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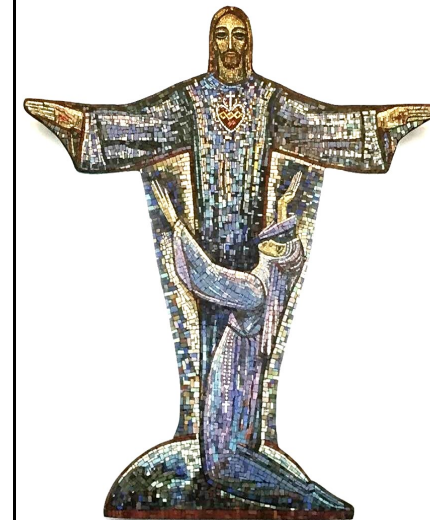
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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

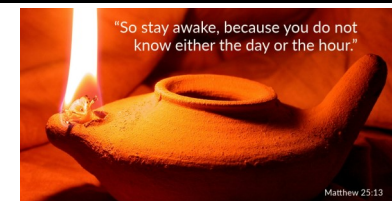
Legion of Mary: Merwyn D'Souza - 0478 109 569

Playgroup: Kathy-lynn Azzi - 0416 225 815

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



32nd Sunday
in
Ordinary Time



Year A
12th November
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: NOVEMBER

For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

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 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
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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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence.
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

- O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. *(R.)*
- So I gaze on you in the sanctuary.
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. *(R.)*
- So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. *(R.)*
- On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord’s own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord’s coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.’ At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, ‘Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out.’ But they replied, ‘There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves.’ They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us.’ But he replied, ‘I tell you solemnly, I do not know you.’ So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.’

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of bread.

MEDITATION



When the Lord Jesus comes to lead you to his heavenly banquet will you be ready to hear his voice and follow? Our eternal welfare depends on our hearing, and many have trained themselves to not hear. We will not be prepared to meet the Lord, face to face, when he calls us on the day of judgment, unless we listen to him today. The Lord invites us to feast at his heavenly banquet table. Are you ready? *Lord Jesus, make me vigilant and attentive to your voice that I may heed your call at all times. May I find joy in your presence and delight in doing your will.*



NEXT WEEK’S READINGS 19 NOVEMBER 2023 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Prov 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; 1Thess 5:1 - 6; Mt 25:14 - 30



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



All children are encouraged to take a copy of The Kid’s Bulletin. *(on the table outside the Church).* A great resource to educate our Catholic kids to learn about their faith every week.



For safety and safeguarding reasons, we kindly request all parents / carers to ensure to accompany their children to the toilets and the play area in the school premises at all times. Thank you for your cooperation.



We encourage our Parishioners to come forward and be a part of **St. Margaret Mary’s Parish Pastoral Council.** PPC Nomination Forms are available at the entrance and foyer of the Church.
Last date for submission of forms is 19 November 2023. Kindly return the forms to either the Parish Office during office hours or email: parish@stmm.org.au or to the Priests of the Parish.



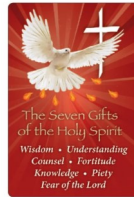
SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023 CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

St. Margaret Mary’s Parish along with the Parish Priest & Assistant Priest congratulate all the candidates upon receiving the **Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, 11 November 2023.** We are honoured to have **Very Rev. Peter G. Williams** presiding the ceremony.

We would especially like to thank our Sacramental Coordinator Monique Kairouz and all those who prepared the candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Their dedication and efforts were commendable and ensured everything was well organised for the Mass.

Our gratitude to our volunteers for decorating our Church, Acolytes, Altar servers and all those who helped with the preparations.

Finally, we would like to sincerely thank all the **parents and families** for bringing their children to learn, prepare and receive the Sacraments, as well as all **sponsors and friends** who attended the Confirmation ceremony.



May Our Lord continue to Bless you and your families in your journey of Faith.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

This **Sunday, 12 November 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.



AT ST. MARGARET MARY’S PARISH

Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, **(19 November 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: 24 November)

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: 24 November)

Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month starting at 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

For further information please contact Fr. Jeremy at Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org



Why We Believe - Dr. Brant Pitre

Answering Common Questions about the Catholic Faith

Every Wednesday after 7pm Mass inside the church.

Brant James Pitre who is an American New Testament scholar and Distinguished Research Professor of Scripture at the Augustine Institute.

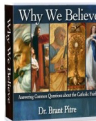
How Did We Get the Bible? From where did the Bible come? Who decided which books got in and which didn’t?

Is the Eucharist Jesus’ Real Presence? What does the Bible teach about Jesus’ Real Presence in the Eucharist?

Why Confess to a Priest? Did Jesus arrange for us to confess our sins to a priest of the new covenant?

Do Catholics Worship Mary? What does the Bible teach about her?

Purgatory and Prayers for the Dead? Where is Purgatory in the Bible? Why do Catholics pray for the dead?



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
◆ Shelly Barnes
◆ Robbie Barnes
◆ Therese Nicolas
◆ Hermie Alves

◆ Mary Callagia
◆ Rita Figredo
◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria
◆ Salam Awkar
◆ Leila Rouhana

◆ Charles Zammit
◆ David O’Connor
◆ Marcelina Dominga
◆ Jacqueline Parr
◆ Cheryl Fortini



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 **\$2316.10**

Last weekend Second Collection was **\$3116.75**

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

CHURCH PROJECTORS

The Parish has installed new projectors inside the Church for a total cost of **\$13,498.**

We sincerely thank our Parishioners & benefactors for their generous donations towards this project as the entire amount has been collected.



SRE LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Congratulations to our SREs for their dedication and service in teaching the Word of God and giving love and hope to the young children in our Parish's public schools.

Sonia Abi-rached (25 years)

Baldwin D'Silva (20 years)

Gwen D'Silva (20 years)

Peter Carroll (20 years)

Thank you and May God bless you for your dedication and commitment



“May the Lord Smile on You and be Gracious to You”



STMM PARISH CHRISTMAS FIESTA MEETING FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2023

A meeting with the Fundraising Committee and volunteers to assist with planning, preparing and running this festive fundraising event is scheduled for **Friday, 17 November 2023 after 7:00pm Mass** in the Pastoral Centre.

*Save the date on your calendar now!
The more the merrier...*



STMM PIETY SHOP

We request our Parishioners to support our Parish Piety Corner Shop with their generous purchase.

A variety of Advent & Christmas decorations and

Piety Shop gift cards are available for purchase.

These items are perfect for your own personal needs or as a treasured gift to share with others.



NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS FOR ALL DEPARTED SOULS

During the month of November, we will be celebrating **ONE (1) daily Gregorian Mass** during **weekdays and weekends** for all the deceased.

On Thursdays (during November) there will be recitation of the Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Morning Mass.

We will continue with **“November Mass” yellow envelopes** for our daily Gregorian Masses in November. The envelopes will be kept on the pews inside the church.

Please write the name of your deceased loved ones for whom you wish to pray along with an offering inside the envelope. Kindly place the **“November Mass”** envelope in the basket at the altar or give it to the Priests or Parish Office.