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Mary Mattar and Zikar Mattar
0412 343 829
contact@zimabtc.com.au
www.zimabtc.com.au

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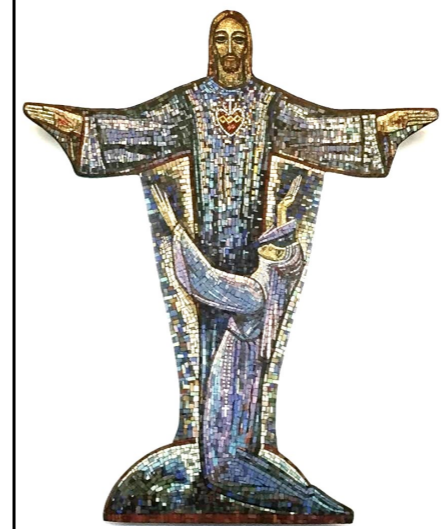
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ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS



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Parish Priest
Fr Janusz Pawlicha

Assistant Priest
Fr Joseph Maria Buckley



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:** Fr Janusz Pawlicha, OSPPE
♦ **Secretary:** TBA

Fundraising Committee:
♦ Mike Jacobson - 0438 590 136

Catechists: Sonia Abi-Rached

Music : Kerry van der Linden

Sacraments: Fr Joseph Maria Buckley

Acolytes / RCIA : Peter Carroll - 0414 070 082

Readers: Gwen D'Silva

YOUTH GROUP:
Pauline Teen: Fr Joseph / Rita Jacobson

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

Playgroup: Nicole Gadd - 0402 350 170

St Vincent de Paul: 88619757



A SEASON OF PRAYER: 40 DAYS IN THE DESERT

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
YEAR C
06TH MARCH 2022

Jesus in the desert
"Man shall not live on bread alone. Luke 4:4"

WEEKEND MASSES:		WEEKDAY MASSES:	
Saturday:	6:00pm Vigil	Monday:	9:15am
Sunday:	7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 6:00pm	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: MARCH
For a Christian response to bioethical challenges
We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action.

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: 9:30 am - 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
5:15 pm - 5:45pm

RCIA SESSIONS- SUNDAY MORNINGS
9am Mass followed by Session 10 am - 11am

- DEVOTIONS:**
- ♦ **Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour**
Tuesday: after morning Mass
Wednesday: 6:30pm before 7:00pm 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

RECONCILIATION:
Tues - Fri 8.30 - 8.55am
Sat - 9am - 9.30am and 4.30pm-5.30pm (or by appointment)

MARRIAGES: By appointment only (6 months required)

SICK CALLS: 9637 2526- option 3 or 0412 625 187 - any time



Please remember to switch off your mobile phone

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING

Dt 26:4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the pannier from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement: "My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' *(R.)*
2. Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways. *(R.)*
3. They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. *(R.)*
4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

Rom 10:8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Lk 4:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.' Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

MEDITATION:

What lesson can we learn from Jesus' temptation in the wilderness? How can we hope to fight temptation and overcome sin in our own personal lives? When Jesus went out into the wilderness to fight temptation by the devil, he was led by the Holy Spirit. Jesus did not rely on his own human strength and will-power for overcoming temptation. He relied on the Holy Spirit to give him strength, wisdom, courage, and self-control. The Lord Jesus knows that we cannot fight temptation on our own. We need the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit to help us. Do you seek God's wisdom and guidance for overcoming sin and avoiding the near occasions of sin? The forty days of Lent is the annual retreat of the people of God in imitation of Jesus' forty days in the wilderness. We are called to journey with the Lord in a special season of prayer, fasting, almsgiving, repentance, and renewal as we prepare to celebrate the feast of Easter, the Christian Passover. The Lord gives us spiritual food and supernatural strength to seek his face and to prepare ourselves for spiritual combat and testing. We, too, must follow in the way of the cross in order to share in the victory of Christ's death and resurrection. As we begin this holy season of preparation and renewal, let's ask the Lord for a fresh outpouring of his Holy Spirit that we may grow in faith, hope, and love, and embrace his will more fully in our lives. **Lord Jesus, your word is life and joy for me. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may have the strength and courage to embrace your will in all things and to renounce whatever is contrary to it.**



LENT
2022

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

WEDNESDAY - following 9:00am Mass
FRIDAY - following 7:00pm Mass

FRIDAYS IN LENT

ROSARY - 6:30pm
HOLY MASS - 7:00pm
STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 7:30pm following 7pm Mass
LENTEN MORNING DEVOTIONS

FOLLOWING ALL MORNING MASS (excluding Wednesday)

