a thunderstorm, Diana replied, "Yes, it smells like rain." Danae closed her eyes and again asked, "Do you smell that?" Once again, her mother replied, "Yes, I think we're about to get wet, it smells like rain. Still caught in the moment, Danae shook her head, patted her thin shoulders with her small hands and loudly announced, "No, it smells like Him. It smells like God when you lay your head on His chest." Tears blurred Diana's eyes as Danae then happily hopped down to play with the other children.

Before the rains came, her daughter's words confirmed what Diana and all the members of the extended Blessing family had known, at least in their hearts, all along. During those long days and nights of her first two months of her life, when her nerves were too sensitive for them to touch her, God was holding Danae on His chest and it is His loving scent that she remembers so well.

THE FERN AND THE BAMBOO

One day I decided to quit...I quit my job, my relationship, my spirituality... I wanted to quit my life. I went to the woods to have one last talk with God. "God", I said. "Can you give me one good reason not to quit?" His answer surprised me. "Look around", He said. "Do you see the fern and the bamboo?" "Yes", I replied. "When I planted the fern and the bamboo seeds, I took very good care of them. I gave them light. I gave them water. The fern quickly grew from the earth. Its brilliant green covered the floor. Yet nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo. In the second year the fern grew more vibrant and plentiful.



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And again, nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo. In year three there was still nothing from the bamboo seed. But I would not quit. The same in year four. Then in the fifth year, a tiny sprout emerged from the earth. Compared to the fern, it was seemingly small and insignificant. But just six months later, the bamboo rose to over 100 feet tall. It had spent the five years growing roots. Those roots made it strong and gave it what it needed to survive. I would not give any of my creations a challenge it could not handle. "Did you know, my child, that all this time you have been struggling, you have actually been growing roots?" I would not quit on the bamboo. I will never quit on you. "Don't compare yourself to others." He said. "The bamboo had a different purpose than the fern. Yet they both make the forest beautiful. Your time will come", God said to me. "You will rise high." "How high should I rise?" I asked. "How high will the bamboo rise?" He asked in return. "As high as it can?" I questioned. "Yes." He said, "Give me glory by rising as high as you can." I left the forest, realizing that God will never give up on me. And He will never give up on you. Never regret a day in your life. Good days give you happiness; bad days give you experiences; both are essential to life. Serenity isn't freedom from the storm, but peace within the storm.

LETTER FROM JESUS

Ruth went to her mail box and there was only one letter. She picked it up and looked at it before opening, but then she looked at the envelope again. There was no stamp, no postmark, only her name and address. She read the letter:

Dear Ruth,

I'm going to be in your neighborhood Saturday afternoon and I'd like to stop by for a visit.

Love Always,

Jesus

Her hands were shaking as she placed the letter on the table. "Why would the Lord want to visit me? I'm nobody special. I don't have anything to offer." With that thought, Ruth remembered her empty kitchen cabinets. "Oh my goodness, I really don't have anything to offer. I'll have to run down to the store and buy something for dinner." She reached for her purse and counted out its contents. Five dollars and forty cents. "Well, I can get some bread and cold cuts, at least." She threw on her coat and hurried out the door. A loaf of French bread, a half-pound of sliced turkey, and a carton of milk...leaving Ruth



with grand total of twelve cents to last her until Monday. Nonetheless, she felt good as she headed home, her meager offerings tucked under her arm. “Hey lady, can you help us, lady?” Ruth had been so absorbed in her dinner plans, she hadn’t even noticed two figures huddled in the alleyway. A man and a woman, both of them dressed in little more than rags. “Look lady, I ain’t got a job, ya know, and my wife and I have been living out here on the street, and, well, now it’s getting cold and we’re getting kinda hungry and, well, if you could help us, lady, we’d really appreciate it.” Ruth looked at them both. They were dirty, they smelled bad and, frankly, she was certain that they could get some kind of work if they really wanted to. “Sir, I’d like to help you, but I’m a poor woman myself. All I have is a few cold cuts and some bread, and I’m having an important guest for dinner tonight and I was planning on serving that to Him.” “Yeah, well, okay lady, I understand. Thanks anyway.” The man put his arm around the woman’s shoulders, turned and headed back into the alley. As she watched them leave, Ruth felt a familiar twinge in her heart. “Sir, wait!” The couple stopped and turned as she ran down the alley after them. “Look, why don’t you take this food. I’ll figure out something else to serve my guest.” She handed the man her grocery bag. “Thank you lady. Thank you very much!” “Yes, thank you!” It was the man’s wife, and Ruth could see now that she was shivering. “You know, I’ve got another coat at home. Here, why don’t you take this one.” Ruth unbuttoned her jacket and slipped it over the woman’s shoulders. Then

smiling, she turned and walked back to the car ... without her coat and with nothing to serve her guest. “Thank you lady! Thank you very much!” Ruth was chilled by the time she reached her front door, and worried too. The Lord was coming to visit and she didn’t have anything to offer Him. She fumbled through her purse for the door key. But as she did, she noticed another envelope in her mailbox. “That’s odd. The mailman doesn’t usually come twice in one day.” She took the envelope out of the box and opened it.

