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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.



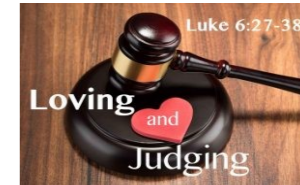
Parish Priest
Fr. Wojciech Sliwa

Assistant Priest
Fr. Jeremy Santoso

Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae



Seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time



Year C
23 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
	10:30am	Wednesday	9:00am & 7:00pm	Thursday	8:30am-8:55am
Vespers	5:15-5:45pm 6:00pm	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

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel
Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

- (R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.*
- My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. *(R.)*
 - It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. *(R.)*
 - The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults. *(R.)*
 - As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. *(R.)*

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Luke 6:27-38


A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.

MEDITATION

 Our prayer for those who do us ill both breaks the power of revenge and releases the power of love to do good in the face of evil. How can we possibly love those who cause us harm or ill-will? With God all things are possible. He gives power and grace to those who believe in and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. His love conquers all, even our hurts, fears, prejudices and griefs. Only the cross of Jesus Christ can free us from the tyranny of malice, hatred, revenge, and resentment and gives us the courage to return evil with good. Such love and grace has power to heal and to save from destruction. Do you know the power of God's love, mercy, and righteousness (moral goodness) for overcoming evil with good? *Lord Jesus, your love brings freedom and pardon. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and set my heart free with your merciful love that nothing may make me lose my temper, ruffle my peace, take away my joy, nor make me bitter towards anyone.*

SPEAK TO ME LORD

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
02 MARCH 2025
8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)
First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7
Second Reading: 1Cor 15:54-58
Gospel: Lk 6:39-45

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.

SCHOOL MASS

ST. MARGARET MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL OPENING MASS
9:00am
Friday - 28 February 2025

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.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS
04 MARCH 2025 - 9:00AM & 7:00PM
Solemn Mass for the Feast of the Holy Face of Jesus is on **Shrove Tuesday, 04 March 2025 at 9:00am and 7:00pm.** Morning tea will be provided after the 9:00am Mass at the Pastoral Centre.
Copy of 9 Day Novena available www.holyface.com
LORD, SHOW US YOUR FACE and WE SHALL BE SAVED

ASH WEDNESDAY, 05 MARCH 2025
Day of Fast and Abstinence
09:00am - School Mass
12:00pm - School Mass
07:00pm - Parish Mass
Fasting: 1 main meal, 2 light snacks to be observed by those who have completed their eighteenth year, until the beginning of their sixtieth year.
Abstinence: from meat products & sweet treats to be observed by those who have completed their fourteenth year.
Why do Catholics have their foreheads marked with a cross on Ash Wednesday?
In the Bible a mark on the forehead is a symbol of a person's ownership. By having their foreheads marked with the Sign of a Cross, this symbolizes that the person belongs to Jesus Christ, Who died on a Cross. This is in imitation of the spiritual mark or seal that is put on a Christian in baptism, when he is delivered from slavery to sin and the devil, and made a servant of righteousness and Christ.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS **FRIDAY - after 7:00pm Mass**

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.

16DAYS 13NIGHTS
POLAND, LITHUANIA & CZECH PILGRIMAGE
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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 - \$2576.40
Last weekend Second Collection - \$3104.40
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.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
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| ◆ Therese Nicolas | ◆ David O'Connor | ◆ Harry Mc Credie |
| ◆ Hermie Alves | ◆ Marcelina Domingo | ◆ Tad Madeja |
| ◆ Mary Callagja | ◆ Jacqueline Parr | ◆ Lily Ware |
| ◆ Rita Figueredo | ◆ Cheryl Fortini | |
| ◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria | ◆ Margaret Falzon | |
- Prayer Requests* 