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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 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



Second
SUNDAY IN LENT
YEAR C

13TH MARCH 2022



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: 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

Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are from of old. Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress.

FIRST READING

Gen 15:5-12, 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

- 1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink? (R.)
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer. Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face. Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord! (R.)

SECOND READING

Phil 3:17 - 4:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Lk 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

MEDITATION:

The Lord Jesus not only wants us to see his glory - he wants to share this glory with us. And Jesus shows us the way to the Father's glory: follow me - obey my words - take the path I have chosen for you and you will receive the blessings of my Father's kingdom - your name will be written in heaven. Jesus succeeded in his mission because he went to Calvary so that Paradise would be restored to us once again. He embraced the cross to obtain the crown of glory that awaits each one of us, if we will follow in his footsteps. Are you spiritually awake? Peter, James, and John were privileged witnesses of the glory of Christ. We, too, as disciples of Christ are called to be witnesses of his glory. We all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord. The Lord wants to reveal his glory to us, his beloved disciples. Do you seek his presence with faith and reverence? Lord Jesus, keep me always alert to you, to your presence in my life, and to your life-giving word that nourishes me daily. Let me see your glory.



FEAST OF THE WEEK
Solemnity of St. Patrick Thursday - 17 March 2022
Solemnity of St. Joseph Saturday - 19 March 2022

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

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.
Payment options are:
QUEST Tap to Donate (3 devices inside the Church)
Cash (Parish Office during office hours)
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Direct Debit: BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 00438 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 20 MARCH 2022
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C
Ex 3:1-8, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

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

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.
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
Young Adults
Our youth group for young adults aged 18-30. It meets every 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month.
Next Meeting: 18 March

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

Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal 26 & 27 March 2022
We can all be Good Samaritans by supporting our chaplains as disciples of Jesus Christ, providing spiritual, emotional and sacramental support to the sick and the dying, the elderly and those in need. Your compassionate gift and prayers today will support CatholicCare chaplains to carry on the work of Jesus in the footsteps of the Good Samaritan. Thank you for accompanying them on their journey. (Bishop of Parramatta)

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 lent.caritas.org.au

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Thursday, 17th March 2022 9:30am - 10:30am