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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: Fr. Jeremy Santoso

**Legion of Mary:**  
♦ Anthony Sammut - 0449 794 147

**Playgroup:**  
♦ TBA

# ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS

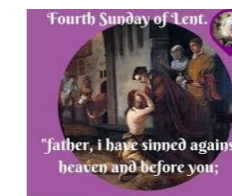
Our Parish is under the Pastoral Care of the Order of St Paul the First Hermit (known as the Pauline Fathers) who for more than 630 years are renowned Custodians of the Miraculous Icon of Our Lady of Jasna Gora, Poland.



Parish Priest  
Fr. Wojciech Sliwa

Assistant Priest  
Fr. Jeremy Santoso

Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae



Year C  
30 March  
2025

FOURTH SUNDAY IN  
LENT

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  
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 The Holy Family - Wednesday after 7:00pm 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**

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

**FIRST READING**

**Joshua 5:9-12**

A reading from the book of Joshua

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
Thanks be to God.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.*

- I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad. *(R.)*
- Glorify the Lord with me.  
Together let us praise his name.  
I sought the Lord and he answered me;  
from all my terrors he set me free. *(R.)*
- Look towards him and be radiant;  
let your faces not be abashed.  
This poor man called; the Lord heard him  
and rescued him from all his distress. *(R.)*

**SECOND READING**

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21**

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

*The Word of the Lord.*  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*  
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:  
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.  
*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 15:1-3. 11-32**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together every-

thing he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. 'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. 'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening." "The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

You must rejoice, my son,  
for your brother was dead and has come to life;  
he was lost and is found.

**MEDITATION**

In this parable Jesus gives a vivid picture of God and what God is like. God is truly kinder than any of us. He does not lose hope or give up when we stray from him. He is always on the lookout for those who have a change of heart and want to return. He rejoices in finding the lost and in welcoming them home. Do you know the joy of repentance and the restoration of relationship as a son or daughter of your heavenly Father? *Lord Jesus, may I never doubt your love nor take for granted the mercy you have shown to me. Fill me with your transforming love that I may be merciful as you are merciful.*



**SPEAK TO ME LORD**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
**06 APRIL 2025**  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year C)**  
First Reading: *Is 43:16-21*  
Second Reading: *Phil 3:8-14*  
Gospel: *Jn 8:1-11*

**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.*

**BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL**  
**29 - 30 MARCH 2025**

Dear Parishioners, this weekend, our Parish is proud to support the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal. The appeal will raise funds to support Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains' chaplaincy services; offering hope and comfort to those experiencing brokenness in our hospitals and prisons. *Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal at [parracatholic.org/appeal](http://parracatholic.org/appeal).*

**ON 04 APRIL 2025**  
**AT 7:00PM UNTIL MIDNIGHT**  
**(ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS)**

**MEN'S ROSARY CRUSADE**  
**SATURDAY - 05 APRIL 2025**  
**@ 10:00AM**

*Come, Pray + the Rosary*

**2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION**  
**TUESDAY - 08 April 2025 after 7:00pm Mass**

The 2nd rite of Reconciliation will be held on **08 April after 7:00pm Mass** in preparation for Easter.

**ACOLYTES MEETING**  
**THURSDAY - 10 APRIL 2025**

All Acolytes of our Parish are invited to attend a meeting with the Parish Priest on **Thursday, 10 April at 07:30pm** in the Pastoral Centre.

**YOUTH GROUP @ STMM**  
**Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 11 April)**  
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: 11 April)**  
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)

**Holy Week Schedule**

**PALM SUNDAY {Passion of the Lord}**  
*Saturday (12 April) - 6:00pm - Vigil*  
*Sunday (13 April) - 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 6:00pm*  
(Blessings of palms and olive branches at all Masses)  
*Monday (14 April) - 9:15am*  
*Tuesday (15 April) - 9:00am & 7:00pm*  
*Wednesday (16 April) - 9:00am {NO 7:00pm Mass}*  
*Thursday (17 April) - No Morning Mass*  
*Thursday of the LORD'S SUPPER - 7:00pm*  
*Friday of the PASSION of the LORD {Good Friday} (18 April)*  
Stations of the Cross - 10:00am  
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord - 3:00pm  
*Holy Saturday (19 April) - No Morning Mass*  
*The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (Saturday 19 April) - 6:30pm*  
**SUNDAY of the RESURRECTION {EASTER} (20 April)**  
7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am & 6:00pm

**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA**  
**18 April to 26 April 2025**  
**Divine Mercy Sunday on 27 April 2025**

18 April - Good Friday - 2:30pm  
19 April - Easter Vigil - 6:00pm  
20 April - Easter Sunday - 10:00am  
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 April - after Morning Mass

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**WEDNESDAY - after 9:00am Mass**  
**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.

**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.

**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 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 - \$2896.30*  
*Last weekend Second Collection - \$3330.55*  
**Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God bless.**

**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)

**Pilgrimage to Penrose Park - Fatima Day (Tuesday 13 May 2025)**

The Parish Piety Shop is organising a Pilgrimage to Penrose Park to celebrate Fatima Day on **Tuesday, 13 May 2025**.  
**Cost \$35 (return trip inclusive of sandwich & bottled water).**  
Limited seats available. Kindly contact Lydia or Santy to pay and guarantee your spot by 30 April 2025 and for further details.

**MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE TICKETS**  
We request our Parishioners to purchase as many raffle tickets for **\$5 only**. **Raffle draw will be held on Mother's Day, Sunday 11 May 2025 after 10:30am Mass.** Raffle tickets are available in the Piety Shop.

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.

◆ Reuben Dias  
◆ Shelly Barnes  
◆ Robbie Barnes  
◆ Therese Nicolas  
◆ Hermie Alves  
◆ Mary Callagja  
◆ Rita Figueredo  
◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria  
◆ Salam Awkar  
◆ Leila Rouhana

◆ Charles Zammit  
◆ David O'Connor  
◆ Marcelina Domingo  
◆ Jacqueline Parr  
◆ Cheryl Fortini  
◆ Margaret Falzon  
◆ Karen Falzon  
◆ Anthony Quach  
◆ Sarafino Enadio  
◆ Harry Mc Creadie

◆ Tad Madeja  
◆ Lily Ware

**Child SAFETY**

**The Power of Prayer**

*Prayer Requests*