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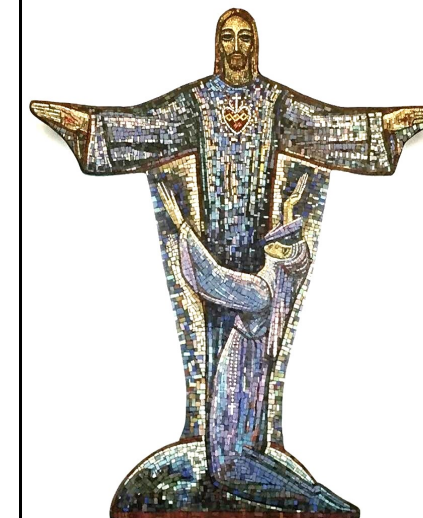
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CONTACT US

ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



Our Parish is under the Pastoral Care of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit (known as the Pauline Fathers) who for more than 630 years are renowned Custodians of the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Jasna Gora, Poland.



Parish Priest
Fr Janusz Pawlicha

Assistant Priest
Fr Joseph Maria Buckley



Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE:
1-5 Chetwynd Rd,
MERRYLANDS NSW 2160
Postal Address: PO Box 757, Merrylands.
Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am - 3:30pm
Phone: 9637 2526 9637 2014
Fax: 9637 2442
Email: parish@stmm.org.au
Website: stmm.org.au

PARISH GROUPS CO-ORDINATORS:
Secretary: Denise Fernandes
Finance Committee: TBA

Parish Council:
♦ **Chair:** Gwen D'Silva
Fr Janusz Pawlicha, OSPPE
♦ **Secretary:** Monique Kairouz

Fundraising Committee:
♦ Mike Jacobson - 0438 590 136

Catechists: Sonia Abi-Rached

Music : Kerry van der Linden

Sacraments: Fr Joseph Maria Buckley

Acolytes / RCIA : Peter Carroll - 0414 070 082

Readers: Gwen D'Silva

YOUTH GROUP:
Pauline Teen: Fr Joseph / Rita Jacobson

Legion of Mary: John Donaldson - 0422 656 991

Playgroup: Nicole Gadd - 0402 350 170

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday: 6:00pm Vigil

Sunday: 7:30am
9:00am
10:30am
6:00pm

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday: 9:15am

Tuesday: 9:00am & 7:00pm
Wednesday: 9:00am & 7:00pm
Thursday: 9:00am
Friday: 9:00am & 7:00pm
Saturday: 8:30am

PRAYER: HOLY FATHER-POPE FRANCIS'

MONTHLY INTENTION: DECEMBER

For volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

FIRST FRIDAY:

11:00am: Maltese Mass
07:00pm: Holy Mass, Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Thursdays-Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30 am - 2:30pm
4th Sunday of the month: 1:00pm - 1:30pm - Divine Mercy Devotions
1st Friday of the month: approx. 8:30pm - midnight

VESPERS- SUNDAY EVENINGS

5:15 pm - 5:45pm

RCIA SESSIONS- SUNDAY MORNINGS

9am Mass followed by Session 10 am - 11am

DEVOTIONS:

- ♦ **Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Succour)**
Wednesday: after morning Mass
Wednesday: 6:00pm before 7:00pm Mass (Marian Movement Cenacle)
- ♦ **Veneration of the Holy Face of Jesus:**
Tuesday: 7:30pm - 8:30pm
- ♦ **Divine Mercy Devotions**
4th Sunday of the month: 1:00pm - 3:00pm, 3:00pm - Holy Mass

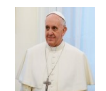
BAPTISMS: 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month

RECONCILIATION:

Tues - Fri 8.30 - 8.55am
Sat - 9am - 9.30am and 4.30pm-5.30pm

MARRIAGES: By appointment only (6 months required)

SICK CALLS: 9637 2526- option 3 or 0412 625 187 - any time



 Please remember to switch off your mobile phone

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING

Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.) He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand. They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

- O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**
- In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**
- For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**
- May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Rom 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight. This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

MEDITATION:



What kind of Messiah did God promise to send to his people and how would he bring God's kingdom to them? The prophet Isaiah foresaw the day when God would raise up a Messianic King long after King David's throne had been overthrown and vacant for centuries. God promised that he would raise up a new king from the stump of Jesse, the father of King David (Isaiah 11:1). This messianic king would rule forever because the Spirit of God would rest upon him and remain with him. **Lord, let your light burn brightly in my heart that I may know the joy and freedom of your kingdom. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and empower me to witness the truth of your Gospel and to point others to Jesus Christ.**

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DRAW & SAUSAGE SIZZLE 11 DECEMBER 2022



Hurry & don't miss out on our Christmas Raffle. Tickets on sale for **ONLY \$5 EACH.** With over \$2,500 worth of prizes consisting of attractive gifts, business & taxation, massage, dining, grocery & gift vouchers to be won in the lucky draw.

