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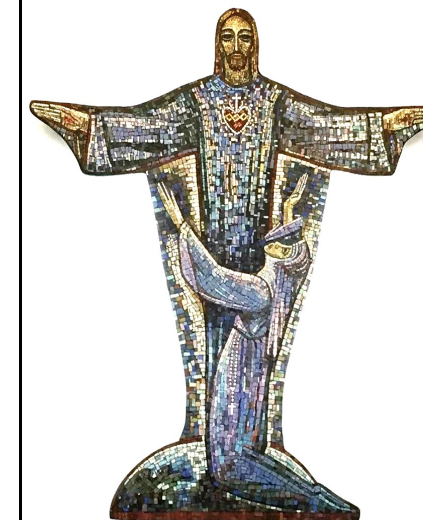
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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: Merwyn D'Souza - 0478 109 569

Playgroup: Nicole Gadd - 0402 350 170

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.
PROVERBS 20:7

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C
04th September 2022



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: SEPTEMBER
For the abolition of the death penalty

We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

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 (commencing from 31 August 2022)
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

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wis 9:13-18

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

- You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. **(R.)**
- You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. **(R.)**
- Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart. Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants. **(R.)**
- In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

Phlm 9-10, 12-17

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Lk 14:25-33

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. 'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.

MEDITATION:

The love of God compels us to choose who or what will be first in our lives. To place any relationship or any possession above God is a form of idolatry - worshipping the creature in place of the Creator and Ruler over all he has made. Jesus challenges his disciples to examine who and what they love first and foremost. We can be ruled and mastered by many different things - money, drugs, success, power or fame. Only one Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, can truly set us free from the power of sin, greed, and destruction. The choice is ours - who will we serve and follow - the path and destiny the Lord Jesus offers us or the path we choose in opposition to God's will and purpose for our lives. It boils down to choosing between life and death, truth and falsehood, goodness and evil. If we choose for the Lord Jesus and put our trust in him, he will show us the path that leads to true joy and happiness with our Father in heaven.

Lord Jesus, you are my Treasure, my Life, and my All.
There is nothing in this life that can outweigh the joy of knowing, loving, and serving you all the days of my life. Take my life and all that I have and make it yours for your glory now and forever.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS



Congratulations to all the children and their families who received First Holy Communion on **28 August & 04 September**. May you always be nourished by the Eucharist.

As we conclude the Eucharist celebration, we sincerely thank all those involved in making this Holy Sacrament so meaningful and memorable.

This would not have been possible without Fr. Joseph Maria Buckley and Monique Kairouz. Their enthusiasm, dedication and efforts with preparing the children were commendable and ensured everything was well organised for the Mass. Our gratitude to Lydia, Diana, Mary & Zarmenay for beautifully decorating our Church, Acolytes, Altar servers and all those who helped with the preparations. Last but not the least, thanks to the teachers & children from the School Choir & The Holy Shroud Choir who led the congregation so beautifully in song.

YOUTH GROUP @ SMM

Young Adults (Next Meeting: 04 September)

Our youth group for young adults aged 18-30. It meets every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month after 6pm evening Mass.

Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 09 September)

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 September)

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



PRAYER REQUESTS

◆ Reuben Dias
◆ Leonardo Pedavoli
◆ Shelly Barnes

◆ Robbie Barnes
◆ Therese Nicolas
◆ Ivy Aza

◆ Hermie Alves
◆ Joseph Fucile
◆ Nancy Surace



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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Account Number: 00438

Account Name: Merrylands Catholic Church

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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**

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

Saturday - 17 September 2022

Our parish is organising a face to face safe guarding training comprising of three modules for all those dealing with children & adults on **Saturday, 17 September** commencing from **9:30 am to 2:00pm** to understand safeguarding & child safe standards, the legal compliances & working with adults at risk & understanding boundaries. We looking forward to working with you all in ensuring that, together, we are building a safe parish for all our faith community. **Certificates will be given on completion of course.**



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 SEPTEMBER 2022
24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(YEAR C)

Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; 1Tim 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32



GOD'S WORD 2023

We request our Parishioners to support our Parish with their generous purchase of **GOD'S WORD 2023** for a **special price of \$20**. Purchases may be done from the Parish Office as well during working hours. **Thank you.**



AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH

Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (18 September 2022) there will be a Children's Liturgy during the 10:30am Mass.

All children are welcome to attend.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION 2022



Sacrament of Confirmation Enrolments commence from **Tuesday, 23 August 2022** until **Friday, 07 October 2022**. (Enrolment Fee \$50 per child)

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website or are available at our Parish Office during working hours.

Sacrament of Confirmation program is divided into two groups taught by Fr. Joseph Maria Buckley & assisted by Monique Kairouz.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:

All preparation sessions held on **MONDAYS or WEDNESDAYS** at 6:00pm.

Parents Night & Session 1: 10 October or 12 October 2022

Session 2: 17 October or 19 October 2022

Session 3: 24 October or 26 October 2022

Session 4: 31 October or 02 November 2022

Rehearsal: 07 November or 09 November 2022

Venue: Pastoral Centre



CONFIRMATION Saturday, 12 November 2022 at 6:00pm



CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT PRAYER

On the weekend (**08 - 09 October**) Saturday Vigil and Sundays Masses, all the children enrolled for the Sacrament of Confirmation are requested along with their parents to attend any one of the weekend Mass.

At the end of the Mass, they will be invited forward to say the Enrolment Prayer as a spiritual beginning to the child's formation in the Sacrament. All children enrolled in the program are expected to attend.

FATHER'S DAY APPEAL 2022 03/04 SEPTEMBER

Dear Parishioners, This weekend, our parish is proud to support the Clergy Support Foundation's Bishop's Father's Day Appeal. Your gifts will support our 21 retired clergy and those who are in ill-health. Your donations will enable our Clergy Health and Wellbeing team to provide our ageing clergy with the personal, professional, and practical care and guidance needed to transition to a dignified and well-deserved retirement. Ongoing assistance includes independent retirement living, aged care, or nursing home accommodation for frail priests; meals, transport and medical care as needed.

Please care for those who have cared for you and give generously via the giving envelopes or scan this QR

Code or parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal

Please keep our retired priests in your prayers, as they keep you, their faith family, in their prayers. Thank you.



St Joseph pray for Us
Happy Father's Day

Blessed are You, Lord and Father of all life, who has given to us the gift fathers for our families. Today, we honour them and we thank You for the numerous good things that are ours because of them. Their love for us has been a sign of Your divine affection and a sharing in Your holy love.

Their continuous concern for our needs and welfare is a mirror of Your holy providence. And so, as we honour them we also praise You, Father of all peoples. May we, as members of their families, assist them in their holy duties as a parent with our respect, our obedience and our deep affection.

Dear God, We thank you for the gift of Dads in this life. We pray for your blessing, favour, and strength over every Dad in this world, for those who are seeking to walk closely with you in a dark world, and for those who just need to be reminded that you are real. We ask for your renewed courage, for your boldness, for your Spirit to fill them. We ask that you would keep their footsteps firm, and guard their way. We ask that you would help them to always stand strong, to be men of faith, to say "no" to what is wrong and to say "yes" to what is right. We ask that you would fill their hearts with love, compassion, joy, faithfulness, and cover their lives with great peace. **Amen**



The Feast of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on **Thursday, 08 September** at **9:00 am** Mass.

To commemorate the Birthday of Our Blessed Mother, after Mass there will be a short devotion prayer.