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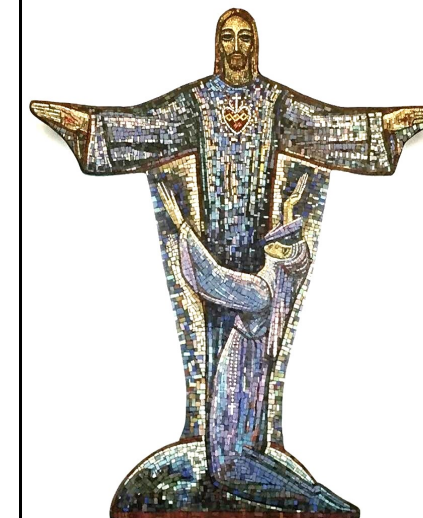
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Our Parish is under the Pastoral Care of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit (known as the Pauline Fathers) who for more than 630 years are renowned Custodians of the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Jasna Gora, Poland.



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

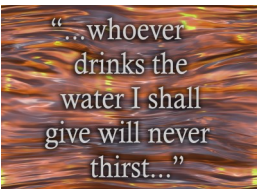
YOUTH GROUP:

Pauline Junior / Teen: TBA

Legion of Mary: John Donaldson - 0422 656 991

Playgroup: Nicole Gadd - 0402 350 170

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



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: MARCH

For victim of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.



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

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

- Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **(R.)**
- Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **(R.)**
- O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth

hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.

MEDITATION:

The image of "living water" is used throughout the scriptures as a symbol of God's wisdom, a wisdom that imparts life and blessing to all who receive it. "The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life" (Proverbs 13:14). "Living water" was also a symbol for the Jews of thirst of the soul for God. The water which Jesus spoke of symbolized the Holy Spirit and his work of recreating us in God's image and sustaining in us the new life which comes from God. The life which the Holy Spirit produces in us makes us a "new creation" in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). Do you thirst for God and for the life of the Holy Spirit within you? **Lord Jesus, my soul thirsts for you. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may always find joy in your presence and take delight in doing your will.**



EASTER CANDLES

Easter glass candles are being sold at the Parish. These candles are perfect for your own personal devotion or as a treasured gift to share with others.
Easter candle \$10 each (burns up to 7days)
We have limited stock so hurry and get yours.




TUESDAY - following 9:00am Mass
FRIDAY - following 7:00pm Mass
FRIDAYS IN LENT


ROSARY- 6.:30pm
HOLY MASS - 7:00pm
STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:30pm following 7pm Mass
LENTEN MORNING DEVOTIONS
Following All Morning Mass (excluding Tuesday & Wednesday)

During the period of Lent, all are invited to join in our special Lenten devotions after the morning Mass. We will be reciting the **chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Litany of the Most Precious Blood of Christ.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

◆ Reuben Dias	◆ Fr. Gabriel Taylor	◆ Leila Rouhana
◆ Leonardo Pedavoli	◆ Doreen Callagja	◆ Charles Zammit
◆ Shelly Barnes	◆ Rita Figueo	
◆ Robbie Barnes	◆ Roxane Recto-Cavanagh	
◆ Therese Nicolas	◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria	
◆ Hermie Alves	◆ Salam Awkar	






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 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


19 MARCH 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A)
1Sam 16:1,6 -7,10 -13; Eph 5:8 -14; Jn 9:1 - 41

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





SCRIPTURE STUDY

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


RCIA- CELEBRATION OF THE SCRUTINIES

It is with great joy to announce four adults will celebrate the SCRUTINIES of the Elect on the 3rd, 4th & 5th Sundays of Lent at 10:30am Mass. Please in your charity pray that they will receive the grace of Purification and Enlightenment and be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil, celebrating the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

ANNUAL CHURCH INSURANCE

We would like to thank our Parishioners for their generous contributions and donations towards the Parish which has helped paying our annual Church Insurance bill of **\$34,355.**

Our humble request to kindly continue to financially support our Parish by contributing towards Planned giving, Sunday Collections or donations to the Church.
God Bless you.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

Sacrament of Reconciliation Enrolments commence from **Tuesday, 14 March** until **Friday, 28 April 2023.**

Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website or available at our Parish Office during working hours.**(Enrolment Fee \$50 per child).**

Parents Night: Wednesday, 26 April at 7pm.
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre


Sacrament of Reconciliation program is divided into two groups taught by Monique Kairouz & assisted by Fr. Jeremy Santoso.

RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

All preparation sessions will be held on **WEDNESDAYS** with **two time slots** to choose from: **5:30 - 6:30pm or 7:00 - 8:00pm**
Session 1: 03 MAY
Session 2: 10 MAY
Session 3: 17 MAY
Session 4: 24 MAY
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre



Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Monday, 29 May 2023 at 6:00pm inside the Church.



The ACIES function of the Legion of Mary, under the Prospect Curia will be held on **Saturday March 25th** at St Margaret Mary's Catholic Church at the 8.30am Mass.


This is the main and most important function of the Legion of Mary during which ALL legionaries, active and auxiliary, along with their spiritual directors, renew their fealty to their Queen and Mother, with the words **"I AM ALL YOURS MY QUEEN, MY MOTHER AND ALL THAT I HAVE IS YOURS!"**

We welcome ALL to join us for morning tea thereafter.

2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION


Wednesday 22 March 2023 after 7:00pm MASS

The 2nd rite of Reconciliation will be held on 22 March after 7:00pm Mass in preparation for Easter. We will commence with community Prayers to prepare for reconciliation, followed by the opportunity for individual confessions.



FAREWELL MASS OF FR. JANUSZ PAWLICHA

23 APRIL 2023 – 10:30AM



Eight years ago St. Margaret Mary's Parish was truly blessed with a Parish Priest like none other than **FR. JANUSZ**. **'Giving to others seems to come so naturally to you. You go the extra mile, take the extra time, give the extra thought...and it really makes a difference'.**

Thank you Fr. Janusz for being such a wonderful example of God's Love. We have been fortunate to have an outstanding role model like you, who has managed this Parish with invaluable and inspired excellence. You have helped our Church and community to grow spiritually and have given so much to this Parish and done much for it. Your contributions and dedication will always serve as an inspiration to others.

May our Triune God and our Blessed Mother guide and protect Fr. Janusz always. We pray that the Lord will bless you abundantly as you journey towards the next chapter in your ministerial life and that the Holy Spirit will guide you in your pastoral duties .

A farewell Mass for Fr. Janusz will be held on Sunday 23 April at 10:30am followed by a Parish Brunch in the Parish Hall. All are welcome and we request you to kindly bring a dish to share.

For those who wish to contribute towards a farewell monetary gift for Fr. Janusz, please contact Priscilla Newman, Gwen D'Silva or the Parish Office during office hours.



FEAST OF THE WEEK

Solemnity of St. Patrick
Friday - 17 March 2023