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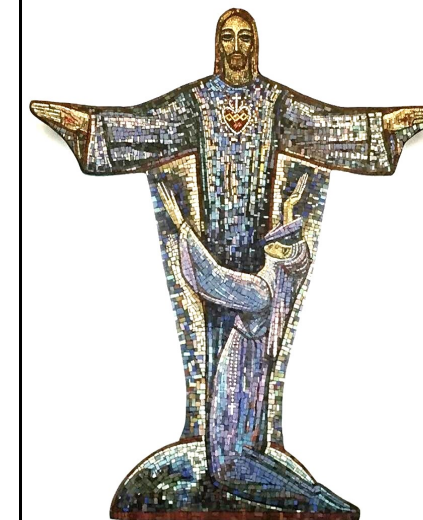
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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 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



Fourth SUNDAY IN LENT
19TH MARCH 2023
YEAR A



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

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING

1 Sm 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

- The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
- He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
- You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
- Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

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


COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed,
I saw and I believed in God.

MEDITATION:



Do you recognize the light of God's truth and power in your life? God wants to remove every obstacle that might hinder us from recognizing the light of his truth and wisdom for our lives. What can keep us from the light of God's truth, wisdom, and strength for our lives? Sin blinds us and causes us to stumble and fall - unable to rise on our own or to walk in the freedom of God's love and truth. Sin clouds the mind in moral confusion, and it grows in darkness and resists the light of God's truth. Only God's light can uncover the darkness of sin and free us to walk in the path of holiness and peace with God. **Jesus, in your name the blind see, the lame walk, and the dead are raised to life. Come into our lives and heal the wounds of our broken hearts. Give us eyes of faith to see your glory and hearts of courage to bring you glory in all we say and do.**


 The Parish truly appreciate and sincerely thank our two anonymous Parishioners for their kindness and generosity in donating the lovely newly printed Stations of the Cross booklets. These Station of the Cross booklets belong to the Parish and a humble request to please ensure that they are returned at the end of Stations of the Cross every Tuesday Morning and Friday evenings.

 **SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD SATURDAY - 25 MARCH 2023**


 **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	◆ Mary Callagja	◆ Charles Zammit
◆ Shelly Barnes	◆ Rita Figredo	◆ David O'Connor
◆ Robbie Barnes	◆ Roxane Recto-Cavanagh	◆ Pat McClean
◆ Therese Nicolas	◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria	◆ Marcelina Domingos
◆ Hermie Alves	◆ Salam Awkar	


 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
26 MARCH 2023
Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A)
Ezek 37:12 - 14; Rom 8:8 - 11; Jn 11:1 - 45



 **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


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**



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.

 **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.

YOUTH GROUP @ SMM
Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 24 March)
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: 24 March)
Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month starting at 8:00pm to 9:00pm.



 **Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal**
25 & 26 March 2023
"Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will feed you on knowledge and understanding"(Jer3:15) Please support our seminarians to humbly serve our faith community. **Our Parish quota is approx \$8000 for this Appeal so we request our Parishioners for their generous contributions.** Help form the future of our Church and please give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal via envelopes or @yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.

26 MARCH 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.



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. Joseph
Monday - 20 March 2023