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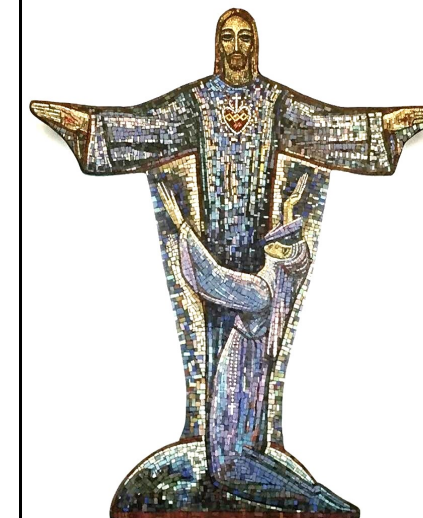
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CONTACT US

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



Year A
18th
December
2022



Fourth Sunday of Advent

WEEKEND MASSES:		WEEKDAY MASSES:	
Saturday:	6:00pm Vigil	Monday:	9:15am
Sunday:	7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 6:00pm	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: DECEMBER

For volunteer not-for-profit organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

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

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No', Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us".'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

- The Lord's is the earth and its fullness,
the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas;
on the waters he made it firm. **(R.)**
- Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. **(R.)**
- He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God, who, according to the human nature he took, was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because


she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

MEDITATION:

 Like Mary, Joseph is a model of faith for us. He is a faithful witness and servant of God's unfolding plan of redemption. Are you ready to believe in the promises of God, even when faced with perplexing circumstances and what seems like insurmountable problems? God has not left us alone, but has brought us his only begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us celebrate Christmas, the feast of the Incarnation, with joyful hearts and let us renew our faith and hope in God and in his redeeming work. **Lord Jesus, you came to save us from sin and the power of death. May I always rejoice in your salvation and trust in your divine plan for my life**

THANK YOU CHRISTMAS RAFFLE DRAW & SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Another successful Parish fundraising event...Our Christmas Raffle Draw held last Sunday, 11 December 2022. It was a wonderful sunny day interspersed by mouth watering sausage sizzle combos, exciting raffle lucky draw of 36 fantastic prizes, 6 bonus prizes, 3 jackpot prizes, meat-tray auction, coin-toss competitions, lolly-jar guessing competition, games for kids and last but not the least a grand entrance by Santa. An event like this takes a lot of valuable time and effort to organise.

An enormous **THANK YOU** to all our Parishioners and volunteers who helped with the organising, preparation and sale of the sausage sizzle, soft drinks, water, tea, coffee, Christmas cookie and zipper dooper, sale of the raffle tickets, wrapping of the gift hampers, helped set-up before and clean up afterwards and in many other ways.

Christmas Raffle 2022 would not have been possible without our generous anonymous benefactors and our business sponsors: **ECove, Miller Prince, Louis Mechanic Service, RnM Tyre Centre, Sydney Property Realty, Hup Fatt Butchery, John's Quality Meats, Essey Brothers Pty Ltd., Food Choice Family Restaurant, Villaggio, Medi Rejeune, Tre's Sally, GD Hair Studio, Sheila Sharma Mobile Physiotherapist, The Skin Clinic, MRSL Club, The Spectacle Spot, Bunnings Warehouse, ZiMa Business & Taxation Consultants, Cincotta Chemist, Trim's Fresh, Kmart, Florentine Eyewear, Officeworks Wentworthville, Urban Equipment, Cotton On, Coolibah Hotel, Ablas Patisserie, Train n Tone Female Fitness & Personal Training Studio.**

The proceeds, which will go towards our Parish, will be announced shortly.

Fr. Janusz Pawlica
Parish Priest

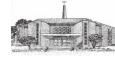


PRAYER REQUESTS

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ◆ Reuben Dias | ◆ Therese Nicolas | ◆ Rita Figredo |
| ◆ Leonardo Pedavoli | ◆ Hermie Alves | ◆ Roxane Recto-Cavanagh |
| ◆ Shelly Barnes | ◆ Fr. Gabriel Taylor | ◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria |
| ◆ Robbie Barnes | ◆ Doreen Callagja | |

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**



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**



ADVENT AT OUR PARISH

Everyday after Morning Mass

As we joyfully await the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, all are invited to join in spiritual Advent preparations following morning Masses every day .

This includes Exposition of the Blessed sacrament, Advent prayer, one decade of the Rosary for our Parish Community and five minutes of private adoration.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
25 DECEMBER 2022
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
(CHRISTMAS - YEAR A)
Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18



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'.

On 6 January 2023, First Friday of the month after 7pm Mass, Scriptural Rosaries, 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



The Parish once again thank Dominic Grech and Edgar D'souza for their valuable time for the repairs and maintenance work in the Church premises.

The Parish has invested in three cordless microphones for a better and improved sound quality usage in the Church.



CHRISTMAS MASS 2022

CHRISTMAS EVE :

SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER

*** 6:00 pm - Family Mass**

(children are welcome to come dressed as angels, shepherds or kings)

*** 11:30pm - Christmas Carols**

*** 12:00am - Midnight Mass**

CHRISTMAS DAY:

SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER

*** 7:30 am**

*** 9:00 am**

*** 10:30 am**

There will be NO EVENING MASS

Simbang Gabi

The devotional nine-day series of Masses in anticipation of Christmas



Dawn Mass at St. Margaret Mary's Parish
16 to 24 December 2022 at 5:00am

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Christmas tradition. It is a series of nine dawn masses on the days leading to Christmas. It begins on December 16 and ends on December 24. **ALL ARE WELCOME**



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)



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.**



Why was Santa's little helper depressed?
Because he had very low elf esteem.

Why is Santa so good at karate?
Cause he's got a black belt.

How do you know when Santa's around?
You can always sense his presents.

