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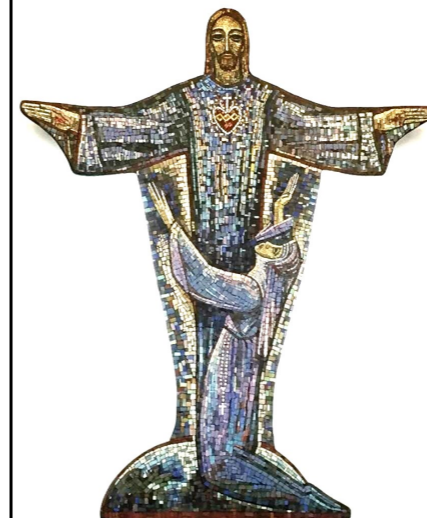
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# ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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



**SUNDAY**  
in Ordinary  
**TIME**  
20 August 2023

**O GOD,**  
LET ALL THE NATIONS  
**PRAISE YOU!**

### 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



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**Holystic Counselling**

Sandra Pazzona  
Mobile: 0413 493 267  
Email: Holysticcounselling@outlook.com



Please remember to  
switch off your mobile phone

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
and look on the face of your anointed one;  
one day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!*

- O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your saving help. *(R.)*
- Let the nations be glad and exult  
for you rule the world with justice.  
With fairness you rule the peoples,  
you guide the nations on earth. *(R.)*
- Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
till the ends of the earth revere him. *(R.)*

## SECOND READING

**Romans 11:13-15. 29-32**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice. Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
**Thanks be to God**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom  
and healed all who were sick.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

**Mt 15:21-28**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his

disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON


I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord.  
Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever.

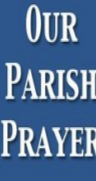
## MEDITATION



Jesus praises a Gentile woman for her faith and for her love. She made the misery of her child her own and she was willing to suffer rebuff in order to obtain healing for her loved one. She also had indomitable persistence. Her faith grew in contact with the person of Jesus. She began with a request and she ended on her knees in worshipful prayer to the living God. No one who ever sought Jesus with earnest faith - whether Jew or Gentile - was refused his help. Do you seek the Lord Jesus with expectant faith? *Lord Jesus, your love and mercy knows no bounds. May I trust you always and pursue you with indomitable persistence as this woman did. Increase my faith in your saving power and deliver me from all evil and harm.*

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS**  
**27 AUGUST 2023**  
**21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**YEAR A**  
*Is 22:19 - 23; Rom 11:33 - 36; Mt 16:13 - 20*






**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 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**






**AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH**


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.**

**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.**




**27 AUGUST 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.**



**02 - 03**  
**SEPTEMBER 2023**

Dear Parishioners, Our Parish is proud to support the **Bishop's Father's Day Appeal**, let us give thanks and care for our priests for their lifetime of selfless service to God and his people. With your kind Father's Day gift and prayers, our Clergy Support Foundation can ensure our retired priests and those in ill-health will have personalised, compassionate care when needed. Please show your support for our retired priests and give generously via [parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal](http://parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal) or the giving envelopes.  
**Thank you and God bless you for your kindness.**





**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.

**Table Tennis social nights**

Every Tuesday evening, in the Pastoral Centre after 7:00 pm evening Mass. **All are welcome.**




**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 **\$2393.05**  
Last weekend Second Collection was **\$3361.40**

**Thank you for you 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!



**FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE.**


**RAFFLE PRIZE DONATIONS**

The Fundraising Committee requests our kind-hearted Parishioners for their generous donations towards the upcoming **‘International Food Festival’ on Saturday, 21 October 2023**. We are seeking prizes of **ONLY NEW** giftware items, electronics, gift cards, gift vouchers or referrals to business owners that you are able to obtain donations from. All items to be given to either the Piety Shop or Parish Office.  
**For further information please contact Mike Jacobson.**




**PARISH MOVIE NIGHT**


The Parish is planning to organise a private screening movie night for our Parishioners at the cinema in the next few weeks. **“Sound of Freedom”** is the movie based on an incredible true story. Please express your interest asap to Priscilla – 0411 443 783 or the Piety Shop. **Tickets and further details will be available soon.**



**STMM PIETY SHOP**

We request our Parishioners to support our Parish Piety Corner Shop with their generous purchase of a variety of available products. These items are perfect for your own personal needs or as a treasured gift to share with others. Purchases may be done from the Parish Office as well during working hours.






**DIOCESAN SYNOD 9 WEEKS NOVENA**

The nine-week novena is an invitation to a period of spiritual preparation for the Synod. The novena will begin the week of Sunday, 13 August and conclude in the week beginning Sunday, 8 October. Parishes, ministry groups, prayer groups, and families are invited to pray the novena together. Novena booklets are available on the table outside the church or can be downloaded from the Synod website: <https://parracatholic.org/synod2023/>

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023**



**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**