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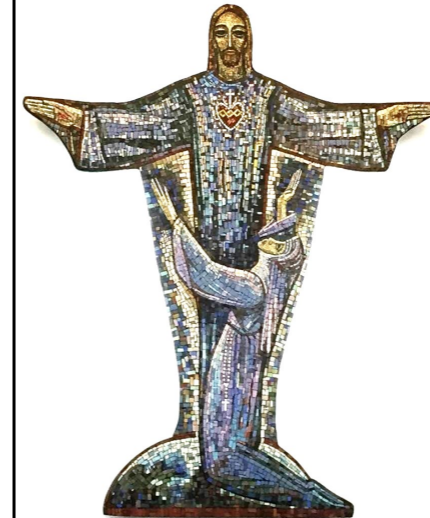
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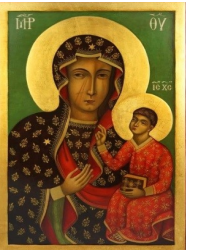


Our Parish is under the Pastoral Care of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit (known as the Pauline Fathers) who for more than 630 years are renowned Custodians of the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Jasna Gora, Poland.



Parish Priest
Fr. Wojciech Sliwa

Assistant Priest
Fr. Jeremy Santoso



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Benjamin Gebran is a credit representative (Credit Representative No. 553721) of QED Credit Services Pty Ltd (Australian Credit License 387856)

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:

Parish Pastoral Council:
♦ Chair: Fr. Wojciech Sliwa & Belinda Tippetts
♦ Secretary: Rita Jacobson
parishcouncil@stmm.org.au

Finance Committee:
♦ Chair: Tony Bougoide
♦ Secretary: Priscilla Newman
financecommittee@stmm.org.au

Fundraising Committee:
♦ Mike Jacobson - 0438 590 136

Sacraments:
♦ Monique Kairouz
sacraments@stmm.org.au

Acolytes / RCIA
♦ Peter Carroll - 0414 070 082

Safeguarding Officer:
♦ Alexandra Azzi
safeguarding@stmm.org.au

Catechists:
♦ Sonia Abi-Rached

Music:
♦ Kerry van der Linden

Readers:
♦ Suzanne Mifsud
lectors@stmm.org.au

Scripture Study:
♦ Gwen D'Silva

YOUTH GROUP:
♦ Fr. Jeremy Santoso
Pauline Junior/Teen: Rita Elbayeh/Rita Jacobson

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

Playgroup:
♦ Kathy-Lynn Azzi - 0416 225 815

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

PEACE BE WITH YOU.
LUKE 24:36

Year B
14 April 2024

WEEKEND MASSES		WEEKDAY MASSES		RECONCILIATION	
Saturday	6:00pm Vigil	Monday	9:15am	Tuesday	8:30am-8:55am 6:30pm-6:55pm
Sunday	7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 6:00pm	Tuesday	9:00am & 7:00pm	Wednesday	8:30am-8:55am
		Wednesday	9:00am & 7:00pm	Thursday	8:30am-8:55am
		Thursday	9:00am	Friday	8:30am-8:55am 6:30pm-6:55pm
		Friday	9:00am & 7:00pm	Saturday	8:30am-8:55am 4:30pm-5:55pm
		Saturday	9:00am		

PRAYER: HOLY FATHER-POPE FRANCIS

MONTHLY INTENTION: APRIL

For The Role of Women

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognized in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.



FIRST FRIDAY:

11:00am: Maltese Mass

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 (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) 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

♦ Marian Movement Cenacle
Saturday: 8:00am before 9:00am Mass

♦ 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 (not during Advent, Lent & Divine Mercy Sunday)

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

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

FIRST READING Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses. 'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Lord, let your face shine on us.

- When I call, answer me, O God of justice; from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me! *(R.)*
- It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves; the Lord hears me whenever I call him. *(R.)*
- 'What can bring us happiness?' many say. Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. *(R.)*
- I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once, for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

1 John 2:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St John

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 24:35-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said

this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes. Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

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

MEDITATION

The centrality of the Gospel message is the cross - but fortunately it does not stop there. Through the cross Jesus defeated our enemies - death and Satan and won pardon for our sins. His cross is the door to heaven and the key to paradise. The way to glory is through the cross. When the disciples saw the risen Lord they disbelieved for joy! How can death lead to life, the cross to victory? Jesus shows us the way and he gives us the power to overcome sin and despair, and everything else that would stand in the way of his love and truth. Just as the first disciples were commissioned to bring the good news of salvation to all the nations, so, we, too, are called to be witnesses of the resurrection of Jesus Christ to all who live on the face of the earth. Do you witness the joy of the Gospel to those around you?

