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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:
♦ TBA
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.



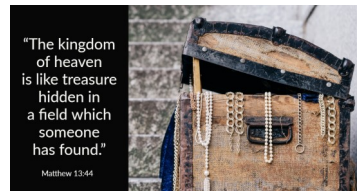
Parish Priest
Fr. Wojciech Sliwa

Assistant Priest
Fr. Zachary Lewis

Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A
26 July 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
		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

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5.7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, ‘Ask what you would like me to give you.’ Solomon replied, ‘Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?’ It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. ‘Since you have asked for this’ the Lord said ‘and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.’

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

- My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **(R.)**
- Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **(R.)**
- That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **(R.)**
- Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. ‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. ‘Have you understood all this?’ They said, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.

MEDITATION

When Jesus had finished speaking about his parables, he turned to his disciples and asked them, "Have you understood all this?" (Matthew 13:52). Jesus asks us the same question. If we want to understand the meaning and significance of the parables for our daily lives, then we must reflect and think through what the Lord is saying to us through his instruction. The Holy Spirit is our guide and teacher who helps us to grow in understanding of God's word in the Scriptures. **Lord Jesus, may your word take deep root in my heart and transform my way of thinking, discerning, and acting. May your Spirit open my ears to hear and understand the word of God in the Scriptures that I may revere and treasure both the Old and the New Testaments which God has prepared for all who desire to enter his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy. Help me to be a diligent student and faithful disciple of your word.**



18TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

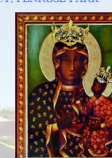

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
02 AUGUST 2026
18th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
(Year A)
First Reading: Is 55:1-3
Second Reading: Rom 8:35, 37-39
Gospel: Mt 14:13-21


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.

PAIRSH BBQ FUNDRAISER

Come and enjoy a tasty sausage sizzle while supporting our church community!
\$5 Sausage Sizzle & Water
\$2 Soft Drink
All proceeds will go towards the replacement of our church pews.
Thank you for your support—we look forward to seeing you there!

25th ANNIVERSARY OF CORONATION
ICON OF THE BLACK MADONNA
2001-2026
SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MERCY, PENROSE PARK

ALL PILGRIMS ARE INVITED TO COME ALONG AND PARTICIPATE IN THE CELEBRATIONS TO MARK THIS SIGNIFICANT ANNIVERSARY!!
The Solemnity for the Pilgrims on Sunday 24th August 2026
9am: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Lauds in the Shrine Church
10:30am: Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Singing of the Psalms: Litany of the B.V.M (Klezka)
11am: Solemn Reception and Mass of the Anniversary
Celebrant: *The Most Rev Brian Macneil DD*, Bishop of Wollongong
The Solemnity Proper - Wednesday 26th August 2026
9:30am: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Lauds in the Shrine Church
10:30am: Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Singing of the Psalms: Litany of the B.V.M (Klezka)
11am: Solemn Mass of the Solemnity / Anniversary
Celebrant: *The Very Rev Jonathan Zee OMC*, Provincial Superior
Address: 120 Hanging Rock Road, Sutton Forest NSW 2577
Website: www.penroseshrine.org.au Email: penroseshrine@penroseshrine.org.au Phone: (02) 4819-9192

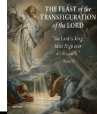
PARISH CAR BLESSING
SUNDAY - 26 JULY 2026 after 10:30am MASS
 St. Christopher known as the patron saint of travellers protecting them from danger and illness. Through his intercession of safe travel and protection, for all our Parishioners who wish to have their car blessed.
After 10:30am Mass kindly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

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.



**MEN'S ROSARY CRUSADE**
SATURDAY - 01 AUGUST 2026
@ 10:00AM

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



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



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.

For safety & safeguarding reasons, we kindly request all parents / carers to ensure to accompany their children to the toilets and the play area in the school premises at all times.



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 2: 29 JULY
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.



EUCCHARIST28
For more information please scan the QR code.



For more information please scan the QR codes.



- ◆ 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 

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

