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Benjamin Gebran is a credit representative (Credit Representative No. 553721) of QED Credit Services Pty Ltd (Australian Credit License 387856)

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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



Nineteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Year B
11 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

 Please remember to switch off your mobile phone

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:4-8

A reading from the first book of Kings
Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life: I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

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.)
- The angel of the Lord is encamped around those who revere him, to rescue them. Taste and see that the Lord is good. He is happy who seeks refuge in him. (R.)

SECOND READING

Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ. Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. *Alleluia!*

GOSPEL

John 6:41-51

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other. 'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

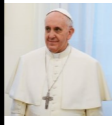
MEDITATION


Jesus offers us the abundant supernatural life of heaven itself - but we can miss it or even refuse it. To refuse Jesus is to refuse eternal life, unending life with the Heavenly Father. To accept Jesus as the *bread of heaven* is not only life and spiritual nourishment for this world but glory in the world to come. When you approach the Table of the Lord, what do you expect to receive? Healing, pardon, comfort, and rest for your soul? The Lord has much more for us, more than we can ask or imagine. The principal fruit of receiving the Eucharist or Lord's Supper is an intimate union with Christ. As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens us in charity and enables us to break with disordered attachments to creatures and to be more firmly rooted in the love of Christ. Do you hunger for the "bread of life"?




Lord Jesus, you are the living bread which sustains me in this life. May I always hunger for the bread which comes from heaven and find in it the nourishment and strength I need to love and serve you wholeheartedly. May I always live in the joy, peace, and unity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, both now and in the age to come.

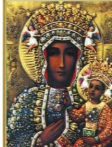
SPEAK TO ME LORD
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
18 AUGUST 2024
20th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (Year B)
First Reading: Prov 9:1-6
Second Reading: Eph 5:15-20
Gospel: Jn 6:51-58

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.*


WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES
This Sunday, 11 August 2024 couples celebrating their wedding anniversary are invited for a special blessing at the 10:30am Mass.
We wish all these couples God's blessings and graces. 


 **NOVENA TO THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
Commenced 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


NOVENA IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA
17 AUGUST - 25 AUGUST 2024
 Novena will commence from Saturday, 17 August and conclude on Sunday, 25 August during Mass. **The Feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa will be celebrated on Monday 26 August 2024.** The Pauline Fathers are the official custodians of this icon. Throughout history, the icon of Our Lady of Czestochowa has been a source of inspiration and courage to many; including Polish leaders of the army and royalty She has helped them to achieve miraculous victories & feats, against all odds.

AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH
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.**


YOUTH GROUP @ SMM
Pauline Junior (Next Meeting: 23 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: 23 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 at Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org](mailto:Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org) 



PRAYER: An Intimate Dialogue - Dr. Tim Gray
Wednesday after 7pm in the Pastoral Centre
Prayer is one of the most basic elements of a life of faith, but it isn't always easy to do. Though we're taught that prayer is a "conversation," we often feel as if the conversation is completely one-sided.
 In this session, Dr. Tim Gray (*President of the Augustine Institute and Catholic scripture scholar*) shows how the solution to the problem of prayer can be found in the Scriptures.

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 "*Genesis to Jesus*" on Thursdays at 7:00pm at St. Margaret Mary's Pastoral Centre. 

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 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 - \$2411.75
Last weekend Second Collection - \$3830.05
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 this weekend 10 – 11 August at all Masses.**
Thank you for your support & generosity 

INTERNATIONAL FOOD FESTIVAL 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.**
Adults \$20* Children 3-12 years \$10* Infants (under 3 years) Free
* includes one free soft drink or bottled water
Admission prices are unchanged from 2023
TICKETS GO ON SALE IN SEPTEMBER

RAFFLE PRIZES: Please bring suitable items (new only) such as household goods, sports equipment, toys, giftware, etc. ASAP to the Piety Shop or Parish Office. Businesses that provide items or vouchers will be promoted during the night and published in the Bulletin.
VOLUNTEERS: If you'd like to be part of the IFF organising team, 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	◆ Chau Tran Chon Chau Maria	◆ Cheryl Fortini
◆ Shelly Barnes	◆ Salam Awkar	◆ Margaret Falzon
◆ Robbie Barnes	◆ Leila Rouhana	◆ Anthony Quach
◆ Therese Nicolas	◆ Charles Zammit	◆ Jack Bartolo
◆ Hermie Alves	◆ David O'Connor	
◆ Mary Callagja	◆ Marcelina Domingo	
◆ Rita Figueredo	◆ Jacqueline Parr	

