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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.



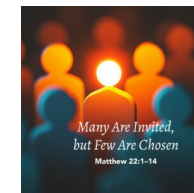
Parish Priest
Fr. Wojciech Sliwa

Assistant Priest
Fr. Zachary Lewis



Ordo Sancti Pauli Primi Eremitae

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**Year A
11 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

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. *(R.)*
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. *(R.)*
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. *(R.)*
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. *(R.)*

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

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 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

MEDITATION

What can a royal wedding party tell us about God's kingdom? One of the most beautiful images used in the Scriptures to depict what heaven is like is the wedding celebration and royal feast given by the King for his newly-wed son and bride. Whatever grand feast we can imagine on earth, heaven is the feast of all feasts because the Lord of heaven and earth invites us to the most important banquet of all - not simply as bystanders or guests - but as members of Christ's own body, his bride the church! The last book in the Bible ends with an invitation to the wedding feast of the Lamb - the Lord Jesus who offered his life as an atoning sacrifice for our sins and who now reigns as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. The Spirit and the Bride say, Come! (Revelation 22:17). The Lord Jesus invites us to be united with himself in his heavenly kingdom of peace and righteousness. God invites each of us as his friends to his heavenly banquet that we may celebrate with him and share in his joy. Are you ready to feast at the Lord's banquet table? *Lord Jesus, may I always know the joy of living in your presence and grow in the hope of seeing you face to face in your everlasting kingdom.*



29TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A


NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
18 OCTOBER 2026
29th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
(Year A)
First Reading: Is 45:1, 4-6
Second Reading: 1Thess 1:1-5
Gospel: Mt 22:15-21


POPE LEO XIV

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.

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**
This **Sunday, 11 October 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.

PARISH HSC BLESSING
SUNDAY – 11 OCTOBER 2026
A special blessing for all HSC students on Sunday, 11 October 2026 at the end of 10:30am Mass.



**FEAST OF**
ST MARGARET MARY ALAQUE
FRIDAY - 16 OCTOBER 2026
9:00 am – Parish Mass
You are invited to celebrate the Feast of Our Patroness St. Margaret Mary Alacoque with our Parish community, at 9:00am solemn mass.
Followed by morning tea (Kindly bring a plate to share)
"All for the Eucharist, nothing for Me" - St Margaret Mary

**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.


**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 3: 28 OCTOBER
Session 2: 21 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
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Second Collection (Parish)
Account: Merrylands Catholic Church
BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 00438
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◆ Shelly Barnes	◆ Margaret Falzon	◆ Margaret Tockuss
◆ Robbie Barnes	◆ Karen Falzon	◆ James Bartolo
◆ Hermie Alves	◆ Anthony Quach	◆ Sam Bartolo
◆ Mary Callagia	◆ Sarafino Enadio	◆ Tony Bartolo
◆ Rita Figredo	◆ Lily Ware	◆ Mervyn D'Souza
◆ Salam Awkar	◆ Connie Cordeiro	◆ Carmen Casha
◆ Leila Routhana	◆ Lorraine Phillips	
◆ Cheryl Fortini	◆ Marcelina Domingo	


Prayer Requests 

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