Highlights:

- Christmas Carols
- Raffle lucky draw
- Sausage sizzle + water or soft drinks or tea or coffee +
- Christmas cookie (combo for only \$5)
- Santa's Grand Entrance

Sausage Sizzle will be on sale
after 7:30am, 9:00am & 10.30am Mass



Christmas Raffle Draw after 10.30am Mass



**We hope you can join us
as we celebrate the joy of Christmas together !**

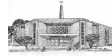
PRAYER REQUESTS

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| ◆ Reuben Dias | ◆ Therese Nicolas | ◆ Rita Figredo |
| ◆ Leonardo Pedavoli | ◆ Hermie Alves | ◆ Roxane Recto-Cavanagh |
| ◆ Shelly Barnes | ◆ Fr. Gabriel Taylor | |
| ◆ Robbie Barnes | ◆ Doreen Callagja | |



OUR PARISH PRAYER

Father, pour out Your Spirit upon the people of this parish so that inspired by Your word, nourished at Your table and graced by Your empowering love, our lives may be devoted to the service of our brothers and sisters and the building up of Your Kingdom. May our parish community truly be, for this place and time, the Body of Christ Your Son, through whom we make this prayer. **Amen**



SUPPORT

We request our generous Parishioners, if possible to kindly continue to financially support our Parish by contributing towards their Planned giving, Sunday Collections or donations to the Church.

Payment options are:

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Direct Debit: BSB: 067 950

Account Number: 00438

Account Name: Merrylands Catholic Church
(Please specify details of your contribution i.e. Envelope Number or First Collection or Second Collection).

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

THURSDAYS 9:30am to 2:30pm



The Lord invites us to take some time out of our busy lives to spend some time with Him in quiet adoration, prayer and reflection. If you can spare 1/2 hour or more, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed after morning Mass every Thursday until 2.30pm. **ALL ARE WELCOME**



ADVENT AT OUR PARISH Everyday after Morning Mass

As we joyfully await the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, all are invited to join in spiritual Advent preparations following morning Masses every day .

This includes Exposition of the Blessed sacrament, Advent prayer, one decade of the Rosary for our Parish Community and five minutes of private adoration.



SCRIPTURE STUDY

You are invited to experience the joy of **"the Word of God"** in a weekly discussion meeting on Thursdays at 7pm at St. Margaret Mary's Pastoral Centre.
For further queries, contact Gwen on 9632 9097



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 11 DECEMBER 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR A)

Is 35:1-6; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



STMM PIETY CORNER SHOP

We request our Parishioners to support our Parish Piety Corner Shop with their generous purchase of a variety of available products. These items are perfect for your own personal needs or as a treasured gift to share with others. Purchases may be done from the Parish Office as well during working hours. **Thank you.**



The Parish would like to thank Dominic Grech and Edgar D'souza for their valuable time fixing the male toilet which was vandalised by an unknown individual.

CHRISTMAS MASS 2022

CHRISTMAS EVE : SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER

- * **6:00 pm - Family Mass**
(children are welcome to come dressed as angels, shepherds or kings)
- * **11:30pm - Christmas Carols**
- * **12:00am - Midnight Mass**

CHRISTMAS DAY: SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER

- * **7:30 am**
 - * **9:00 am**
 - * **10:30 am**
- There will be NO EVENING MASS**

VOICES NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS



We are seeking **CHILDREN & ADULTS** to join the Choir and be part of our festive celebration for the Christmas Vigil Mass at 6pm on 24 December 2022.
Please contact Kerry at k.dainer1@gmail.com for further details.



2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION Tuesday 06 DECEMBER 2022 After 7:00pm Mass

The 2nd rite of Reconciliation will be held at St Margaret Mary's parish on Tuesday, 06 December following the 7pm Mass. There will be community prayers to prepare for reconciliation, followed by the opportunity for individual confessions. We are encouraged to take advantage of this great opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as we prepare for Christmas and avoid the Christmas week Confession rush.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY THURSDAY - 8 DECEMBER 2022



Mass Timings:
9:00am (Morning Mass)
6:00pm (School Graduation Mass)
'Hour of Grace' will be held from 12:00pm - 01:00 pm.
The Blessed Virgin promised that whatever a person asked her for during this Hour of Grace would be granted to them, if it was in accordance with the Will of the Eternal Father.
ALL ARE WELCOME

YOUTH GROUP @ SMM

Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 09 December)

Our youth group for Primary School Students. It meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month starting at 5:15pm ending just before the evening mass.

Pauline Teen (Next Meeting: 09 December)

Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month after 7pm evening Mass.



Altar Boy's Practice



Saturday 10 December at 12noon. All welcome from ages 8 and up.
Please see Fr. Joseph Maria for any further information.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2022

This year's Bishop's Christmas Appeal 2022 is raising funds for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing service supporting homeless people in our community. **Our Parish quota is approx \$8000 for this Appeal so we request our Parishioners for their generous contributions.** Please stretch out your hand to the poor and give generously via the Bishop's Christmas Appeal envelopes or at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal