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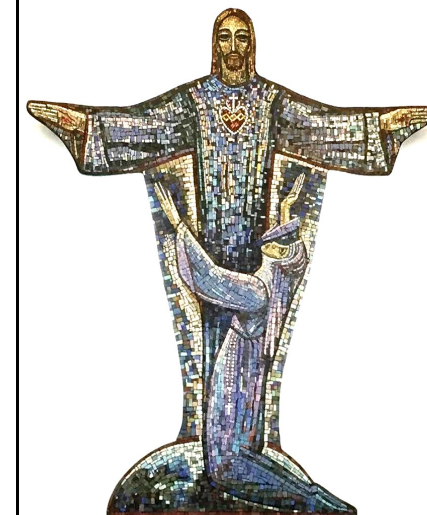
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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. Wojciech Sliwa

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:**
♦ **Secretary:**

Fundraising Committee:
♦ Mike Jacobson - 0438 590 136

Catechists: Sonia Abi-Rached

Music : Kerry van der Linden

Sacraments: Monique Kairouz

Acolytes / RCIA : Peter Carroll - 0414 070 082

Readers: Gwen D'Silva

YOUTH GROUP:
Pauline Junior / Teen: Fr. Jeremy Santoso

Legion of Mary: Merwyn D'Souza - 0404 863 564

Playgroup: Kathy-lynn Azzi - 0416 225 815

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



YEAR A
23RD
JULY
2023



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: JULY

For a Eucharistic life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

FIRST FRIDAY:

11:00am: Maltese Mass
06:30pm: Confession
07:00pm: Holy Mass, Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Thursdays-Eucharistic Adoration: 9:30am - 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

RCIA SESSIONS- SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:00am Mass followed by session 10:00am - 11:00am

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 8:30am - 9:30am and 4:30pm - 5:30pm

MARRIAGES:

By appointment only (6 months required)

SICK CALLS:

9637 2526 - option 3 - any time





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switch off your mobile phone

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

- O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice. *(R.)*
- All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God. *(R.)*
- But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner’s servants went to him and said, “Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?” “Some enemy has done this” he

answered. And the servants said, “Do you want us to go and weed it out?” But he said, “No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.”’ He put another parable before them, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.’ He told them another parable, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.’ In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy: I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world. Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, ‘Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.’ He said in reply, ‘The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!’

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

MEDITATION

What can malicious weed-sowing tell us about the kingdom of God (Matthew 13:25)? The image Jesus uses in this parable is a common everyday example of planting, harvesting, and sorting the good fruit from the bad. Weeds can spoil and even kill a good harvest if they are not separated and destroyed at the proper time. Uprooting them too early, though, can destroy the good plants in the process. Good and evil are sown in our hearts like tiny seeds which germinate, and in due time yield a harvest of good or bad fruit. Charles Read said: "Sow an act and you reap a habit. Sow a habit and you reap a character. Sow a character and you reap a destiny." In the day of judgment each will reap what he or she has sown in this life. Those who sow good will shine in the kingdom of their Father. They will radiate with the beauty, joy, and fullness of God's love. Do you allow the love of Christ to rule in your heart and in your actions?
Lord Jesus, let your word take root in my heart and may your all-consuming love transform my life that I may sow what is good, worthy, and pleasing to you.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
30 JULY 2023
17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A
1Kgs 3:5, 7 - 12; Rom 8:28 - 30; Mt 13:44 - 52

SPEAK TO ME
L
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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




23 JULY 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.

NOVENA TO ST. CHARBEL
(15 JULY - 23 JULY 2023)
Commencing from Saturday - 15 July there will be Novena prayers to St. Charbel after Mass which will conclude on Sunday - 23 July.
Feast of St. Charbel will be on Monday - 24 July 2023.




ACOLYTES MEETING
SATURDAY - 29 JULY 2023
All Acolytes of our Parish are invited to attend a meeting with the Parish Priest on **Saturday, 29 July 2023 at 10:15am** in the Pastoral Centre, followed by morning tea.



