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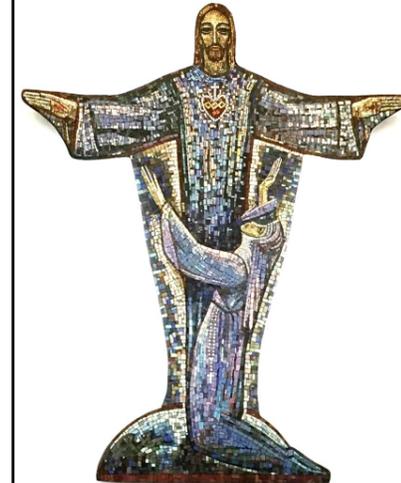
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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: John Donaldson - 0422 656 991

Playgroup: Nicole Gadd - 0402 350 170

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



Feast of St. Paul
The First Hermit
15th January 2023

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: JANUARY

For educators
We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

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

O that I had wings like a dove to fly away and be at rest. So I would escape far away and take refuge in the desert. I would hasten to find a shelter from the raging wind.

FIRST READING

A reading from the first book of Kings

1 Kg 17 2-6

The word of the Lord came to him, saying, "Go from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the Wadi Cherith, which is East of the Jordan. You shall drink from the Wadi, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." So he went and did according to the word of the Lord; he went and lived by the Wadi Cherith, which is East of the Jordan. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the Wadi.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) I will always thank the Lord

- I will always thank the Lord, I will never stop praising Him. I will praise Him for what He has done, May all who are oppressed listen and be glad. (R.)
- Proclaim with me the Lord's greatness, Let us praise His Name together! The oppressed look to Him and are glad, They will never be disappointed. (R.)
- Then keep from speaking evil, And from telling lies. Turn away from evil and do good, Strive for peace with all your heart. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Galatians

Gal 2:19-20,5:24-25,6:14-17

For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life, I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I thank you, Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth, because You have shown these things to the unlearned. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Mt 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such

was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

He makes us remember his wonders. The Lord is compassion and love. He gives food to those who fear him; keeps his covenant ever in mind.

MEDITATION:



Do you want to know the mind and thoughts of God? Jesus thanks the Father in heaven for revealing to his disciples the wisdom and knowledge of God. What does Jesus' prayer tell us about God and about ourselves? First, it tells us that God is both Father and Lord of earth as well as heaven. He is both Creator and Author of all that he has made, the first origin of everything and

transcendent authority, and at the same time, goodness and loving care for all his children. All fatherhood and motherhood is derived from him (Ephesians 3:14-15). Jesus' prayer also contains a warning that pride can keep us from the love and knowledge of God. What makes us ignorant and blind to the things of God? Certainly intellectual pride, coldness of heart, and stubbornness of will shut out God and his kingdom. Pride is the root of all vice and the strongest influence propelling us to sin. It first vanquishes the heart, making it cold and indifferent towards God. It also closes the mind to God's truth and wisdom for our lives. What is pride? It is the inordinate love of oneself at the expense of others and the exaggerated estimation of one's own learning and importance. The yoke of Christ's kingdom, his kingly rule and way of life, liberates us from the burden of guilt and from the oppression of sin and hurtful desires. Only Jesus can lift the burden of sin and the weight of hopelessness from us. Jesus used the analogy of a yoke to explain how we can exchange the burden of sin and despair for a burden of glory and yoke of freedom from sin. The yoke which Jesus invites us to embrace is his way of grace and freedom from the power of sin. Do you trust in God's love and submit to his will and plan for your life?

Feast Day of St Paul the First Hermit SUNDAY - 15 JANUARY 2023

- Solemn Mass at 10:30am (special blessings for children & blessings of dates & apricots.
- Special 3rd collection at all Masses to support Seminarians of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit in Australia and overseas.



The Parish truly appreciates and are extremely thankful to Dominic Grech, Edgar D'souza, Peter Newman, Peter Carroll, Cyril, Ray Murace, Ben Thio & Rebecca Sahyoun for their valuable time dismantling the two inoperable pianos in the choir loft and Piety Shop, cleaning, moving & re-arranging things in the Church premises.



