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**PARISH OFFICE:**  
1-5 Chetwynd Rd,  
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PO Box 757 Merrylands  
Tuesday - Friday: 9:30am - 3:30pm  
Phone: 02 9637 2526 9637 2014  
Fax: 9637 2442  
Email: [parish@stmm.org.au](mailto:parish@stmm.org.au)  
Website: [stmm.org.au](http://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](mailto:parishcouncil@stmm.org.au)

**Finance Committee:**  
♦ Chair: Tony Bougoide  
♦ Secretary: Priscilla Newman  
[financecommittee@stmm.org.au](mailto:financecommittee@stmm.org.au)

**Events Group:**  
♦ TBA  
[events@stmm.org.au](mailto:events@stmm.org.au)

**Sacraments:**  
♦ Monique Kairouz  
[sacraments@stmm.org.au](mailto:sacraments@stmm.org.au)

**Acolytes / RCIA / Baptism**  
♦ Peter Carroll - 0414 070 082

**Safeguarding Officer:**  
♦ Suzanne Mifsud  
[safeguarding@stmm.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@stmm.org.au)

**Catechists:**  
♦ Sonia Abi-Rached

**Music:**  
♦ Kerry van der Linden

**Readers:**  
♦ Suzanne Mifsud  
[lectors@stmm.org.au](mailto:lectors@stmm.org.au)

**Scripture:**  
♦ Gwen D'Silva

**YOUTH GROUP:**  
♦ Fr. Jeremy Santoso  
[jeremy.santoso@parracatholic.org](mailto:jeremy.santoso@parracatholic.org)  
**Pauline Junior:** Rita Elbayeh  
**Pauline Teen:** Lizi Alegria  
**Young Adults:** 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*

**Fifteenth Sunday**  
in  
**Ordinary Time**



**Year A**  
**12 July**  
**2026**

| SUNDAY MASSES |                                  | WEEKDAY MASSES |                 | RECONCILIATION |                                |
|---------------|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Saturday      | 6:00pm<br>Vigil                  | Monday         | 9:15am          | Tuesday        | 8:30am-8:55am<br>6:30pm-6:55pm |
| Sunday        | 7:30am<br>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<br>5:15-5:45pm<br>6:00pm | Thursday       | 9:00am          | Friday         | 8:30am-8:55am<br>6:30pm-6:55pm |
|               |                                  | Friday         | 9:00am & 7:00pm | Saturday       | 8:30am-8:55am<br>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  
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

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: ‘As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.’

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.**

- You care for the earth, give it water,  
you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over  
to provide its grain. **(R.)**
- And thus you provide for the earth;  
you drench its furrows,  
you level it, soften it with showers,  
you bless its growth. **(R.)**
- You crown the year with your goodness.  
Abundance flows in your steps,  
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**
- The hills are girded with joy,  
the meadows covered with flocks,  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him will live for ever.  
**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, ‘Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up.

Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!’ Then the disciples went up to him and asked, ‘Why do you talk to them in parables?’ ‘Because’ he replied ‘the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled: You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me. ‘But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it. ‘You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.’

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

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.  
Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.



## MEDITATION

The parables of Jesus will enlighten us if we approach them with an open mind and heart, ready to let them challenge us. If we approach them with the conviction that we already know the answer, then we, too, may look but not see, listen but not understand. God's word can only take root in a receptive heart that is ready to believe and willing to submit. Do you submit to God's word with trust and obedience? **Lord Jesus, faith in your word is the way to wisdom, and to ponder your divine plan is to grow in the truth. Open my eyes to your deeds, and my ears to the sound of your call, that I may understand your will for my life and live according to it.**

**16TH SUNDAY**  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR A



**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS**  
**19 JULY 2026**  
**16th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**  
**(Year A)**  
**First Reading: Wis 12:13, 16-19**  
**Second Reading: Rom 8:26-27**  
**Gospel: Mt 13:24-43**

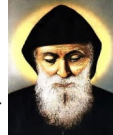
  
POPE LEO XIV

**THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION**  
**JULY 2026**  
***For respect for human life***  
Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**  
This **Sunday, 12 July 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.**

**NOVENA TO ST. CHARBEL**  
**(15 JULY - 23 JULY 2026)**  
Novena to St. Charbel commence from **Wednesday, 15 July** and will conclude on **Thursday, 23 July** after Morning and Evening Mass.  
**Feast of St. Charbel** will be celebrated on **Friday, 24 July 2026.**



**AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH**  
Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, **(19 July 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: 24 July)**  
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: 24 July)**  
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: 19 July)**  
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 7: Marriage as a Sacrament**  
**Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre**  
For further information please contact **parish@stmm.org.au**



**PARISH CAR BLESSING**  
**SUNDAY - 26 JULY 2026 after 10:30am MASS**  
St. Christopher known as the patron saint of travellers protecting them from danger and illness. Through his intercession of safe travel and protection, for all our Parishioners who wish to have their car blessed.  
**After 10:30am Mass kindly stand where your respective car is parked and Fathers will walk around and bless the cars.**



**PARISH BBQ FUNDRAISER**  
**Sunday - 26 July 2026 after 9am & 10:30am Mass**  
The Parish is organising a **BBQ Fundraiser**. Proceeds of sale will go towards replacement of the Church pews.

**SUNDAY - 26 JULY 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.**

**A Biblical Walk through the Mass**  
**Wednesday after 7pm Mass in the Pastoral Centre**  
This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist.



**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.

**80th Anniversary**  
CELEBRATION  
*Of Our Parish*

**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 1: 22 JULY**  
**Session 2: 29 JULY**  
**Session 3: 05 AUGUST**  
**Session 4: 12 AUGUST**  
**Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre.**  
**Rehearsal: Thursday, 20 August at 6pm - 7pm**  
**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.**

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



**STMM PIETY SHOP**  
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- ◆ Therese Nicolas
- ◆ Marcelina Domingo
- ◆ Margaret Tookuss

- ◆ James Bartolo
- ◆ Sam Bartolo
- ◆ Tony Bartolo


**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**