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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:**  
♦ Suzanne Mifsud  
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.



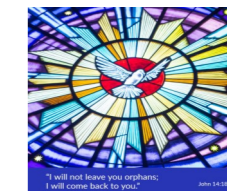
**Parish Priest**  
Fr. Wojciech Sliwa

**Assistant Priest**  
Fr. Jeremy Santoso



*Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae*

Sixth  
Sunday  
of Easter



Year A  
10 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

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

**FIRST READING** Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8. 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! *(R.)*
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men. *(R.)*
3. He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might. *(R.)*
4. Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me. *(R.)*

**SECOND READING**

1 Peter 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter  
Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*  
All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
*Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL**

John 14:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

**MEDITATION**

How do we know that God truly loves each one of us? In the cross we see the proof of God's love for each of us and the incredible price God was willing to pay to redeem us from slavery to sin, death, and Satan. Jesus gave up his life that we might have life - abundant, everlasting life with God - a life of love and unity with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit forever. Through the cross Jesus opened a new way of relationship for us as the adopted sons and daughters of God - his beloved children (Romans 8:14-17). Jesus calls his disciples to walk in his way of love through obedience to the will of the Father. True love is more than sentiment, emotion, or good intention. As important as these may be they are not the proof of sincere love. True love for God is expressed in obedience and obedience is expressed in love. Jesus promised to give his followers the best of gifts. The Holy Spirit is our Advocate and Helper who guides and strengthens us and brings us safely through the challenges and adversities we must face in this life. The Holy Spirit is also the Giver of life - the abundant life which comes from God and which sustains us forever. The Holy Spirit also guides us in the way of truth, wisdom, and goodness. We can never stop learning because the Spirit leads us more and more into the knowledge of God's love, truth, and goodness. Jesus also promised his followers the gift of peace. Peace is more than the absence of conflict or trouble. Peace includes everything which makes for our highest good. Trust in God, faith in his promises, and obedience to his word lead us to peace and security in God's presence. That is why a Christian need not fear or be troubled by anything. The love of Christ brings immeasurable joy and consolation even in the midst of our trials and suffering.



**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
**17 MAY 2026**  
**The Ascension of the Lord (Year A)**  
First Reading: Acts 1:1-11  
Second Reading: Eph 1:17-23  
Gospel: Mt 28:16-20

**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)

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**  
This **Sunday, 10 May 2026** 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.**

**AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH**  
Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, (17 May 2026) there will be a Children's Mass at 10:30am followed by Morning Tea in the Pastoral Centre.

**YOUTH GROUP @ STMM**  
**Pauline Junior (Meeting: 22 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: 22 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)

**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.

**Bishop's Good Works Appeal**  
There will be a 3rd collection throughout the Sunday masses on the 16th & 17th May 2026.

**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 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.** Kindly contact Lydia or Santy 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.

◆ Reuben Dias  
◆ Shelly Barnes  
◆ Robbie Barnes  
◆ Hermie Alves  
◆ Mary Callagja  
◆ Rita Figueredo  
◆ Salam Awkar  
◆ Leila Rouhana  
◆ Cheryl Fortini  
◆ Margaret Falzon  
◆ Karen Falzon  
◆ Anthony Quach

◆ Sarafino Enadio  
◆ Lily Ware  
◆ Connie Cordeiro  
◆ Lorraine Phillips  
◆ Therese Nicolas  
◆ Marcelina Domingo  
◆ Margaret Tockuss  
◆ James Bartolo  
◆ Sam Bartolo  
◆ Tony Bartolo

*Prayer Requests*