Dear Ruth:

It was so good to see you again. Thank you for the lovely meal. And thank you, too, for the beautiful coat. Love Always

Jesus

The air was still cold, but even without her coat, Ruth no longer noticed.

share
YOUR
STORY

GUIDE QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND GROUP SHARING

1. What in the materials given/ read caught your attention? What touched a chord in your heart?
2. In what ways do you see yourself reflected in the stories?
3. Do you feel moved to respond to the invitation to develop a life living the Beatitudes? How do you see yourself in it?





SUGGESTED GAMES & ICE BREAKERS

Fongo Bingo

Each person is given a piece of paper and a pen. Everybody is given about 5 minutes to go around the room and collect the names of 6 people in the room they don't know so well. They must find out 3 things about each person on their sheet (eg. Name, school, about family, pets, worst hair cut, etc.). When everybody has 6 people on their sheet they take their seats again and we play Bingo! The leader up the front will have a list of everybody in the room and their names (if you don't have a roll, you will need to collect everyone's names as they enter). To play bingo the leader up the front will read names of the sheet in a random order. People tick off the names on their sheet as they are read out. Whoever is the first to tick off all 6 of the names on their sheet and yell Bingo! wins. That person will receive a prize and should be asked to introduce all 6 people on their sheet and say what they found out about them.

Portraits

The group sits in a circle. Write everybody's name on a piece of paper and place the names in a hat or bowl. Give each person a piece of A4 paper and a pen or pencil. Each person draws a name from the hat or bowl – they are not to tell anyone whose name. When everyone has a name, they draw the face of that person without anyone knowing who they are drawing. When every one has finished drawing, the activity leader collects the portraits and shows them to the group one at a time while the group tries to guess who the subject of the portrait is and who drew it.

Jigsaw Puzzle

Write the memory verse on cardboard and then cut it up to form a jigsaw puzzle. Split everyone into groups and give one jigsaw puzzle to each group. The team that pieces the memory verse together first is the winner.

Newspaper Slice

Divide the memory verse up into sections then divide the youth group into smaller groups. Hand out a newspaper to each group and give 10 mins to slice up words and/or letters out of the newspaper to make up their section of the memory verse and glue onto a piece of paper. Awards for most creative.

To play this game, you will need to divide the group into teams (the number of teams depends on the area you have available and group size).

Cost & Difficulties

You will need some equipment for this game. Place empty bowls on one side of the room, and bowls full of dried peas on the other side. Make sure there is an equal number of peas in each bowl. Give each team member a straw.

The aim of the game is for each team to transport a small pile of dried peas from a bowl



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on one side of the room to another bowl on the other side, using only their straw. They do this by sucking through the straw so the pea stays fixed to the end of the straw. If they drop the pea they must pick it up again using the straw. The winning team is the one that transports all the peas first.

You can conclude this game with a devotion on our tendency to want to hold onto material things and the costs & difficulties involved with that. A good bible verse to use is Luke 12:15-21.

Banana Surgery

Split your group up into smaller groups, and give each group a banana, cutting board and plastic knife. Each group should cut the banana into 4 or 5 equal sized pieces. (don't tell them what the next steps are at this point).

Then hand out banana surgery kits - pins, string, sticky tape, tooth picks, rubber bands etc. The goal is for each group to reassemble the banana.

The lesson from this game is that some things (relationships, trust, reputation, bananas!) are easy to break but more difficult to put back together.

Penang Diocesan Youth Day 3 (PDYD 3) Prayer

Merciful Father,
Through your Son, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit,
You have revealed your love and mercy to us.
We entrust to You the mission of the youth of the Diocese of Penang.

We beseech You to purify and strengthen our lives
to be true witnesses of Jesus to our friends,
families, BEC and neighbours.

Rid us of our blindness, pride, anger, jealousy
and purify our hearts to see You, our Lord and God in all people.
Open our eyes, ears and hearts as we prepare for the PDYD 3
so that we can listen to Your promptings and live our lives
according to Your Word and Sacraments.

Increase our desire to do what is pleasing to You
everyday of our lives for Your greater glory.

Mother Mary we pray and entrust our lives into your maternal care
as you journey and intercede with and for us always.

We ask this through Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen

St. John Paul II, pray for us.



PENANG DIOCESAN YOUTH NETWORK (PDYN)
290, JALAN MACALISTER, 10450, PENANG
TEL : 04-2274851 EMAIL : pdyn@pgdiocese.org <https://www.facebook.com/pdyd3>
VINCENT : 016-527 7059 DANIEL ROY : 016-468 6374