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PARISH OFFICE:
1-5 Chetwynd Rd,
Merrylands NSW 2160
PO Box 757 Merrylands
Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am - 3:30pm
Phone: 02 9637 2526 9637 2014
Fax: 9637 2442
Email: parish@stmm.org.au
Website: stmm.org.au

OUR SCHOOLS:
St. Margaret Mary's Primary School
7 Chetwynd Rd, Merrylands NSW 2160
Phone: 02 8633 8400

Cerdon College
74 Sherwood Rd, Merrylands NSW 2160
Phone: 02 8724 7300

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

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

Events Committee:
♦ Mike Jacobson
events@stmm.org.au

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

Acolytes / RCIA / Baptism
♦ 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:
♦ Gwen D'Silva

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

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

Playgroup:
♦ TBA

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

Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time



Year C
16 February 2025

SUNDAY 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	Tuesday	9:00am & 7:00pm	Wednesday	8:30am-8:55am
Vespers	10:30am 5:15-5:45pm 6:00pm	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		

FIRST FRIDAY:
11:00am: Maltese Mass
07:00pm: Holy Mass, Stations of the Cross followed by Exposition

ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT:
Thursday-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
Every Saturday Adoration: 4:30pm-5:45pm

DEVOTIONS:
Veneration of the Holy Face of Jesus - Tuesday: 7:30pm - 8:30pm
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Succour) - Wednesday after 9:00am Mass
Novena to St. Margaret Mary every Friday morning mass
Marian Movement Cenacle - Friday: 5:00pm (Children's Rosary)
Saturday: 8:00am before 9:00am Mass
Men's Rosary Crusade - 1st Saturday of the month after 9:00am Mass
Divine Mercy - 4th Sunday of the month: 1:00pm - 3:00pm (3:00pm - Holy Mass)

BAPTISMS:
1st & 3rd Sundays of the month
(not during Advent, Month of January, Lent, Divine Mercy Sunday & Corpus Christi Sunday)
Baptism Preparation: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month - 10:30am Mass followed by session.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
Sunday morning: 9:00am Mass followed by session 10:00am - 11:00am

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

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited. 'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

- Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night. *(R.)*
- He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper. *(R.)*
- Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people. But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 6:17. 20-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a

great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: 'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied. Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh. 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets. 'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry. Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep. 'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they craved.

MEDITATION

How can one possibly find happiness in poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution? If we want to be filled with the joy and happiness of heaven, then we must empty ourselves of all that would shut God out of our hearts. Poverty of spirit finds ample room and joy in possessing God alone as the greatest treasure possible. Hunger of the spirit seeks nourishment and strength in God's word and Spirit. Sorrow and mourning over wasted life and sin leads to joyful freedom from the burden of guilt and oppression. Do you know the joy and happiness of hungering and thirsting for God alone?

Lord Jesus, increase my hunger for you and show me the way that leads to everlasting happiness and peace. May I desire you above all else and find perfect joy in doing your will.

SPEAK TO ME LORD

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
23 FEBRUARY 2025
7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)
First Reading: 1Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Second Reading: 1Cor 15:45-49
Gospel: Lk 6:27-38

PRAYER INTENTION - FEBRUARY 2025
Intention for evangelisation
For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

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.*

THE PROPER ATTIRE INSIDE THE CHURCH

Church Dress Code

YES (Images of appropriate dress: dress, skirt, trousers, long-sleeved shirt, long-sleeved dress)

NO (Images of inappropriate dress: tank top, shorts, short-sleeved shirt, short-sleeved dress)

LET'S COME DRESSED IN OUR SUNDAY BEST

For Catholics, the Mass is a very solemn and sacred event in which they are renewed in faith by their encounter with the real presence of Jesus Christ and grow as a community together with the universal Church.

We should dress in a modest manner, wearing clothes that reflect our reverence for God and that manifest our respect for the dignity of the liturgy and for one another.

AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH
Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (16 February 2025) there will be a Children's Mass at 10:30am.
All children are welcome to attend.

SUNDAY - 23 FEBRUARY 2025

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.

YOUTH GROUP @ SMM

Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 28 February)
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: 28 February)
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

MEN'S ROSARY CRUSADE
SATURDAY - 01 MARCH 2025 @ 10:00AM

St Margaret Mary's parish has joined the Men's Rosary Crusade! Our men are invited to participate in this powerful prayer in our church forecourt in a public demonstration of devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Afterwards there'll be fellowship and morning tea in the Pastoral Centre, so please bring a plate to share.

Introduction to the Catechism of the Catholic Church - Parousia Academy
Wednesday after 7pm Mass in the Pastoral Centre

Introduction to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, presented by popular educator Fr John Flader, explains the principal teachings of the Church in a way anyone can understand and shows how they can be lived out in ordinary life.

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 Virgin Mary" on Thursdays at 7:00pm in the Pastoral Centre.

RCIA PROGRAM

RCIA is an ongoing Apostolate in this Parish. The RCIA Apostolate consists of a dedicated team of volunteers who have received instructions to guide anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church through weekly preparations classes and regular Mass attendance.

If you know of anyone who wishes to enter the Catholic Faith, who has been baptised in another Faith or unbaptised and wishes to complete the Sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church; Please see our Priests after Mass during the weekends or contact the **RCIA Coordinator Peter Carroll on 0414 070 082** or the Parish Office.

READERS RECRUITMENT

Our Parish is calling for dedicated people who wish to read during the weekdays and weekend Masses. All those interested may contact Suzanne Mifsud at lectors@stmm.org.au or Parish Office at parish@stmm.org.au

Child SAFETY

For safety & 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.

16DAYS 13NIGHTS
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SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025

Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion Enrolments commence from **Tuesday, 11 February** until **Friday, 07 March 2025.**

Enrolment forms are available on our website or at our Parish Office during working hours. **(Enrolment Fee \$100 per child).**

Parents Night for Reconciliation & First Holy Communion
Monday, 10 March at 7pm.
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre

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: 12 MARCH **Session 2: 19 MARCH**
Session 3: 26 MARCH **Session 4: 02 APRIL**

Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre

Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Monday, 07 April 2025 at 6:00pm inside the Church.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

First Collection (Priests) Pauline Fathers
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 - \$2748.30
Last weekend Second Collection - \$3215.95

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

Catholic Weekly (\$2) at Piety Shop

Kindly support the Parish by purchasing a copy of the Catholic Weekly for **only \$2** available at our Piety Shop.

◆ Reuben Dias ◆ Salam Awkar ◆ Anthony Quach
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Prayer Requests