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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

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Year A
04 October 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

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

- You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**
- Then why have you broken down its walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**
- God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
- And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,

because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. “They will respect my son,” he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.” So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They answered, ‘He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord’s doing and it is wonderful to see?’ ‘I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.

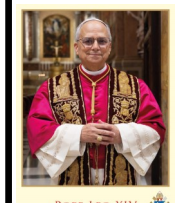
MEDITATION

Jesus foretold both his death on the cross and his ultimate triumph. He knew he would be rejected and put to death, but he also knew that would not be the end. After rejection would come glory - the glory of his resurrection from the grave and his ascension to the right hand of the Father in heaven. The Lord blesses his people today with the gift of his kingdom - a kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. And he promises that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him. He entrusts his gifts and grace to each of us and he gives us work to do in his vineyard - the body of Christ in our midst today. He promises that our labor for him will not be in vain if we persevere with faith to the end. We can expect trials and even persecution. But in the end we will see triumph. Do you follow and serve the Lord Jesus with joyful hope and confidence in the victory he has won for you and the gift of abundant new life in the Holy Spirit?
Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits which you have given us - for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us. O most merciful redeemer, friend, and brother, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, for your own sake.



28TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
11 OCTOBER 2026
28th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
(Year A)
First Reading: Is 25:6-10
Second Reading: Phil 4:12-14, 19-20
Gospel: Mt 22:1-14

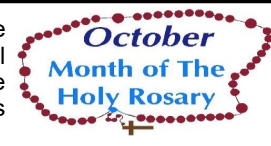


THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION
OCTOBER 2026
For mental health ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Matthew 21:33-43

THE ROSARY is a prayerful exercise comprised of both meditation and vocal prayer. While praying the prayers of the Rosary, meditation focuses on the lives of Jesus and Mary.



There are four mysteries of the Rosary: Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful and Glorious.
During the month of October, there will be recitation of The Holy Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of every Morning Mass **(weekdays only)**.



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, 11 October 2026**.
Couples celebrating a milestone anniversary may contact the Parish office.

Pilgrimage to Penrose Park - Fatima Day
(Tuesday 13 October 2026)
The Parish Piety Shop is organising a Pilgrimage to Penrose Park to celebrate Fatima Day on **Tuesday, 13 October 2026. Cost is \$45 per person.**
Limited seats available. Kindly contact Lydia or Santy for further details.





AT ST. MARGARET MARY'S PARISH
Every 3rd Sunday of the Month, **(18 October 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: 23 October)
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: 23 October)
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: 18 October)
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**



Sheen Gems - The best of Fulton J. Sheen
Wednesday after 7pm Mass in the Pastoral Centre
 Bishop Sheen's eloquence portrays the sacred truth that in every human heart there is a struggle known only to the soul and God.

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.




GOD'S WORD 2027
We request our Parishioners to support our Parish with their generous purchase of **GOD'S WORD 2027** for a **special price of \$22 (limited stock available)**.
Purchases may be done from the Piety Shop. Thank you.



80th Anniversary
CELEBRATION
Of Our Parish

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026
Sacrament of Confirmation enrolments are until **Friday 09 October 2026. (Enrolment Fee \$50 per child)**
Enrolment forms can be downloaded from our website or are available at our Parish Office during working hours.
The Sacrament of Confirmation program will be taught by Monique Kairouz and assisted by Fr. Zachary.
Parents Information evening: Monday - 12 October at 7pm.
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre.



CONFIRMATION PROGRAM
All preparation sessions held on **WEDNESDAYS at 5:30 - 6:30pm**
Session 1: 14 OCTOBER
Session 2: 21 OCTOBER
Session 3: 28 OCTOBER
Session 4: 04 NOVEMBER
Venue: Parish Pastoral Centre.

Confirmation Rehearsal on Wednesday, 11 November 2026 at 6:00pm inside the Church.


CONFIRMATION Saturday, 14 November 2026 at 6:00pm

ONLINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING
To be completed by 31 October 2026
As part of the Diocese of Parramatta's commitment to ensuring all children and adults at risk are safe, respected, protected and supported in our care, all staff and volunteers in our parishes are required to complete Mandatory Safeguarding.
Cycle 1 (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)
Cycle 2 (Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who have completed Cycle 1 two years ago)
Please register online: <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>
Once completed kindly email your online certificates to **safeguarding@stmm.org.au**



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.

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◆ Shelly Barnes

◆ Robbie Barnes

◆ Hermie Alves

◆ Mary Callagia

◆ Rita Figredo

◆ Salam Awkar

◆ Leila Routhana

◆ Cheryl Fortini

◆ Margaret Falzon

◆ Karen Falzon

◆ Anthony Quach

◆ Sarafino Enadio

◆ Lily Ware

◆ Connie Cordeiro

◆ Lorraine Phillips

◆ Marcelina Domingo

◆ Margaret Tockuss

◆ James Bartolo

◆ Sam Bartolo

◆ Tony Bartolo

◆ Mervyn D'Souza



The POWER of Prayer

Save the Dates...
15 November 2026 (Sunday) 10:30am Solemn Mass
Celebrant: Very Rev Fernando Montano
Morning Tea in Pastoral Centre
17 November 2026 (Tuesday) 7:00pm Solemn Mass
Celebrant: Bishop Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE
Refreshments in Pastoral Centre (please bring a plate to share)
22 November 2026 (Sunday) 1:00pm - 7:00pm
Parish Luncheon Banquet at Aria House
Tickets are on sale at the Piety Shop

