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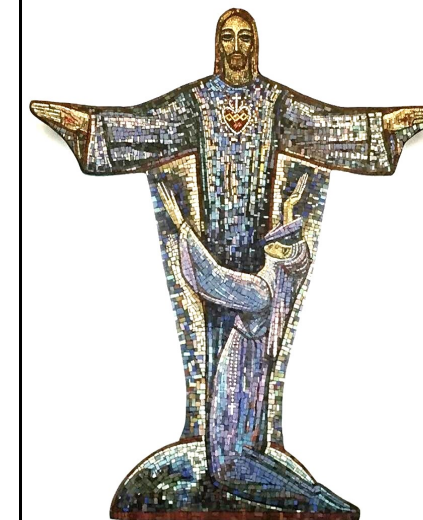
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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 Jeremy Santoso



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: TBA

Acolytes / RCIA : Peter Carroll - 0414 070 082

Readers: Gwen D'Silva

YOUTH GROUP:
Pauline Junior / Teen: TBA

Legion of Mary: John Donaldson - 0422 656 991

Playgroup: Nicole Gadd - 0402 350 170

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

05th February 2023



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: FEBRUARY

For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

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



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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

- He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. **(R.)**
- The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **(R.)**
- With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'


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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

MEDITATION:

Jesus used the image of salt to describe the transforming effect of God's work in our lives - and how the Holy Spirit wants to work through us to bring the power and blessing of God's kingdom to others. As salt purifies, preserves, and produces rich flavor for our daily food, we, too, as disciples of Jesus, are "salt" for the world of human society. The Lord wants to work in and through us to purify, preserve, and spread the rich flavor of God's kingdom everywhere - his "kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Romans 14:17). Jesus used the image of a lamp to describe how his disciples are to live in the light of his truth and love. Just as natural light illumines the darkness and enables one to see visually, so the light of Christ shines in the hearts of believers and enables us to see the heavenly reality of God's kingdom. Our mission is to be light-bearers of Jesus Christ so that others may see the truth of the gospel and be freed from the blindness of sin and deception. There is great freedom and joy for those who live in the light of God's truth and goodness. Do you know the joy and freedom of living in God's light?

 **Lord Jesus, you guide me by the light of your saving truth. Fill my heart and mind with your light and truth and free me from the blindness of sin and deception that I may see your ways clearly and understand your will for my life. May I radiate your light and truth to others in word and deed.**

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING

From 1 February 2023, the Children's Guardian now has power in law to take action to ensure organisations comply with the Child Safe Standards.

<https://ocg.nsw.gov.au/child-safe-scheme/implementing-child-safe-standards/our-approach-compliance-and-enforcement>


What can each one of us do to actively demonstrate how the 10 Child Safe Standards play a very important role in ensuring children in our Parish are cared for and safe in our community?

Our 6 points of Safeguarding Training demonstrates that each person in parish ministry is compliant in Standard 7. Our training also informs all those in parish life of their role and responsibility in ensuring each of the other Standards can be demonstrated as well. Each Parish Ministry is very important to our faith and local community. Let us all show this by our collective commitment to this training. If you are still to finalise your Safeguarding Training, please take advantage of the upcoming face to face opportunities around the Diocese. Next week the 'New Year's Dash Training' begins at: Glenbrook, Rooty Hill, Springwood and Quakers Hill. Check with your Parish Office for dates and time. You are welcome to register for any of these training sessions by contacting: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

If you would like to complete the training independently on our online training platform you can start these modules at any time and complete them at your own pace. Sign up onto the platform by clicking on this link: <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au>

If you have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email Maria Kervin, Community Engagement and Education Officer at: maria.kervin@parracatholic.org.

Let's get this done to show our Parish is committed to building safe communities!

 The Parish has invested in a total of six microphones, four for the choir and 2 for the commentators for a better and improved sound quality usage in the Church.

