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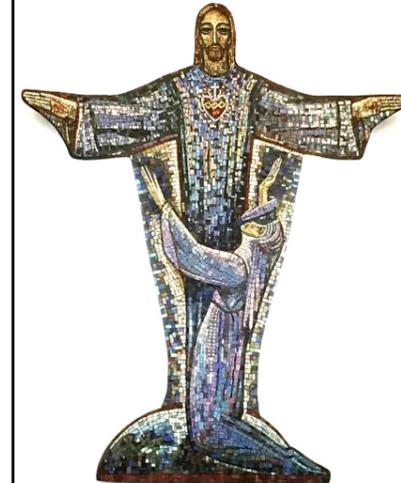
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# ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS

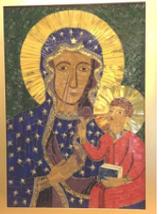


Our Parish is under the Pastoral Care of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit (known as the Pauline Fathers) who for more than 630 years are renowned Custodians of the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Jasna Gora, Poland.



**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



**Fourth SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**  
**YEAR C**



**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 a Christian response to bioethical challenges**

We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

**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

**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 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

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

### FIRST READING

Ex 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

- 1. I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
2. Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)
3. Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress. (R.)

### SECOND READING

2 Cor 5:7-21

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

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

### GOSPEL

Lk 15:1-3. 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his

money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening." 'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

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

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.

### MEDITATION:

In this parable Jesus gives a vivid picture of God and what God is like. God is truly kinder than any of us. He does not lose hope or give up when we stray from him. He is always on the lookout for those who have a change of heart and want to return. He rejoices in finding the lost and in welcoming them home. Do you know the joy of repentance and the restoration of relationship as a son or daughter of your heavenly Father? Lord Jesus, may I never doubt your love nor take for granted the mercy you have shown to me. Fill me with your transforming love that I may be merciful as you are merciful.



### 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, Raymond Laoulach, Ramona Sassine, John Bartolo, Bob Sinclair, Barbara Hanna, Anthony Hanna, Carlos Rivanar, Josephine Hanna, Leonardo Pedavoli, Smiljana Milina, Roneth Jaro, Jayden Jong, Reuben Dias



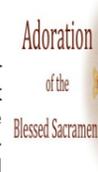
### SUPPORT

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).

### 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



### 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'. Every First Friday of the month after 7pm Mass, Scriptural Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, 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 "IN THE END, MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH"

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 05 APRIL 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C Is 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11



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

### SCRIPTURE STUDY

You are invited to experience the joy of "the Word of God" in a weekly Lenten discussion meeting on Thursdays at 7pm at St. Margaret Mary's Pastoral Centre. For further queries, contact Gwen on 9632 9097



### Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal 26 & 27 March 2022

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Catholic Care's Community Drop-in Centres. They are working hard to reach our neighbours in need and to reduce social isolation and loneliness throughout our community. Will you be a Good Samaritan and help Catholic Care reach our vulnerable neighbours, so they have safe, welcoming places to connect with others and access support. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good SamaritanAppeal@yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.



### PROJECT COMPASSION 2022

The theme of Project Compassion 2022 is 'For All Future Generations' and reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au lent.caritas.org.au



### JOIN THE FAMILY CHOIR TO SING AT THE EASTER VIGIL MASS ON 16 APRIL

Please come forward and join the Family Choir and be part of our Easter Vigil Family Mass at 7pm.



### YOUTH GROUP @ SMM

Young Adults Our youth group for young adults aged 18-30. It meets every 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month. Next Meeting: 01 April



### 2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION Wednesday 06 April 2022 after 7:00pm MASS

The 2nd rite of Reconciliation will be held on 06 April 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.



### EASTER CANDLES

Easter glass candles are being sold at the Parish. 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. Easter candle \$12 each (burns up to 7days) We have limited stock so hurry and get yours. Contact the Parish Office during working hours for purchase of candles or further details. Thank you.



### ANNUAL CHURCH INSURANCE

We would like to thank our Parishioners for their generous contributions and donations towards the Parish which has helped paying our annual Church Insurance bill of approx. \$30,000. Our humble request to kindly continue to financially support our Parish by contributing towards Planned giving, Sunday Collections or donations to the Church. God Bless you.



### CHURCH SANCTUARY UPGRADES

Our Parish Priest has executed his plans for uplifting the sanctuary area in the Church with the professional assistance of Tony. The beautifully designed new seats are already in place and there are more surprises to follow.



This has been generously donated by an 'Anonymous' benefactor. We truly appreciate and thank our special Parishioner for everything you do for the Church. May God shower his blessings on you and your family.

### Table Tennis social nights

Every Tuesday evening, in the Pastoral Centre from approx 7:30 pm after the evening Mass. \* Players of all abilities welcome & refreshments provided



27 MARCH 2022 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. DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

LENT 2022 STATIONS OF THE CROSS WEDNESDAY - 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 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.