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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
30 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

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

- O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
- So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**
- So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
- For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with

him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

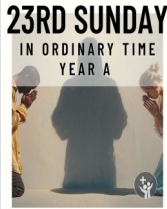
How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

MEDITATION

A true disciple gladly gives up all that he or she has in exchange for an unending life of joy and happiness with God. God gives without measure. The joy he offers no sadness or loss can diminish. The cross of Jesus Christ leads to victory and freedom from sin and death. What is the cross which Jesus Christ commands me to take up each day? When *my* will crosses with *his* will, then his will must be done. Are you ready to lose all for Jesus Christ in order to gain all with Jesus Christ?



Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and all my will, all that I have and possess. You have given them to me; to you, O Lord, I restore them; all things are yours, dispose of them according to your will. Give me your love and your grace, for this is enough for me. (Prayer of Ignatius of Loyola, 1491-1556)

**23RD SUNDAY**
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
06 SEPTEMBER 2026
23rd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
(Year A)
First Reading: Ezek 33:7-9
Second Reading: Rom 13:8-10
Gospel: Mt 18:15-20

**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.

**ST MARGARET MARY'S PARISH MERRYLANDS**
80TH ANNIVERSARY Celebration
CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF FAITH, COMMUNITY & TRADITION SINCE 1946
SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2026 1:00 PM
ARIA VENUE Level 2, 10/1267 The Mundy Drive, Westfield Park NSW 2164 DRESS: FORMAL
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**ON 04 SEPTEMBER 2026**
AT 7:00PM UNTIL MIDNIGHT
(ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS)

MEN'S ROSARY CRUSADE
SATURDAY - 05 SEPTEMBER 2026
@ 10:00AM





As we honour the special role of fatherhood; St. Margaret Mary's Parish invites all fathers, grand-fathers and carers to receive a **special Father's Day blessing** during all **Sunday Masses on 05 - 06 September 2026.**

Bishop's Father's Day Appeal
05 - 06 September 2026



This Father's Day, our Parish proudly supports the **Clergy Support Foundation's Bishop's Father's Day Appeal.**
Please give generously via **parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal** or the giving envelopes and help ensure our spiritual fathers receive the dignity, comfort and care they need.

**The Feast of The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary** will be celebrated on **Tuesday, 08 September 2026.**

YOUTH GROUP @ STMM
Pauline Junior (Meeting: 11 September)
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: 11 September)
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: 20 September)
Our young adults group (*ages 18 to 35 years*), meets on 3rd Sunday of the month starting at 7:00pm to 8:30pm.
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 Pastoral Centre



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
Matthew—The King and his Kingdom portrays Jesus as the true King who fulfills the Law the people of Israel have failed to keep and who introduces the new law that will accompany the New Covenant.
All are welcome on Thursdays at 7:00pm in the Pastoral Centre.



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.

**80TH Anniversary CELEBRATION**
Of Our Parish



Congratulations to all the children and their families who received First Holy Communion on **Sunday, 23 August 2026.**
We sincerely thank all those involved in making this Holy Sacrament so meaningful and memorable especially our **Sacramental Coordinator Monique Kairouz.** Her dedication, patience and efforts with preparing the children was commendable.
Our gratitude to all our volunteers, Acolytes, Altar servers, musicians, the Principal & teachers of our Primary school for their continuous support.

PARISH MERCHANDISE NOW AVAILABLE!



Our St Margaret Mary's Parish T-shirts, hoodies and zip-up hoodies are now available to order from the Piety Shop.
Come in, have a look at our new parish merchandise, check out the styles and sizes, and place your order today! A great way to support and proudly represent our parish.

**FATHER'S DAY RAFFLE TICKETS**
We request our Parishioners to purchase as many raffle tickets for **\$5 only.**
Raffle draw will be held on Father's Day, Sunday 06 September 2026 after 10:30am Mass.
Raffle tickets are available in the Piety Shop.

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.

For more information please scan the QR codes.



**EUCHARIST28**
For more information please scan the QR code.



◆ Shelly Barnes
◆ Robbie Barnes
◆ Hermie Alves
◆ Mary Callagja
◆ Rita Figredo
◆ Salam Awkar
◆ Leila Rouhana
◆ Cheryl Fortini
◆ Margaret Falzon

◆ Karen Falzon
◆ Anthony Quach
◆ Sarafino Enadio
◆ Lily Ware
◆ Connie Cordeiro
◆ Lorraine Phillips
◆ Marcellina Domingo
◆ Margaret Tockuss
◆ James Bartolo

◆ Sam Bartolo
◆ Tony Bartolo
◆ Merwyn D'Souza

Save the Dates...
15 November 2026 (Sunday) 10:30am Solemn Mass
Celebrant: Very Rev Fernando Montano
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
Tickets will be on sale from 01 September at the Piety Shop