During the period of Lent, all are invited to join in our special Lenten devotions after the morning Mass. We will be reciting the **chaplet of Divine Mercy** and the **Litany of the Most Precious Blood of Christ.**



PRAYER REQUESTS

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| ♦ Tony Ostojic | ♦ Giovanna Prestipino | ♦ Barbara Hanna |
| ♦ Shelly Barnes | ♦ Ireneo Vicencio | ♦ Anthony Hanna |
| ♦ Teresa Saad | ♦ Alice Said | ♦ Carlos Rivanar |
| ♦ Christopher Oldham | ♦ Diab Baysari | ♦ Josephine Hanna |
| ♦ Simon Khoury | ♦ Mario & Tereza Cutajar | ♦ Leonardo Pedavoli |
| ♦ Sonia & Pierre Abi-Rached | ♦ Mary Essey | ♦ Smiljana Milina |
| ♦ Therese Nicolas | ♦ Katrina & Maria Smith | ♦ Roneth Jaro |
| ♦ Nikola Jerkovic | ♦ Carolina Morante | ♦ Jayden Jong |
| ♦ Susan Pace | ♦ Alex Habis | ♦ Reuben Dias |
| ♦ Branko Soric | ♦ Ramona Sassine | |
| ♦ Gloria Lavitoria | ♦ Laura Anisse | |
| ♦ Jocelyn Santos | ♦ John Bartolo | |
| ♦ Joanna Essey | ♦ Bob Sinclair | |



SUPPORT

We request our generous Parishioners, if possible to kindly continue to financially support our Parish by contributing towards their Planned giving, Sunday Collections or donations to the Church.

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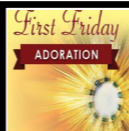
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Account Name: Merrylands Catholic Church

(Please specify details of your contribution i.e. Envelope Number or First Collection or Second Collection).

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. If you can spare 1/2 hour or more, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed after morning Mass every Thursday until 2.30pm. **ALL ARE WELCOME**



ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS

Please join us in responding to 'Our Blessed Mother's Appeal for Prayer & Reparation for World Peace & the Sanctity of Family Life'.

Every First Friday of the month after 7pm Mass, Scriptural Rosaries, Stations of the Cross, Adoration, & Nine Office of the Sacred Heart of Jesus until Midnight. Every Friday (except 1st Friday of the month) the Adoration Service will commence after 7:00pm Mass until 10:00pm

"IN THE END, MY IMMACULATE HEART WILL TRIUMPH"

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS 13 MARCH 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C
Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17;4:1; Lk 9:28-36



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**

SCRIPTURE STUDY

You are invited to experience the joy of "*the Word of God*" in a weekly Lenten discussion meeting on Thursdays at 7pm at St. Margaret Mary's Pastoral Centre.

For further queries, contact Gwen on 9632 9097



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM CONFIRMATION 2022



The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held twice in 2022. The program in Term 1 is intended for those that missed out in 2021 because the program was cancelled due to the Lockdowns.

Sacrament of Confirmation program is divided into two groups taught by Fr. Joseph Maria Buckley & assisted by Monique Kairouz.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:

All preparation sessions held on **MONDAYS** or **WEDNESDAYS** at 6:00pm.

Session 4: 07 MARCH or **09 MARCH 2022**

Rehearsal: 14 MARCH or **16 MARCH 2022**

Venue: Inside the Church.



Saturday, 19 March 2022 at 6:00pm celebrated by Very Rev Peter G. Williams VG EV

YOUTH GROUP @ SMM

Pauline Junior

Our youth group for Primary School Students. It meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month starting at 5:15pm ending just before the evening mass.

Next Meeting: 11 March

Pauline Teen

Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month after 7pm evening Mass.

Next Meeting: 11 March



Altar Boy's Practice

Saturday 12th March at 12noon. All welcome from ages 8 and up. Please see Fr. Joseph Maria for any further information.



Table Tennis social nights

Every Tuesday evening, in the Pastoral Centre from approx 7:30 pm after the evening Mass.

* Players of all abilities welcome

* No charge & Light refreshments provided



Justice of the Peace Services

Kindly contact **Conchita** on **0481 819 280** for Justice of the Peace services (witnessing affidavits/statutory declarations and certifying documents).



7 WAYS TO HAVE A GOOD LENT

Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. This Lent do your best. Strive to root our sin and cultivate holiness. Let it be a lesson in humility that drives you back to the grace of God flowing from the pierced heart of Jesus - for that is the true heart of Lent.

1. **Have a plan**
2. **Read a good spiritual book**
3. **Examine yourself**
4. **Confess your sins**
5. **Pray**
6. **Fast**
7. **Give alms**



PROJECT COMPASSION 2022

The theme of Project Compassion 2022 is 'For All Future Generations' and reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come.

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au
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