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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 Group:**  
♦ 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  
jeremy.santoso@parracatholic.org  
Pauline Junior: Rita Elbayeh  
Pauline Teen & Adult: Fr. Jeremy Santoso

**Legion of Mary:**  
♦ Anthony Sammut

**Playgroup:**  
♦ Maryanne - 0416116707

# 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*

Fifth  
Sunday  
of Easter



Year A  
03 May  
2026

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

**GOSPEL** John 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.' Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. 'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

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

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**  
I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

**MEDITATION**  
Jesus made a statement that invoked the very name which God had revealed to Moses, "I am who I am" (Exodus 3:14), and he made three claims which only God could make. He stated unequivocally to his disciples: "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life" (John 14:6) Jesus proclaims: *I am the Way*. He personally is the way to the Father's kingdom, and we cannot miss it if we follow him. He accompanies us on our daily journey and watches over us as the good shepherd who leads and sustains us each and every step of the way. Are you in step with the Lord and do you trust in his guiding hand for your life? Jesus proclaims that he is the *Truth*. The truth which Jesus proclaims has power to set us free from ignorance, deception, and sin. The words which Jesus speaks are true because there is no lie or falsehood in him. Moral truth requires more than mere words or ideas because the person who speaks them must be true - true in thought, speech, deed, example, and action. Jesus embodies the truth in his person. Jesus proclaims that he is the *Life*. He not only *shows us the path of life*; he gives the kind of life which only God can give - abundant life that lasts forever. Is there any trouble, fear, or distraction that keeps you from the perfect peace and joy of a life surrendered to Jesus Christ? *Lord Jesus, you fill us with the joy of your saving presence and you give us the hope of everlasting life with the Father in Heaven. Show me the Father that I may know and glorify him more fully.*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**  
O sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**FIRST READING** Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7  
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**  
*(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.*

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. *(R.)*
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. *(R.)*
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. *(R.)*

**SECOND READING** 1 Peter 2:4-9  
A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

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

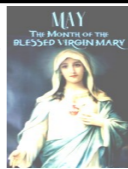
**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  
*Alleluia, alleluia!*  
I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.  
*Alleluia!*

**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A**


**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
**10 MAY 2026**  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year A)**  
First Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17  
Second Reading: 1Pet 3:15-18  
Gospel: Jn 14:15-21

**THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION**  
**MAY 2026**  
*That everyone might have food*  
Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.


**MAY DEVOTIONS**  
During the month of May, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after all Morning Masses and recitation of the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Act of Consecration.  
Within the cycle of a year, the Church unfolds the whole of the mystery of Christ from His incarnation and birth until His ascension, the day of Pentecost and the expectation of Blessed hope and of the Lord's return.  
In celebrating this annual cycle of Christ's mysteries, the Church honours with special love **Mary, the Mother of God** who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son. In her, the Church holds up and admires the most excellent effect of the redemption and joyfully contemplates, as in a flawless image, that which the Church itself desires and hopes wholly to be. (SC102,103)



**YOUTH GROUP @ STMM**  
**Pauline Junior (Meeting: 08 May)**  
Our youth group for Primary School Students, meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month starting at 5:30pm to 6:30pm.  
**Pauline Teen (Meeting: 08 May)**  
Our youth group for High School Students, meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month starting at 7:30pm to 9:00pm.  
**Pauline Young Adults (Meeting: 17 May)**  
Our young adults group (ages 18 to 35 years), meets on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month starting at 7:00pm to 8:30pm.  
An Introduction to the Theology of the Body  
Session 6: Celibacy for the Kingdom  
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre  
For further information please contact Fr. Jeremy at [Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org](mailto:Jeremy.Santoso@parracatholic.org)



As we honour the special role of motherhood; St Margaret Mary's Parish invites all mothers, grand-mothers and carers to receive a **special Mother's Day blessing** during all Sunday Masses on **09 & 10 May 2026**.



**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**  
On 2<sup>nd</sup> 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, 10 May 2026**.  
Couples celebrating a milestone anniversary may contact the Parish office.

**AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH**  
Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (19 April 2026) there will be a Children's Mass at 10:30am followed by Morning Tea in the Pastoral Centre.




**SUNDAY - 24 MAY 2026**  
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.




**15TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION OF FR. WOJCIECH SLIWA**  
Date: Saturday, 30 May 2026  
Time: 6pm Mass  
Followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall  
We request all our generous Parishioners to kindly bring a plate to share and celebrate this significant milestone with our Parish Priest.




**EUCCHARIST28**  
For more information and regular updates, please scan the QR code.



**Wisdom: God's Vision for Life**  
**Wednesday after 7pm Mass in the Pastoral Centre**  
Scripture and the Tradition of the Catholic Church provide an abundance of wisdom, though it can often be challenging to apply it to our lives. In this eight-part study, Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith examine biblical wisdom as it relates to daily life. Drawing on the wisdom literature of the Bible—Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach, and Ecclesiastes—*Wisdom: God's Vision for Life will teach you how to actively seek sound guidance and increase your sense of peace in navigating life.*



**JOURNEY THROUGH SCRIPTURE**  
In the *Psalms: The School of Prayer*, discover how these sacred hymns become our heartfelt response to God's loving and wondrous deeds for us. All are welcome on Thursdays at 7:00pm in the Pastoral Centre.




**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026**  
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 3: 06 MAY** **Session 4: 13 MAY**  
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre  
Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Monday, 18 May 2026 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  
*Thank you for your continued support and generosity. God bless.*



**ST MARGARET MARY'S LITTLE ANGELS PLAYGROUP**  
EVERY TUESDAY FORTNIGHT DURING SCHOOL TERM  
FROM 9:30AM TO 11:30AM IN THE PASTORAL CENTRE.  
Bring your child (*newborn to pre-school age*) along with their morning tea for some Parish fun! They will enjoy singing songs, craft, story time, structured play and meeting new friends.  
*For enquiries contact Maryanne Pickering (0416116707)*




**Pilgrimage to Penrose Park - Fatima Day (Wednesday 13 May 2026)**  
The Parish Piety Shop is organising a Pilgrimage to Penrose Park to celebrate Fatima Day on **Wednesday, 13 May 2026. Cost is 40 per person**  
Limited seats available. Kindly contact Lydia or Santy to 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 10 May 2026 after 10:30am Mass.* Raffle tickets are available in the Piety Shop.



**Table Tennis social nights**  
Every Tuesday evening, in the Pastoral Centre after 7pm evening Mass. *All are welcome.*



- |                  |                     |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| ◆ Reuben Dias    | ◆ Cheryl Fortini    | ◆ Therese Nicolas   |
| ◆ Shelly Barnes  | ◆ Margaret Falzon   | ◆ Marcelina Domingo |
| ◆ Robbie Barnes  | ◆ Karen Falzon      | ◆ Margaret Tockuss  |
| ◆ Hermie Alves   | ◆ Anthony Quach     | ◆ James Bartolo     |
| ◆ Mary Callagja  | ◆ Sarafino Enadio   | ◆ Sam Bartolo       |
| ◆ Rita Figueredo | ◆ Lily Ware         | ◆ Tony Bartolo      |
| ◆ Salam Awkar    | ◆ Connie Cordeiro   |                     |
| ◆ Leila Rouhana  | ◆ Lorraine Phillips |                     |
- 