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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 - 0438 590 136

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:
♦ Nadin Clark & Maryanne Pickering

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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Year B
04 August 2024

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

DEVOTIONS:

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Succour)

Wednesday: after morning Mass

Marian Movement Cenacle

Friday: 5:00pm (Children's Rosary)

Saturday: 8:00am before 9:00am 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

(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

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me!
You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

FIRST READING

Exodus 16:2-4. 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, ‘Why did we not die at the Lord’s hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!’ Then the Lord said to Moses, ‘Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day’s portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.’ ‘I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, “Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God.”’ And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, ‘What is that?’ not knowing what it was. ‘That’ said Moses to them ‘is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.’

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might. **(R.)**
2. He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. **(R.)**
3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God’s way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 6:24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ Jesus answered: ‘I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.’ Then they said to him, ‘What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?’ Jesus gave them this answer, ‘This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.’ So they said, ‘What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ Jesus answered: ‘I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ ‘Sir,’ they said ‘give us that bread always.’ Jesus answered: ‘I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

MEDITATION

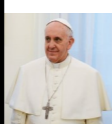
Jesus spoke about the works of God and what we must do to be doing the works of God, namely to believe in God’s Son whom he has sent into the world. The Lord Jesus offers a new relationship with God which issues in a new kind of life - a life of sacrificial love, selfless service, and the forgiveness of others which corresponds to God’s mercy, goodness and loving kindness; a life of holiness, purity, and truth which corresponds to God’s holiness; and a life of obedience and trust which corresponds to God’s offer of abundant life, peace, and happiness. This is the work which Jesus directs us to and enables us to perform in the power of the Holy Spirit. Do you hunger for the bread which comes down from heaven and thirst for the words of everlasting life? **Lord Jesus, you are the true Bread of Heaven. Only you alone can truly satisfy the deepest longing and hunger of my heart. Nourish me with the bread of life that I may be truly satisfied in you alone as the giver of life.**




SPEAK TO ME LORD

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS
11 AUGUST 2024
19th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Year B)
First Reading: **1Kg 19:4-8**
Second Reading: **Eph 4:30-5:2**
Gospel: **Jn 6:41-51**

POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER INTENTION
AUGUST 2024
For Political Leaders

 Let us pray that that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

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.**

NOVENA TO THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Will commence from Tuesday, 06 August and conclude on Wednesday, 14 August during Mass.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Thursday 15 August 2024
The Solemnity of the Assumption will be celebrated on Thursday 15th August in our Parish. This is a **Holy Day of Obligation** which means that every Catholic is **bound to attend Mass.**


MASS TIMES

9:00am	Solemn Mass
12:00 Noon	School Mass
6:30pm	Exposition, Holy Rosary & Litany
7:00pm	Solemn Mass


Feast of The TRANSFIGURATION of the LORD
Tuesday 06 August 2024



SOLEMNITY of ST MARY (MACKILLOP) OF THE CROSS
Thursday 08 August 2024



YOUTH GROUP @ SMM
Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 09 August)
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: 09 August)
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.Santosoparracatholic.org




WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

On 2nd Sunday of each month, couples celebrating their wedding anniversary during that month are invited for a special blessing at the 10:30am Mass. The next blessing will be on **Sunday, 11 August 2024**. Couples celebrating a milestone anniversary may contact the Parish office.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (18 August 2024) there will be a Children’s Liturgy during the 10:30am Mass. **All children are welcome to attend.**

EUCHARIST with Dr. Brant Pitre
Wednesday after 7pm in the Pastoral Centre

Dr. Brant Pitre digs down to the biblical roots of the Eucharist, through its foreshadowing in the miraculous events of the Old Testament, the Gospels, and Apostolic teaching. "The Lamb of God," "The Bread of Life," "The Body and the Blood of Christ"... these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching?



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 the joy of “**Genesis to Jesus**” on Thursdays at 7:00pm at St. Margaret Mary’s Pastoral Centre.



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. **Thank you for your cooperation.**

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024

 Sacrament of First Holy Communion program is divided into two groups taught by Monique Kairouz & assisted by Fr. Jeremy Santoso.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM
All preparation sessions will be held on **WEDNESDAYS** with two time slots to choose from: **5:00 - 6:30pm or 7:00 - 8:30pm**
Session 3: 07 AUGUST Session 4: 14 AUGUST
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre.

Rehearsal Group 1: Thursday- 22 August at 5:00 - 6:00pm
Rehearsal Group 2: Thursday- 22 August at 7:00 - 8:00pm

 **Group 1: Sunday, 25th August at 10:30am**
Group 2: Sunday, 25th August at 3:00pm


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 - **\$2686.05**
Last weekend Second Collection - **\$3237.60**
Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God bless.

WELCOME BROTHER PAUL DEBERT TO OUR PARISH

 We welcome Brother Paul Debert to our Parish, who has joined the Order of the Pauline Fathers and is visiting from Rome. During Mass on Sunday, 11 August he will share his seminarian life journey with us. We request our Parishioners for their generous contribution to financially assist Brother Paul as he pursues his education of becoming a future priest. **Therefore, we will be holding a 3rd collection next weekend 10 –11 August at all Masses.**

Thank you for your support & generosity



SATURDAY – 26 OCTOBER 2024

 This year our major social and fundraising event will be held on **Saturday, October 26** in the Parish Hall after the 6pm Vigil Mass.

TICKETS GO ON SALE IN SEPTEMBER
Adults \$20* Children 3-12 years \$10*
Infants (under 3 years) Free
** includes one free soft drink or bottled water*

There will be 10 raffle draws. The raffle ticket price will be **(\$5 each)**. Tickets will go on sale in September. The Events Committee requests our kind-hearted Parishioners for their generous donations. We are seeking prizes of **ONLY NEW** gift-ware items, electronics, gift cards, gift vouchers or referrals to business owners that you are able to obtain donations from. Please bring items to either the Piety Shop or Parish Office. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** To make this year’s IFF run smoothly, volunteers are needed for a range of duties. If you’re willing to help, please contact the Parish Office. No previous experience is necessary – just enthusiasm and a desire to serve the parish.
Mike Jacobson
Secretary, Events Committee

Prayer Requests



◆ Reuben Dias	◆ Rita Figueredo	◆ Marcelina Domingo
◆ Shelly Barnes	◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria	◆ Jacqueline Parr
◆ Robbie Barnes	◆ Salam Awkar	◆ Cheryl Fortini
◆ Therese Nicolas	◆ Leila Rouhana	◆ Margaret Falzon
◆ Hermie Alves	◆ Charles Zammit	◆ Anthony Quach
◆ Mary Callagja	◆ David O’Connor	◆ Jack Bartolo

