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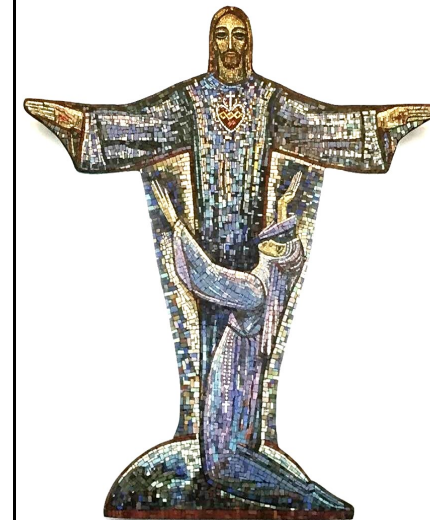
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS

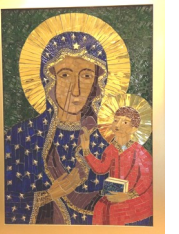


Our Parish is under the Pastoral Care of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit (known as the Pauline Fathers) who for more than 630 years are renowned Custodians of the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Jasna Gora, Poland.



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



November 19, 2023
Thirty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time
**HAPPY ARE THOSE WHO
FEAR THE LORD**

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
The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

FIRST READING **Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31**
A reading from the book of Proverbs

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband’s heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. *(R.)*
- Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. *(R.)*
- Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. *(R.)*

SECOND READING **1 Thessalonians 5:1-6**
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about ‘times and seasons’, since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, ‘How quiet and peaceful it is’ that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL **Matthew 25:14-30**
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew


Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he

set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. “Sir”, he said “you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” Next the man with the two talents came forward. “Sir,” he said “you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” Last came forward the man who had the one talent. “Sir,” said he “I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back.” But his master answered him, “You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.””

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


COMMUNION ANTIPHON
To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

MEDITATION
What do coins and the law of economics have to do with the kingdom of God? The Lord entrusts the subjects of his kingdom with gifts and graces and he gives his subjects the freedom to use them as they think best. With each gift and talent, God gives sufficient means (grace and wisdom) for using them in a fitting way. As the parable of the talents shows, God abhors indifference and an attitude that says it's not worth trying. God honors those who use their talents and gifts for doing good. Those who are faithful with even a little are entrusted with more! But those who neglect or squander what God has entrusted to them will lose what they have. There is an important lesson here for us. No one can stand still for long in the Christian life. We either get more or we lose what we have. We either advance towards God or we slip back. Do you seek to serve God with the gifts, talents, and graces he has given to you? *Lord Jesus, be the ruler of my heart and thoughts, be the king of my home and relationships, and be the master of my work and service. Help me to make good use of the gifts, talents, time, and resources you give me for your glory and your kingdom.*




SPEAK TO ME
LORD

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS
26 NOVEMBER 2023
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
Year A
Ezek 34:11 -12,15 -17; 1Cor 15:20 -26,28; Mt 25:31 - 46




**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



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



DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY

SUNDAY - 26 NOVEMBER 2023
1:00 – 1:30pm Silent Adoration
1:30 – 3:00pm Devotions
3:00 pm Holy Mass
All are welcome to come and pray with us.


PARRAMATTA CATHOLIC FOUNDATION
BISHOP’S CHRISTMAS APPEAL
25 - 26 NOVEMBER 2023
Next weekend, our Parish is proud to support the Bishop’s Christmas appeal raising funds for our Catholic Care chaplaincy services.
Our Parish quota is approx. \$8000 for this Appeal therefore we request our Parishioners for their generous contributions. Your Christmas gift will help our Chaplains to bring faith, hope and comfort to people who are isolated & lonely in hospitals & prisons. Your kindness will provide pastoral, spiritual & sacramental support to people suffering & in distress.
Please give generously via the Bishop’s Christmas Appeal envelopes or at yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal



God Comes to Us at Christmas
Infant Narrative of St. Matthew & St. Luke
Guest speaker - Dr. Andrew Wood


Session 1: Thursday, 30 November 2023 at 7:00pm
Session 2: Thursday, 07 December 2023 at 8:15pm

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.
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




**WEEKLY
CHILDREN’S BULLETINS**

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

◆ Reuben Dias	◆ Mary Callagia	◆ 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	◆ 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 **\$2544.20**
Last weekend Second Collection was **\$3655.35**
Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God bless.




Christmas Decorating
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Parish requests Volunteers to kindly come forward and help decorate the Church for Advent & Christmas on **Saturday, 02 December 2023** from 10:00am onwards.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU.

CHURCH GROUNDS MAINTENANCE
Volunteers needed to clean church grounds & car park area once every fortnight for at least 3 hours.
Please leave your details at the Parish Office.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

FINAL CALL FOR THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL


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.

VOICES NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

We are seeking **CHILDREN & ADULTS** to join the Choir and be part of our festive celebration for the Christmas Vigil Mass at 6pm on 24 December 2023.
Please contact Kerry at k.dainer1@gmail.com for further details.

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 Masses

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.