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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:
♦ Franklin Lamin
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. Zachary Lewis
zachary.lewis@parracatholic.org
Pauline Junior: Rita Elbayeh
Pauline Teen: Lizi Alegria
Young Adults: Fr. Zachary Lewis

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. Zachary Lewis

Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae



Year A
02 August
2026



<u>SUNDAY MASSES</u>		<u>WEEKDAY MASSES</u>		<u>RECONCILIATION</u>	
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
		Wednesday	9:00am & 7:00pm	Thursday	8:30am-8:55am
Vespers	10:30am 5:15-5:45pm 6:00pm	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:

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
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 - 1st Saturday of the month after 9:00am Mass
Divine Mercy - 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

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

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

- The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. *(R.)*
- The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live. *(R.)*
- The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, call on him from their hearts. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and

they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

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

The feeding of the five thousand shows the remarkable generosity of God and his great kindness towards us. When God gives, he gives abundantly. He gives more than we need for ourselves that we may have something to share with others, especially those who lack what they need. God takes the little we have and multiplies it for the good of others. Do you trust in God's provision for you and do you share freely with others, especially those who lack?
Lord Jesus Christ, you satisfy the deepest longings of our hearts and you feed us with the finest of wheat (Psalm 81:16). Fill me with gratitude for your blessings and give me a generous heart that I may freely share with others what you have given to me.





19TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
09 AUGUST 2026
19th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
(Year A)
First Reading: 1 Kgs 19:9, 11-13
Second Reading: Rom 9:1-5
Gospel: Mt 14:22-33



POPE LEO XIV

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION
AUGUST 2026
For evangelization in the city
Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.



OUR PARISH PRAYER

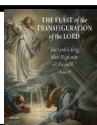
Father, through the intercession of St. Margaret Mary, pour out Your Spirit upon the people of this parish so that inspired by Your word, nourished at Your table and graced by Your empowering love, our lives may be devoted to the service of our brothers and sisters and the building up of Your Kingdom. May our parish community truly be, for this place and time, the Body of Christ Your Son, through whom we make this prayer. **Amen.**



PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam through the world seeking the ruin of souls. **Amen.**

Feast of
The TRANSFIGURATION of the LORD
Thursday 06 August 2026





ON 07 AUGUST 2026
AT 7:00PM UNTIL MIDNIGHT
(ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS)

SOLEMNITY OF ST MARY
(MACKILLOP) OF THE CROSS
Saturday 08 August 2026





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, 09 August 2026.**
Couples celebrating a milestone anniversary may contact the Parish office.

YOUTH GROUP @ STMM
Pauline Junior (Meeting: 14 August)
Our youth group for Primary School Students, meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month starting at 5:30pm to 6:30pm.
Pauline Teen (Meeting: 14 August)
Our youth group for High School Students, meets on the 2nd & 4th Friday of the month starting at 7:30pm to 9:00pm.
Pauline Young Adults (Meeting: 16 August)
Our young adults group (*ages 18 to 35 years*), meets on 3rd Sunday of the month starting at 7:00pm to 8:30pm.
An Introduction to the Theology of the Body
Session 8: The Language of Sexual Love
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre
For further information please contact parish@stmm.org.au



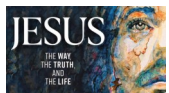
SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Saturday 15 August 2026
The Solemnity of the Assumption will be celebrated on **Saturday 15 August** in our Parish. This is a **Holy Day of Obligation** which means that **every Catholic must attend this Mass.**



MASS TIMES
7:00pm (14 Aug - Friday) : Vigil for the Assumption
9:00am (15 Aug) : Solemn Parish Mass
11:30am (15 Aug) : Exposition, Holy Rosary & Litany
12:00 noon (15 Aug) : Solemn Parish Mass

Please note that 6pm Vigil Mass on Saturday, 15 August 2026 is a Sunday Vigil Mass.

JESUS: The Way, The Truth, and The Life
Wednesday after 7pm Mass in the Church
Christ will inspire and empower you to center your life on Him as you come to know and love him in a deeper & more intimate way.





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 First Holy Communion program is divided into two groups taught by the Sacramental Coordinator.
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: 05 AUGUST
Session 4: 12 AUGUST
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre.
Rehearsal: Thursday, 20 August at 6pm - 7pm
First Holy Communion  **Mass on Sunday, 23 August at 3pm.**

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.



RCIA PROGRAM
RCIA is an ongoing Apostolate in this Parish. Our dedicated volunteers have received instructions to guide anyone who wishes to join the Catholic Church through weekly preparations classes and regular Mass attendance.
If you know of anyone who wishes to enter the Catholic Faith, who has been baptised in another Faith or not baptised and wishes to complete the Sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church.
Please see our Priests after Mass during weekends or contact the **RCIA Coordinator Peter Carroll** on **0414 070 082** or the Parish Office.



STMM PIETY SHOP
We request our Parishioners to support our Parish Piety Shop with their generous purchase of a variety of available products.
Kindly support the Parish by purchasing the **Catholic Weekly** for **only \$2** available at our Piety Shop.



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◆ Shelly Barnes	◆ Karen Falzon	◆ James Bartolo
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◆ Hermie Alves	◆ Sarafino Enadio	◆ Tony Bartolo
◆ Mary Callagja	◆ Lily Ware	◆ Merwyn D'Souza
◆ Rita Figueredo	◆ Connie Cordeiro	
◆ Salam Awkar	◆ Lorraine Phillips	
◆ Leila Rouhana	◆ Therese Nicolas	
◆ Cheryl Fortini	◆ Marcelina Domingo	
◆ Margaret Falzon	◆ Margaret Tockuss	

Prayer Requests 

Save the Dates...
15 November 2026 (Sunday) 10:30am Solemn Mass
Celebrant: Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv
17 November 2026 (Tuesday) 7:00pm Solemn Mass
Celebrant: Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE
22 November 2026 (Sunday) 1:00pm - 7:00pm
Parish Luncheon Banquet at Aria House