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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
25 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	**Tuesday**	9:00am & 7:00pm	**Wednesday**	8:30am-8:55am
	9:00am	**Wednesday**	9:00am & 7:00pm	**Thursday**	8:30am-8:55am
Vespers	10:30am 5:15-5:45pm	**Thursday**	9:00am	**Friday**	8:30am-8:55am 6:30pm-6:55pm
	6:00pm	**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

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

FIRST READING — Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. "If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. "If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."'

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.
My God is the rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.
The Lord is worthy of all praise:
when I call I am saved from my foes. ***(R.)***

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!
Praised be the God who saves me.
He has given great victories to his king
and shown his love for his anointed. ***(R.)***

SECOND READING — 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL — Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
as a fragrant offering to God.

MEDITATION



How can we possibly love God above all else and obey his commandments willingly and joyfully, and how can we love our neighbor and willing lay down our life for their sake? Paul the Apostle tells us that *"hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us"* (Romans 5:5). We do not earn God's love - it is freely given to those who open their heart to God and who freely accept the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ask the Lord Jesus to flood your heart with his love through the gift of the Holy Spirit. ***Lord Jesus, your love surpasses all. Flood my heart with your love and increase my faith and hope in your promises. Help me to give myself in generous service to others as you have so generously given yourself to me.***



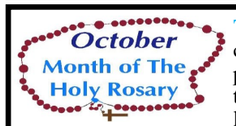
NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
01 NOVEMBER 2026
SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS
(Year A)
First Reading: Rev 7:2-4, 9-14
Second Reading: 1Jn 3:1-3
Gospel: Mt 5:1-12



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.



Father, through the intercession of St. Margaret Mary, pour out Your Spirit upon the people of this parish so that inspired by Your word, nourished at Your table and graced by Your empowering love, our lives may be devoted to the service of our brothers and sisters and the building up of Your Kingdom. May our parish community truly be, for this place and time, the Body of Christ Your Son, through whom we make this prayer. ***Amen.***



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)***.

SUNDAY - 25 OCTOBER 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.





THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED
MONDAY - 2ND NOVEMBER 2026
Mass at 9:15 am & 7:00pm
Join us as we celebrate the Eucharist on **All Souls Day**. A special remembrance offered for those who had funerals in our parish this past year. We also warmly invite parishioners who lost a close relative whose funeral was conducted outside the parish. A candle ceremony will be held at all Masses where a family member will be invited to place a candle on the sanctuary in memory of their loved one.You may bring a small framed photo of your loved one and place on the sanctuary before the commencement of Mass.
On this day a Plenary indulgence may be gained for the dead under the usual conditions by attending a church or cemetery.

NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS FOR ALL DEPARTED SOULS



During the month of November, we will be celebrating **ONE (1) daily Gregorian Mass** during **weekdays and weekends** for all the deceased.
On Thursdays (during November) there will be recitation of the Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at the end of Morning Mass.
We will continue with **"November Mass" yellow envelopes** for our daily Gregorian Masses in November. The envelopes will be kept on the church pews. Please write the name of your deceased loved ones for whom you wish to pray along with an offering inside the envelope. Kindly place the **"November Mass"** envelope in the basket at the altar or give it to the Priests or Parish Office.

ON 06 NOVEMBER 2026
AT 7:00PM UNTIL MIDNIGHT
(ALLIANCE OF THE TWO HEARTS)

MEN'S ROSARY CRUSADE
SATURDAY - 07 NOVEMBER 2026
@ 10:00AM



YOUTH GROUP @ STMM

Pauline Junior (Meeting: 13 November)
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: 13 November)
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: 22 November)
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



This Wednesday we will have refreshments and discuss the life and teachings of Blessed Fulton Sheen. ***All are welcome.***



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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026
The Sacrament of Confirmation program will be taught by Monique Kairouz and assisted by Fr. Zachary.
CONFIRMATION PROGRAM
All preparation sessions held on **WEDNESDAYS** at **5:30 - 6:30pm**
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.*



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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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.

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.

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
- Marcelina Domingo
- Margaret Tockuss
- James Bartolo
- Sam Bartolo
- Tony Bartolo
- Merwyn D'Souza
- Carmen Casha

The Power of Prayer

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