PARISH CAR BLESSING & MORNING TEA
SUNDAY - 30 JULY 2023

St. Christopher known as the patron saint of travelers protecting them from danger and illness. Through his intercession of safe travel and protection, for all our Parishioners who wish to have their car blessed, after 10:30am Mass please enter through the school entrance church carpark from **Davies St.** and drive through the school grounds and exit to **Henson St.** A request to kindly follow instructions from our volunteers, who will be there to guide the drivers in a systematic manner from the entrance to the exit. Thank you. After blessing of the cars, please join the Parish for **Morning Tea** in the Pastoral Centre. All are welcome.
We request our Parishioners to kindly bring a plate to share.



ON 04 AUGUST 2023 AT 7:00PM
(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'. Followed by Adoration, Scriptural Rosaries & Nine Office of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, until Midnight.
"IN THE END, MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH"



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. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed after morning Mass every Thursday until 2:30pm. **ALL ARE WELCOME**



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

RCIA PROGRAM

RCIA is an ongoing Apostolate in this Parish. The RCIA Apostolate consists of a dedicated team of volunteers who have received instructions to guide anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church through weekly preparations classes and regular Mass attendance.
If you know of anyone who wishes to enter the Catholic Faith, who has been baptised in another Faith or unbaptised and wishes to complete the Sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church; Please see our Priests after Mass during the weekends or contact the **RCIA Coordinator Peter Carroll on 0414 070 082** or the Parish Office.



CANDLESTANDS IN OUR CHURCH

Our Parish has invested in three new candle stands placed at Divine Mercy, Sacred Heart of Jesus and Our Blessed Virgin Mary.
Parishioners are encouraged to offer their prayer devotions by lighting a real candle in a traditional way along with a monetary offering.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◆ Reuben Dias
- ◆ Leonardo Pedavoli
- ◆ Shelly Barnes
- ◆ Robbie Barnes
- ◆ Therese Nicolas
- ◆ Hermie Alves

- ◆ Mary Callagja
- ◆ Rita Figredo
- ◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria
- ◆ Salam Awkar
- ◆ Leila Rouhana
- ◆ Charles Zammit

- ◆ David O'Connor
- ◆ Marcelina Domingo
- ◆ Jacqueline Parr



DIOCESAN SYNOD 2023

A synod of the Parramatta Diocese comprising clergy, religious and laity, chaired by Bishop, will be held from **12-15 October 2023**, to decide issues to form the basis of a pastoral plan.
Parishioners are invited to suggest ideas to help form issues considered by the synod. Ideas should relate to **"How can we improve community and devotional life and missionary activity in parishes and diocese?"** Example ideas are: establish groups of under-represented parishioners (e.g. men, youth), closer parish-school links, more processions, longer adoration times, etc. Submissions can be made by **31 July** at https://parracatholic.org/synod2023_submissions/ or by mail to: **Synod C/- Bethany Centre, 470 Church Street. Parramatta, NSW 2150.**

YOUTH GROUP @ SMM
Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 28 July)
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: 28 July)
Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month starting at 8:00pm to 9:00pm.
For further information please contact Fr. Jeremy at Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

First Collection (Priests)
Account: Order of St. Paul The First Hermit Merrylands
BSB: 062 202 Account Number: 10869892
Second Collection (Parish)
Account: Merrylands Catholic Church
BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 00438

Last weekend First Collection was **\$2289.90**
Last weekend Second Collection was **\$3329.95**

Thank you for you continued support and generosity. God bless.

HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT PRAYER

This weekend (**22 - 23 July**) Saturday Vigil and Sundays Masses, all the children enrolled for the Sacrament of Holy Communion are requested along with their parents to attend any one of the weekend Mass.
At the end of the Mass, they will be invited forward to say the Enrolment Prayer as a spiritual beginning to the child's formation in the Sacrament.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

Sacrament of First Holy Communion program is divided into two groups taught by Monique Kairouz & assisted by Fr. Jeremy Santoso.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM:
All preparation sessions held on **MONDAY or TUESDAY at 5:30-7:00pm**
Session 1: 24 JULY or 25 JULY 2023
Session 2: 31 JULY or 01 AUGUST 2023
Session 3: 07 AUGUST or 08 AUGUST 2023
Session 4: 14 AUGUST or 15 AUGUST 2023
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre.

Rehearsal Group 1: Thursday- 24 August at 6:00pm
Rehearsal Group 2: Thursday- 31 August at 6:00pm

First Holy Communion Group 1: Sunday- 27 August at 10:30am
Group 2: Sunday- 03 September at 10:30am