PRAYER REQUESTS

◆ Reuben Dias
◆ Leonardo Pedavoli
◆ Shelly Barnes
◆ Robbie Barnes
◆ Therese Nicolas
◆ Hermie Alves

◆ Fr. Gabriel Taylor
◆ Doreen Callagja
◆ Rita Figredo
◆ Roxane Recto-Cavanagh
◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria
◆ Salam Awkar

◆ Leila Rouhana



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:

QUEST Tap to Donate (3 devices inside the Church)

Cash (Parish Office during office hours)

Credit Card (Parish Office during office hours)

Cheques payable to:

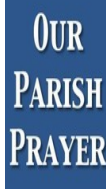
St Margaret Mary's Parish –Merrylands
PO Box 757, Merrylands NSW 2160

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).



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**



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 12 FEBRUARY 2023

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)
Sir 15:15 - 20; 1Cor 2:6 - 10; Mt 5:17 - 37

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



ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS

Please join us in responding to 'Our Blessed Mother's Appeal for Prayer & Reparation for World Peace & the Sanctity of Family Life'.

Every First Friday of the month after 7pm Mass, Scriptural Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, Adoration, & Nine Office of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

until Midnight.

Every Friday (except 1st Friday of the month) the Adoration Service will commence after 7:00pm Mass until 10:00pm

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in our day of battle; protect us against the deceit and wickedness of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And you, O prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, banish into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam through the world seeking the ruin of souls. O glorious Archangel St. Michael, watch over us during life, defend us against the assaults of the demon, assist us especially at the hour of death; obtain for us a favorable judgement, and the happiness of beholding God face to face for endless ages. **Amen**



DEVOTIONAL RELIGIOUS CANDLES

A variety of devotional candles are being sold at the Parish Piety Corner Shop. We request our Parishioners to support our Parish with their generous purchase. These candles are perfect for your own personal devotion or as a treasured gift to share with others.

Small candle \$5 each (burns upto 70 hours)
Large candle \$10 each (burns upto 7days)



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.**



Seeking expressions of interest for a kids choir at **6:00pm Mass on the Fourth Sunday of each month.**

Kids must be able to attend 1-2 practices a month (likely Saturday mornings but we'll confirm once we have an idea of numbers and schedules).

Contact **Rebecca on 0414972462** for more information.

RCIA PROGRAM

RCIA is an ongoing Apostolate in this Parish. The RCIA Apostolate consists of a dedicated team of volunteers who have received instructions to guide anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church through weekly preparations classes and regular Mass attendance.

If you know of anyone who wishes to enter the Catholic Faith, who has been baptised in another Faith or unbaptised and wishes to complete the Sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church; Please see our Priests after Mass during the weekends or contact the **RCIA Coordinator Peter Carroll on 0414 070 082** or the Parish Office.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

On **2nd Sunday** of each month, couples celebrating their wedding anniversary during that month are invited for a special blessing at the 10:30am Mass.

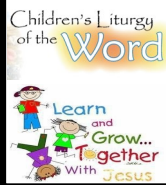
The next blessing will be on **Sunday, 12 February 2023.**

Couples celebrating a milestone anniversary may contact the Parish office with their relevant details.



SCRIPTURE STUDY

You are invited to experience the joy of **"the Word of God"** in a weekly discussion meeting on Thursdays at **7:00pm** at St. Margaret Mary's Pastoral Centre. For further queries, contact Gwen on 9632 9097



AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH

Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (**19 February 2023**) there will be a Children's Liturgy during the 10:30am Mass.

All children are welcome to attend.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

All members of the Parish Council are invited to attend a meeting in the Parish Office meeting room on **Tuesday, 07 February 2023 at 7:30pm.**

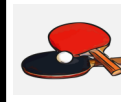


Table Tennis social nights

Every Tuesday evening, in the Pastoral Centre from approx 7:30 pm after the evening Mass.

All are welcome.



Q: Who was the first tennis player in the bible?
A: Joseph... he served in Pharaoh's court.

Q: Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?
A: The area around Jordan, because the banks were always overflowing