Lord Jesus, open our minds to understand the Scriptures that we may fully comprehend the truth of your word. Anoint us with your power and give us joy and boldness to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed.



SPEAK TO ME LORD

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
21 APRIL 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER
Year B

Acts 4:8-12; 1 Jn 3:1-2; Jn 10:11-18

OUR PARISH PRAYER

Father, through the intercession of St. Margaret Mary, 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.*

Bishop Vincent celebrates Vigil Mass
6:00pm - 13 April 2024

The Vigil Mass on Saturday, 13 April 2024 at 6:00pm will be celebrated by our very own Bishop of Parramatta.

We encourage our Parishioners to attend Mass and warmly welcome **The Most Reverend Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv** to our St. Margaret Mary's Parish.

Welcome to Our Church

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

This Sunday, 14 April 2024 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.

Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal 20 & 21 April 2024

Next weekend, our Parish proudly supports the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal to support our future priests to be "fishers of people".

Our Parish quota is approx. \$8000 for this Appeal therefore we request our Parishioners for their generous contributions.

Support our seminarians to "go out into the deep" to nourish our community's spiritual and pastoral needs and give generously to the Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal via envelopes or @yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal

Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.

AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH

Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (21 April 2024) 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: 10 May)
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: 10 May)
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

The New Eve - Mary with Dr. Brant Pitre
Wednesday after 7pm in the Pastoral Centre

Why is Mary so important to Catholics, and why have so many people been devoted to her over the centuries? In this 8-part series, Dr. Brant Pitre examines what the Old and New Testaments, the life of Christ, and the early Church fathers reveal about the life and identity of Mary.

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**

JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE

You are invited to experience the joy of "The Bible and the Church Fathers" on Thursdays at 7:00pm at St. Margaret Mary's Pastoral Centre.

For further queries, contact Gwen on 9632 9097

Our Parish would like to thank **Our Divine Mercy Team led by Annie Molejona & Annie Isbilir** for their utmost dedication to ensure that Divine Mercy Sunday (07 April 2024) was celebrated in a glorious manner. The Team have worked tirelessly in the preparations, from devotional prayers, hymns, decorating the church to a sumptuous spread of afternoon tea for our Parish.

A special mention of thanks to all our volunteers with cleaning and beautifying our Church and all those involved in making the day a successful one. We sincerely thank our great congregation of Parishioners and visitors who attended Divine Mercy Sunday.

May God bless you all abundantly.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024

Sacrament of Reconciliation Enrolments commence from **Tuesday, 27 February** until **Friday, 26 April 2024**. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website or available at our Parish Office during working hours. **(Enrolment Fee \$50 per child).**

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

RECONCILIATION PROGRAM

All preparation sessions will be held on **WEDNESDAYS** with two time slots to choose from: **5:30 - 6:30pm or 7:00 - 8:00pm**

Session 1: 01 MAY
Session 2: 08 MAY
Session 3: 15 MAY
Session 4: 22 MAY

Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre
Sacrament of First Reconciliation on **Monday, 27 May 2024 at 6:00pm** inside the Church.

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 - \$3232.30
Last weekend Second Collection - \$3440.75

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

'Return & Earn' Parish Fundraising

The parish is trialling a fundraising initiative based on the 'Return & Earn' recycling cash-back scheme. Parishioners are invited to put their unwanted EMPTY drink containers labelled with the "10c" refund logo in the 'Return & Earn' cage outside the western entrance of the Pastoral Centre. **NO glass bottles please.**

All proceeds will go to the parish youth groups

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. **Thank you.**

Pilgrimage to Penrose Park
Our Lady of Fatima Day
(Monday 13 May 2024)

The Parish Piety Shop is planning to organise a Pilgrimage to Penrose Park to celebrate Fatima Day on **Monday, 13 May 2024**. Kindly contact Lydia or Santy as soon as possible at the Piety Shop if you are interested in attending the Pilgrimage.

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ◆ Reuben Dias
- ◆ 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
- ◆ Cheryl Fortini
- ◆ Margaret Falzon