Prayer to St Michael The Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

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).

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.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
22 JANUARY 2023
 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)
 Is 8:23 - 9:3; 1 Cor 1:10 - 13,17; Mt 4:12-23

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

FATHER JOSEPH MARIA BUCKLEY FAREWELL MASS 15 JANUARY 2023 - 10:30AM

We have been blessed over the last 3 years to have had the presence of Father Joseph Maria Buckley at St Margaret Mary's parish as our assistant Priest. His contribution to our Parish has been invaluable. Father Joseph has been assigned a new role at the Monastery in Berrima. May our Triune God bless Father Joseph as he continues his ministry and may our Blessed Mother guide and protect him always.

A farewell Mass for Father Joseph is on Sunday at 10:30am followed by a Parish Morning tea in the Pastoral Centre. Please bring a plate to share.

FEAST DAY OF BLESSED EUSEBIUS OF ESZTEGOM
 Founder of the Pauline Order
FRIDAY 20 JANUARY 2023

MASS TIMES 01 -31 JANUARY 2023

- 09:15 am - Monday
- 09:00 am - Tuesday to Friday
- 08:30 am - Saturday
- NO Evening Weekday Masses
- Weekend Masses as usual
- 06:00 pm - Saturday (Vigil)
- 07:30 am, 09:00am, 10:30am - Sunday
- 06:00 pm - Sunday

ALL DEVOTIONS, ADORATIONS & EVENING MASSES WILL RESUME ON 1ST FEBRUARY 2023

CHRISTMAS & DEVOTIONAL RELIGIOUS CANDLES

A variety of devotional candles and Christmas 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)

SOLEMNITY OF ST. PAUL THE FIRST HERMIT SUNDAY - 15 JANUARY 2023

To prepare for this Solemnity, the Novena to St. Paul will be recited after morning Mass beginning on Friday, 06 January and concluding on Sunday, 15 January, which will be our Patronal Feast Day. We ask all our Parishioners to pray for all the Priests, brothers & seminarians in the order of St Paul the First Hermit and for an increase in vocations to the order.

Invocations to St. Paul the First Hermit

Saint Paul, Patriarch of our Order, Saint Paul, faithful follower of Christ Saint Paul, man of strong and lively faith, Saint Paul, lover of solitude, Saint Paul, persevering in prayer and penance, Saint Paul, patient in bearing the difficulties of the eremitical life, Saint Paul, embracing with your devoted love the Church of Christ and the whole mankind, Saint Paul, model of perseverance in your chosen way of life, Saint Paul, prepared to meet God at the time of death, That we may be faithful to our monastic vocation,

Pray for us.

Intercede to God for us

That through the observance of our religious vows, we may become more Christ-like, That we may fulfil Christ's command to love all men, That we may pray well and unceasingly, That we may participate in the saving love of Christ through a penitential life, That we may not succumb to the temptation of mediocrity, That we may prudently profit from the fruits of the land and from technical and cultural achievements; That we may fearlessly strive to attain that love exemplified in the Gospel, That we may feel responsible for our Order and its apostolic works, That we may persevere in our Order until death, Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Hermits and Patroness of our Order,

We beg you Lord, hear us!

Through the merits of all the Saints of our Order, That you may graciously grant our monastic community an increase in number and an enrichment of virtues, That you may generously provide graces for our families, confraters and benefactors, That you may show your mercy to our brothers, who have left our community, That you may remedy the failures and defects of our love, That you may grant the grace of conversion to the enemies of the Church, That you may grant eternal happiness to our deceased brothers, parents, relatives, confraters and benefactors.

L: Pray for us St. Paul the First Hermit, All That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. L: Let us pray:

O God, who willed that St. Paul, our Father, reach a high degree of sanctity through a life of solitude in the desert, grant that, through this intercession, we who are striving to develop in ourselves a spirit of prayer and service, may come ever closer to you in love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen