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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:**  
♦ Anthony Sammut - 0449 794 147

**Playgroup:**  
♦ TBA

# ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS

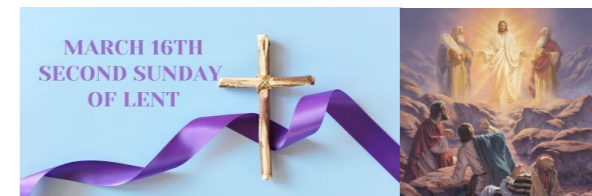
Our Parish is under the Pastoral Care of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit  
(known as the Pauline Fathers) who for more than 630 years are renowned  
Custodians of the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Jasna Gora, Poland.



**Parish Priest**  
Fr. Wojciech Sliwa

**Assistant Priest**  
Fr. Jeremy Santoso

**Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae**



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	Thursday	9:00am	Friday	8:30am-8:55am 6:30pm-6:55pm
	6:00pm	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  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month: 1:00pm - 1:30pm- Divine Mercy Devotions  
1<sup>st</sup> 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 - 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month after 9:00am Mass  
Divine Mercy - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month: 1:00pm - 3:00pm (3:00pm - Holy Mass)

**BAPTISMS:**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month  
(not during Advent, Month of January, Lent, Divine Mercy Sunday & Corpus Christi Sunday)  
Baptism Preparation: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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**

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.

**FIRST READING**

**Genesis 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 Chaldaeans 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.**

- 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.)**
- O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.' **(R.)**
- 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.)**
- 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**

**Philippians 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**

**Luke 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**

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, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3:18). 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.**

**SPEAK TO ME LORD**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
**23 MARCH 2025**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Year C)**  
First Reading: Ex 3:1-8, 13-15  
Second Reading: 1Cor 10:1-6, 10-12  
Gospel: Lk 13:1-9

**PRAYER INTENTION - MARCH 2025**  
**Universal Intention - For families in crisis**

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

**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.**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**WEDNESDAY - after 9:00am Mass**  
**FRIDAY - after 7:00pm Mass**

**SUNDAY CHILDREN'S MASS**

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

**Solemnity of St. Patrick**  
**Monday - 17 March 2025**

**Solemnity of St. Joseph**  
**Wednesday - 19 March 2025**

**SUNDAY - 23 MARCH 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.**

**SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD**  
**TUESDAY - 25 MARCH 2025**

**READERS MEETING**  
**TUESDAY - 25 MARCH 2025**

All Readers of our Parish are invited to attend a meeting with the Parish Priest on Tuesday, 25 March 2025 at 7:45pm in the Pastoral Centre.

**YOUTH GROUP @ STMM**

**Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 28 March)**  
Our youth group for Primary School Students. It meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month starting at 5:30pm to 6:30pm.

**Pauline Teen (Next Meeting: 28 March)**  
Our youth group for High School Students. It meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month starting at 8:00pm to 9:00pm. For further information please contact Fr. Jeremy at [Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org](mailto:Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org)

**NOVENA TO THE HOLY FAMILY**  
Novena to the Holy Family will be recited every **Wednesday evening after 7pm 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.

**EUCHARISTIC 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 **Metanoia—meaning transformation** which reflects the deep change of heart that God invites us into during Lent. Every Thursdays at **7:00pm** in the Pastoral Centre.

**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP @ STMM**

The Parish is in the process of starting a Young Adults Group (**ages 18 to 35 years**), which will hold social and faith-based events, such as dinners, movies, charity fundraising etc.

Please indicate your interest and preferred meeting day/times along with your details (phone no and email) to Fr. Jeremy Santoso via email [Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org](mailto:Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org)

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025**

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 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 - \$534.85**  
**Last weekend Second Collection - \$3544.70**

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

**VOICES NEEDED FOR GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER VIGIL MASS**

We are seeking **Children & Adults** to join the Parish Choir and be part of the celebration of the Passion of the Lord and Easter Vigil Mass at 6:30pm on 19 April 2025.  
**Please contact Kerry at [k.dainer1@gmail.com](mailto:k.dainer1@gmail.com)**

**STMM PIETY SHOP**

We request our Parishioners to support our Parish Piety Corner Shop with their generous purchase of a variety of available products.  
Kindly support the Parish by purchasing a copy of the **Catholic Weekly** for **only \$2** available at our Piety Shop.

**Caritas AUSTRALIA | PROJECT COMPASSION**

**Second Sunday of Lent**  
15th and 16th of March 2025

**Toetuata'aga - (Toy-foo-ah-fah-ing-ah)** a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.

**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.**

Church Dress Code: YES (modest), NO (casual)

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.  
Or online at [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)  
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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

◆ Reuben Dias	◆ Charles Zammit	◆ Harry Mc Credie
◆ Shelly Barnes	◆ David O'Connor	◆ Tad Madeja
◆ Robbie Barnes	◆ Marcelina Domingo	◆ Lily Ware
◆ Therese Nicolas	◆ Jacqueline Parr	
◆ Hermie Alves	◆ Cheryl Fortini	
◆ Mary Callagja	◆ Margaret Falzon	
◆ Rita Figueredo	◆ Karen Falzon	
◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria	◆ Anthony Quach	
◆ Salam Awkar	◆ Jack Bartolo	
◆ Leila Rouhana	◆ Sarafino Enadio	

**The Power of Prayer**

Prayer Requests 