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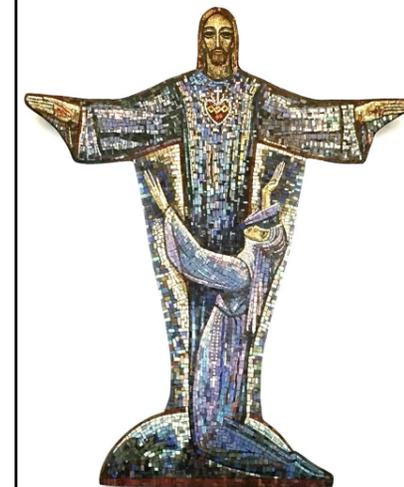
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# ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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  
sacraments@stmm.org.au

**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



13 August 2023

**19th**  
Sunday of  
Ordinary Time

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: AUGUST

### For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

### 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  
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 5:15pm - 5:45pm

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

**MARRIAGES:** By appointment only (6 months required)

**SICK CALLS:** 9637 2526 - option 3 - any time



Please remember to switch off your mobile phone

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

## FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9,11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

- I will hear what the Lord God has to say, a voice that speaks of peace. His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
- Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced. Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. (R.)
- The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit. Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

## SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The Word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I hope in the Lord,  
I trust in his word.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 14:22 - 33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the

crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

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

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The bread that I will give, says the Lord, is my flesh for the life of the world.



## MEDITATION

Does the Lord Jesus seem distant when trials or adversity come your way? It was at Jesus' initiative that the disciples sailed across the lake, only to find themselves in a life-threatening storm. Although they were experienced fishermen, they feared for their lives. While Jesus was not with them in the boat, he, nonetheless watched for them in prayer. When he perceived their trouble he came to them on the sea and startled them with his sudden appearance. Do you look for the Lord's presence when you encounter difficulty or challenges? The Lord keeps watch over us at all times, and especially in our moments of temptation and difficulty. Do you rely on the Lord for his strength and help? Jesus assures us that we have no need of fear if we trust in Him and in his great love for us. When calamities or trials threaten to overwhelm you, how do you respond? With faith and hope in God's love, care and presence with you? Lord Jesus, help me to trust you always and to never doubt your presence and your power to help me. In my moments of doubt and weakness, may I cling to you as Peter did. Strengthen my faith that I may walk straight in the path you set before me, neither veering to the left nor to the right.

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 20 AUGUST 2023 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Is 56:1,6 - 7; Rom 11:13 - 15, 29 - 32; Mt 15:21 - 28



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



## NOVENA TO THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Will commence from Sunday, 06 August 2023 and conclude on Monday, 14 August 2023 after Mass.

## SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Tuesday 15 August 2023

The Solemnity of the Assumption will be celebrated on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August in our Parish. This is a Holy Day of Obligation which means that every Catholic is bound to attend Mass.

### MASS TIMES

9:00am	School Mass
12 Noon	Solemn Mass
6:30pm	Exposition, Holy Rosary & Litany
7:00pm	Solemn Mass

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

This Sunday, 13 August 2023 couples celebrating their wedding anniversary are invited for a special blessing at the 10:30am Mass.

We wish all these couples God's blessings and graces.



Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (20 August 2023) there will be a Children's Liturgy during the 10:30am Mass. All children are welcome to attend.

## NOVENA IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA 17 AUGUST - 25 AUGUST 2023



The Feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa will be celebrated on Saturday 26 August 2023. The Pauline Fathers are the official custodians of this icon. Throughout history, the icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa has been a source of inspiration and courage to many; including Polish leaders of the army and royalty. She has helped them to achieve miraculous victories & feats, against all odds.

### NOVENA

O Holy Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, we believe in your triumphant Assumption into heaven where angels and saints acclaim you as Queen. Through your Holy Icon, O Our Lady of Mercy, flow healing and wholeness in abundance to all who draw near to it in faith and love.

Queen of Mercy, we turn to you for protection, listen to our prayers and help us in our needs. Do not cease to shine before the pilgrim people of God as a sign of sure hope and consolation. We entrust to you all troubled families, the innocent and unborn children, the elderly with no one to help them, and all who are alone and without hope. Guide and sustain us, O Virgin Mary, on our journey of faith so that we might always live as true sons and daughters of the Church and obtain for us the grace of eternal salvation.

Enable all to meet Christ, the light of the World and its only Saviour, The Way, the Truth and the Life, who reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

Hail Mary .... X 3

We fly to thy patronage, O holy Mother of God; despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen

## YOUTH GROUP @ SMM

Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 25 August)

Our youth group for Primary School Students. It meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month starting at 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

Pauline Teen (Next Meeting: 25 August)

Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month starting at 8:00pm to 9:00pm.

For further information please contact Fr. Jeremy at [Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org](mailto:Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org)



## of Fr. Wojciech Sliwa Saturday - 26 August 2023

Most Rev. Bishop Vincent will celebrate the order of installation of Fr. Wojciech as Parish Priest of St. Margaret Mary's Merrylands on Saturday, 26 August at 6:00pm Mass.

After Mass, an Installation celebration will be held in the Pastoral Centre. All are welcome and we request you to kindly bring a dish to share.



## 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



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- |                   |                             |                     |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ◆ Reuben Dias     | ◆ Mary Callagja             | ◆ Charles Zammit    |
| ◆ Shelly Barnes   | ◆ Rita Figredo              | ◆ David O'Connor    |
| ◆ Robbie Barnes   | ◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria | ◆ Marcelina Domingo |
| ◆ Therese Nicolas | ◆ Salam Awkar               | ◆ Jacqueline Parr   |
| ◆ Hermie Alves    | ◆ Leila Rouhana             |                     |



## 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 \$2350.90  
Last weekend Second Collection was \$3325.80

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

it's  
BACK!



After four long years...St Margaret Mary's will be hosting it's International Food Festival on Saturday, 21 October 2023.

The Festival will be held in the Parish Hall at 7:00pm (after 6pm Vigil Mass) and feature a variety of delicious multicultural cuisines and entertainment provided by our wonderfully talented parishioners.

And of course there'll be a mega raffle draw, coin tosses and heaps more!



## INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL MEETING - WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST 2023

A meeting with the Fundraising Committee & volunteers to assist with planning, preparing and running this major social and fundraising event is scheduled for Wednesday, 16 August 2023 after 7:00pm Mass in the Pastoral Centre.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and would still like to volunteer, kindly contact Mike Jacobson from the Fundraising Committee.



## PARISH MOVIE NIGHT

The Parish is planning to organize a private screening movie night for our Parishioners at the Cinema in a few weeks time.

"Sound of Freedom" is the movie based on an incredible true story.

Please express your interest asap to Priscilla - 0411 443 783 or the Parish Office. Ticket price and further details will be available soon.



## GOD'S WORD 2024

We request our Parishioners to support our Parish with their generous purchase of GOD'S WORD 2024 for a special price of \$22 (limited stock available). Purchases may be done from the Piety Shop or Parish Office during working hours. Thank you.



## 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 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



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