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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: Fr Janusz Pawlicha, OSPPE  
♦ Secretary: TBA

**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

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is the Lord.  
JEREMIAH 17:7

13<sup>th</sup> February 2022

WEEKEND MASSES:	WEEKDAY MASSES:
Saturday: 6:00pm Vigil	Monday: 9:15am
Sunday: 7:30am	Tuesday: 9:00am & 7:00pm
9:00am	Wednesday: 9:00am & 7:00pm
10:30am	Thursday: 9:00am
6:00pm	Friday: 9:00am & 7:00pm
	Saturday: 8:30am

**PRAYER: HOLY FATHER-POPE FRANCIS'**  
**MONTHLY INTENTION: FEBRUARY**  
**For religious sisters and consecrated women**  
We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.

**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  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month: 1:00pm - 1:30pm - Divine Mercy Devotions  
1<sup>st</sup> 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 Succour  
Tuesday: after morning Mass  
Wednesday: 6:30pm before 7:00pm Mass
- ♦ Veneration of the Holy Face of Jesus:  
Tuesday: 7:30pm - 8:30pm
- ♦ Divine Mercy Devotions  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month: 1.00pm - 3.00pm, 3.00pm - Holy Mass

**BAPTISMS:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Tues - Fri 8.30 - 8.55am  
Sat - 9am - 9.30am and 4.30pm-5.30pm (or by appointment)

**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

Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

Jer 17:5-8

The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited. 'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

*The Word of the Lord.*  
Thanks be to God.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.**

- Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. **(R.)**
- He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. **(R.)**
- Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

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

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people. But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
Thanks be to God

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
your reward is great in heaven.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Lk 6:17, 20-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: 'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh. 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets. 'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry. Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep. 'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

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

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

## MEDITATION:

When you encounter misfortune, grief, or tragic loss, how do you respond? With fear or faith? With passive resignation or with patient hope and trust in God? We know from experience that no one can escape all of the inevitable trials of life - pain, suffering, sickness, and death. When Jesus began to teach his disciples he gave them a "way of happiness" that transcends every difficulty and trouble that can weigh us down with grief and despair. Jesus began his sermon on the mount by addressing the issue of where true happiness can be found. The word beatitude literally means happiness or blessedness. Jesus' way of happiness, however, demands a transformation from within - a conversion of heart and mind which can only come about through the gift and working of the Holy Spirit. **Lord Jesus, increase my hunger for you and show me the way that leads to everlasting happiness and peace. May I desire you above all else and find perfect joy in doing your will.**






A minister dies and is waiting in line at the Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a guy who's dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket, and jeans. St. Peter addresses this guy, 'Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?' The guy replies, 'I'm Joe Cohen, taxi driver, of Noo Yawk City.' St. Peter consults his list. He smiles and says to the taxi driver, 'Take this silken robe and golden staff and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.' It's the minister's turn. He stands erect and booms out, 'I am Joseph Snow, pastor of Calvary Church for the last forty-three years.' St Peter consults his list. He says to the minister, 'Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the Kingdom of Heaven.' 'Just a minute,' says the minister. 'That man was a taxi driver, and he gets a silken robe and golden staff. How can this be?' 'Up here, we work by results,' says St. Peter. 'While you preached, people slept, while he drove, people prayed.'



**Face Masks:** The NSW Government has reimposed mask mandate indoors, including places of worship. A polite reminder that face masks are obligatory during Mass at this time. Unless you have a medical exemption, you are legally obliged to wear a face mask.

**Check-In & Record Keeping:** Check-in using the NSW QR Code or sign-in sheets of all attendees are still required for places of worship and remain important for NSW Health contact tracing.

**Other Measures:** In an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the NSW government is also asking people to consider moving events outdoors where possible and discouraging mingling and singing.

