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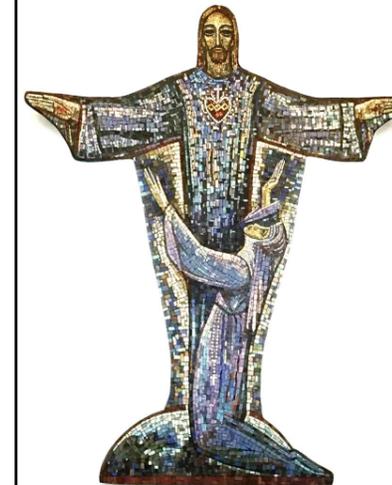
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# ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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:** 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



Third Sunday in ordinary time - Year C  
**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2022**  
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me

### 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: JANUARY

#### For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

#### 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

#### VEPERS- 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

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

### FIRST READING

Neh 8:2-6. 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read. Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep'. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law. He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

- 1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)
2. The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. (R.)
3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. (R.)
4. May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock! (R.)

### SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:12-30

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

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body? If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it is not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything? Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you,' nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.' What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the

body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Lk 1:1-4. 4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received. Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him. He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

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

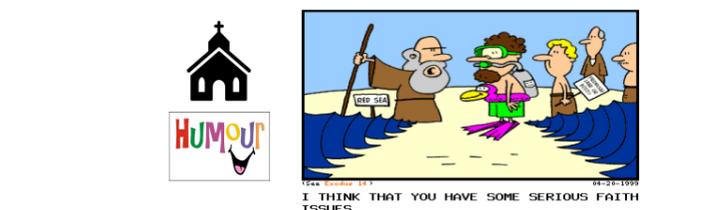
### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

### MEDITATION:

The Lord Jesus speaks this same word to each of us today - he comes to bring us healing and restoration, pardon and freedom from the oppression of sin, despair, hopelessness, and destruction. Do you believe his word with expectant faith and trust, or with doubt and indifference? The Lord will not refuse to pour out his Spirit on all who trust in him. Ask the Lord Jesus to renew in you the joy of the Gospel and the freedom to live each day with trusting faith, joyful hope, and fervent love.

Lord Jesus, you are the fulfillment of all our hopes and dreams. Through the gift of your Holy Spirit you bring us truth, freedom, and abundant life. Fill me with the joy of the Gospel and inflame my heart with a burning love for you and a deep thirst for your word.



### PRAYER REQUESTS

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



### 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).



### 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.

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

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 30 JANUARY 2022

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1Cor 12:31, 13:13; Lk 4:21-30

### FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD Wednesday - 02 February 2022 9:00am & 7:00pm Mass Blessing of Candles

The Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus. As is the tradition, candles will be blessed during both Masses on Wednesday (2nd February 2022). Please bring your candle to be blessed.



01st - 31st JANUARY 2022

- 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 2022



As we gather with family and friends to celebrate Australia Day on Wednesday, 26 January 2022; let us remember to take a moment to pause and be thankful for the many blessings & cultures that our God has given to our land and its people; and to be grateful especially for the gift of peace and freedom of Religion.

### PRAYER TO MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS PATRONESS OF AUSTRALIA

Almighty God, deepen in our hearts our love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers and under her protection, may the light of Christ shine over our land. May Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. Grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Bless especially the men and women of the Australian Defence Forces and their families. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary Help of Christians, pray for us.



### 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 until Friday, 11 February 2022. (Enrolment Fee \$50 per child) Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website or are available at our Parish Office during working hours. Parents Night: Monday: 07 February at 6:00pm, Wednesday: 09 February at 6:00pm, Venue: Inside the Church

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.



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

### 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