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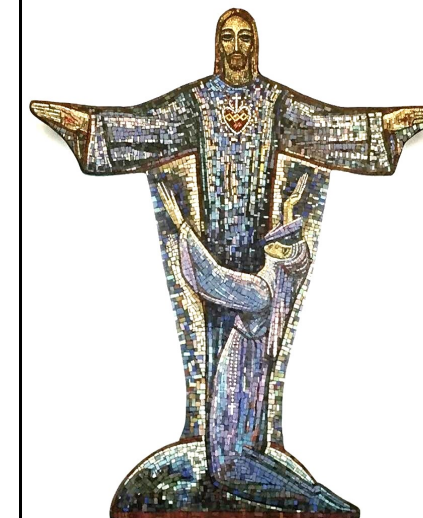
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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Parish Priest
Fr Wojciech Sliwa

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:
♦ Secretary:

Fundraising Committee:
♦ Mike Jacobson - 0438 590 136

Catechists: Sonia Abi-Rached

Music : Kerry van der Linden

Sacraments: Monique Kairouz

Acolytes / RCIA : Peter Carroll - 0414 070 082

Readers: Gwen D'Silva

YOUTH GROUP:
Pauline Junior / Teen: Fr. Jeremy Santoso

Legion of Mary: Merwyn D'Souza - 0404 863 564

Playgroup: Kathy-lynn Azzi - 0416 225 815

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



Sixth Sunday of Easter
14TH MAY 2023
YEAR A

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
Her children rise up and call her blessed
November 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: MAY

For church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

FIRST FRIDAY:

11:00am: Maltese Mass
06:30pm: Confession
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 - any time



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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

- Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **(R.)**
- 'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. **(R.)**
- He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. **(R.)**
- Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

1 Pt 3:15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jn 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I

will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord,
and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete,
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

MEDITATION:



What makes us both fully human and truly like God? Is it not unconditional love which is unselfish, undying, and wholly directed to the good of others? The love of God unites us in an unbreakable bond of fidelity, friendship, and community with others. Jesus loved his own until the very end of his passion and death on the cross (John 13:1). How do we know that God truly loves each one of us? In the cross we see the proof of God's love for each of us and the incredible price God was willing to pay to redeem us from slavery to sin, death, and Satan. Jesus gave up his life that we might have life - abundant, everlasting life with God - a life of love and unity with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever. Through the cross Jesus opened a new way of relationship for us as the adopted sons and daughters of God - his beloved children (Romans 8:14-17). Jesus calls his disciples to walk in his way of love through obedience to the will of the Father. True love is more than sentiment, emotion, or good intention. As important as these may be they are not the proof of sincere love. True love for God is expressed in obedience and obedience is expressed in love.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 21 MAY 2023 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A

Acts 1:1 - 11; Eph 1:17 - 23; Mt 28:16 - 20

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL 20 & 21 MAY 2023

Dear Parishioners, Next weekend, our Parish is proud to support the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal raising funds for Aboriginal Catholic Care at Emerton. The centre helps people seeking practical assistance, learning opportunities, and connection with others.

This may be through healthcare, help with everyday family needs, or financial and legal counselling. There's also help for people impacted by domestic violence and those who are navigating the justice system or needing mentoring support.

Your generosity will help Aboriginal Catholic Care to provide a welcoming place where people experiencing tough times can be supported with kindness and compassion.

Please give generously via the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal giving envelopes or online at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal.



MAY DEVOTIONS

During the month of May, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after all Morning Masses and recitation of the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Act of Consecration.

Within the cycle of a year, the Church unfolds the whole of the mystery of Christ from His incarnation and birth until His ascension, the day of Pentecost and the expectation of Blessed hope and of the Lord's return. In celebrating this annual cycle of Christ's mysteries, the Church honours with special love **Mary, the Mother of God** who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son. In her, the Church holds up and admires the most excellent effect of the redemption and joyfully contemplates, as in a flawless image, that which the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be. (SC102,103)

PRAYER REQUESTS

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ◆ Reuben Dias | ◆ Fr. Gabriel Taylor | ◆ Charles Zammit |
| ◆ Leonardo Pedavoli | ◆ Mary Callagja | ◆ David O'Connor |
| ◆ Shelly Barnes | ◆ Rita Figredo | ◆ Marcelina Domingo |
| ◆ Robbie Barnes | ◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria | ◆ Jacqueline Parr |
| ◆ Therese Nicolas | ◆ Salam Awkar | |
| ◆ Hermie Alves | ◆ Leila Rouhana | |



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 Name: Merrylands Catholic Church

(Please specify details of your contribution i.e. Envelope Number or First Collection or Second Collection).

HOME VISITS



Do you know someone living in the Parish who is **permanently housebound and cannot get to Mass?** If you know someone in that situation and the person wishes to receive Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick or Confession; home visits are conducted by our Priests. Please call our Parish office during opening hours with details and a visit will be arranged. **Thank you**

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**



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

This **Sunday, 14 May 2023** couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries are invited for a special blessing at the 10:30am Mass.
We wish all these couples God's blessings and graces.

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



ROSARY PROCESSION - 27 MAY 2023

The Legion of Mary, in conjunction with the Prospect Curia, is organizing a rosary procession on **Saturday (27 May)** of the Marian Month of May.

The procession will commence immediately after the 8:30am Mass and will go around the Church and Primary School block. We encourage all parishioners and families to participate in this public witness of praying the rosary. Thank you all Marian devotees.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

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 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.

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.**



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 \$6 each (burns upto 70 hours)

Large plastic candle \$10 each (burns upto 7days)

Large glass candle \$12 each (burns upto 7days)

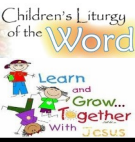
YOUTH GROUP @ SMM

Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 26 May)

Our youth group for Primary School Students. It meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month starting at 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

Pauline Teen (Next Meeting: 26 May)

Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month starting at 8:00pm to 9:00pm. For further information please contact Fr. Jeremy at Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org



AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH

Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (21 May 2023) there will be a Children's Liturgy during the 10:30am Mass.

All children are welcome to attend.

28 MAY 2023

1:00 – 1:30pm

Silent Adoration

1:30 – 3:00pm

Devotions

3:00 pm

Special Holy Mass

All are welcome to come and pray with us.



MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER



Mary, on this day, when we honour all mothers, grand-mothers, carers; we turn to you.

We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood. Dear Mother, thank you for your "Yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human history. You opened yourself to God's word and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. Intercede for all of our mothers. Please ask your Divine Son to give them the grace of surrendered love so that they could

join with you in giving their own.

May they find daily strength to say "yes" to the call to the sacrificial love- the very heart of the vocation of motherhood. May their love and witness be a source of great inspiration for all of us called to follow your Son. On this Mothers' day, Mother of the Word Incarnate, pray for us who have recourse to you. **Amen**