Thank you for your co-operation and personal responsibility. Let's continue working to keep one another safe.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- |                             |                          |                     |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| ◆ Tony Ostojic              | ◆ Giovanna Prestipino    | ◆ Barbara Hanna     |
| ◆ Shelly Barnes             | ◆ Ireneo Vicencio        | ◆ Anthony Hanna     |
| ◆ Teresa Saad               | ◆ Alice Said             | ◆ Carlos Rivanar    |
| ◆ Christopher Oldham        | ◆ Diab Baysari           | ◆ Josephine Hanna   |
| ◆ Simon Khoury              | ◆ Mario & Tereza Cutajar | ◆ Leonardo Pedavoli |
| ◆ Sonia & Pierre Abi-Rached | ◆ Mary Essey             | ◆ Smiljana Milina   |
| ◆ Therese Nicolas           | ◆ Katrina & Maria Smith  | ◆ Roneth Jaro       |
| ◆ Nikola Jerkovic           | ◆ Carolina Morante       | ◆ Jayden Jong       |
| ◆ Susan Pace                | ◆ Alex Habis             | ◆ Reuben Dias       |
| ◆ Branko Soric              | ◆ Ramona Sassine         |                     |
| ◆ Gloria Lavitoria          | ◆ Laura Anisse           |                     |
| ◆ Jocelyn Santos            | ◆ John Bartolo           |                     |
| ◆ Joanna Essey              | ◆ Bob Sinclair           |                     |



## 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).**

## 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  
**"IN THE END, MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH"**

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 20 FEBRUARY 2022

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C  
 1 Sam 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23; 1Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

## 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**

## Table Tennis social nights return!

From Tuesday, 25 January at the Pastoral Centre, starting time will be 7:00pm due to no evening masses during January, from 01 February onwards starting time will be approx 7:30pm after the evening Mass.  
 \* Players of all abilities welcome  
 \* No charge  
 \* Light refreshments provided



## Renew and Rejoice

Welcome Back to Sunday Mass

## SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION RESUMES

On 20 March 2020 Catholics from the Diocese of Parramatta were dispensed from their Sunday Mass obligation until further notice (Canon 1248 §2 and Catechism 2181) by virtue of a Decree issued by Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv. From **15 December 2021** this Decree is now revoked and the Sunday obligation is now imposed once again given that public health orders no longer require adherence to density limits in our church buildings.

## SCRIPTURE STUDY RESUMES

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

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION 2022



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held twice in 2022. The program in Term 1 is intended for those that missed out in 2021 because the program was cancelled due to the Lockdowns.

Sacrament of Confirmation Enrolments commence from Tuesday, 25 January 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.

- Session 1:** 14 FEBRUARY or 16 FEBRUARY 2022
  - Session 2:** 21 FEBRUARY or 23 FEBRUARY 2022
  - Session 3:** 28 FEBRUARY or 02 MARCH 2022
  - Session 4:** 07 MARCH or 09 MARCH 2022
  - Rehearsal:** 14 MARCH or 16 MARCH 2022
- Venue:** Inside the Church.

**CONFIRMATION** Saturday, 19 March 2022 at 6:00pm celebrated by Very Rev Peter G. Williams VG EV

## Parish Movie Night (Mother Teresa)

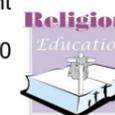
Saturday - 19 FEBRUARY 2022

Please come join us in the Pastoral Center to watch a movie every 3rd Saturday of the Month after the 6pm evening Mass. Film will be followed by a short talk/discussion.



## SRE VOLUNTEERS

SRE volunteer teachers are needed to spread the Word of God in our Public schools in the Merrylands catchment area for half an hour one day a week. Please contact Sonia Abi-Rached @ 0451 191 700 for further details.



## CHURCH CLEANING MAINTENANCE

Volunteers needed for cleaning duties inside the church one day a week (Friday or Saturday) once a month as per Roster. Kindly contact Nada Tomas - 0420 766 771 for further details or the Parish Office.  
 Volunteers needed for general maintenance in the church premises once a week. Kindly contact Anthony - 0449 794 147 for further details or the Parish Office.