

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 SEPTEMBER 2020

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. We cannot spend all of our lives blaming others for what has happened to us. At a certain stage we must accept responsibility for our own lives and deeds. Sometimes we need to admit, 'I have done wrong. I am sorry. God, help me to do right in future.' Change is always possible. If we have the desire, God will guide us in the right path.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Dan 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42
All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (striking the breast) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, /

receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Ezek 18:25-28

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel
The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. R.

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. R.

3. The Lord is good and upright / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. R.



SECOND READING

Phil 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the
underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD



Parish Priest: Fr Jacek (Jack) Cichy

Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro (Mon-Thurs) admin@stmarthas.org.au

Administration Support: Larissa Argiro (Fridays) office@stmarthas.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Patricia Saad (Fridays) sc@stmarthas.org.au

Safeguarding Officer: Dianne Dawson safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au

Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson

Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub & Agnes Lee

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Rachel Suriano

Youth Ministry: Jessica Gereis youth@stmarthas.org.au



'They all ate and were satisfied' ... Matthew 14

70 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

Phone: 9746 6131 Fax: 9764 3040

Email: office@stmarthas.org.au

Website: www.stmarthas.org.au

Parish Office: Mon- Fri 9.00am-3.00pm



St Martha's School: 9764 1184

Email: info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Judy Gastin

Assistant Principal: Leanne Meehan

REC: Attilia Kazacos

THE PARISH OF ST MARTHA'S ACKNOWLEDGES THE WANGUL PEOPLE AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND ON WHICH THE CHURCH IS BUILT

Vision:

**Welcoming
Eucharistic
Transformed by the Word
Full of Grace
Proclaiming Good News**



Mission:

**Alive with the Spirit
Inspired by St Martha
We Celebrate & Witness
God's love
Using our Gifts & Talents**

MASS TIMES



Tuesdays: 7.30am Wednesdays: 9.10am

Thursdays: 9.10am Fridays: 9.10am

Saturdays: 9.10am, 5pm Vigil Mass

Sundays: 8.00am; 10.00am & 6.00pm

1st Saturday of every month: 8-9am Adoration, 9am Benediction,
9.10am Healing Mass and Anointing of the Sick, followed by
reconciliation

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday after 9.10am Mass or by appointment.

BAPTISM:

Available Every 2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month

Next Preparation Session:

4th October 2020.

Contact Parish office for more information.



MARRIAGES: By appointment only
(6 months' notice is required).



ROSARY: Tuesday & Saturday after morning Mass, Wednesday, Thursday
& Friday 8.30am and 7.30pm on Fridays in conjunction with Marian
Movement of Priests Cenacle and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

PRAYER GROUP / ADORATION AT ST MARTHA'S CHURCH:

Temporarily unavailable during COVID-19



**Please continue to support the
St Vincent De Paul Society
through the Church Poor Boxes.**

*In the Spirit of St Martha,
let us continue to help others and Carry
Hope Everywhere.*



SAFE GUARDING

**A reminder to parents that the Notice-Board located
at the side entrance contains various resources for
children regarding Safeguarding.**

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY.

Abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance.

The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Please be aware that if you "TAG" St Martha's in photos on your Facebook page, the images also appear on an "unofficial" St Martha's Facebook page. This "unofficial" page was created automatically by Facebook and is not controlled by St Martha's. We kindly remind you to take care when uploading photos of any children without parent consent.



**Office of the
Children's Guardian**

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MINISTRIES YOU ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN IN - ACOLYTES; READERS; EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS; CHOIR; CHILDREN'S LITURGY (LEADERS & CHILDREN) & SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM (LEADERS & CHILDREN). SIGN IN FOLDERS ARE KEPT IN THE SACRISTY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

ALTAR SERVERS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE SACRISTY WITHOUT A PARENT/TEACHER. THE SIGN IN FOLDER IS LOCATED IN THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE THE SACRISTY.



MASS INTENTIONS



Recently Deceased: Frances Spicer, Shirley White, Clare Kenny, Sr Christin McIntosh, Sr Patricia Lindner, Doctor Ron Burke, Francesco & Stefano Colagiuri, Maria Do Thi Men, John Marianos, Simon Raheb, Marie Verschwer, Amirda marie Shanthi, Lorna Redolfi, Gloria & Bill Wallace, Helena Ibrahim, Mick Rigby, Tom Gaha, Maria Casimiro, Sr Maura McAvoy op, Sr Thecla Caruana, Sr Cecily Gaudry, Sr Marie Gaudry, Noeleen Smith, Bernard Nader, Philip Huynh, Mary Bentley

Repose Of The Soul:



Clara Sue, Elias Nohra, Antonio Sahyoun, Elie Sahyoun, Hortance Fernandez, Joan Ophel, Salvatore Puglisi, Nazih Stanton, John Lahood, Vincent Coorey Elias, Simon Stanton (Snr), Frank Monaghan, Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Br Ray Dowding, Gerald Wilson, John Ferguson, Ken Fraser, Connie Wong, Aldo Amarino, Salvatore (Phillip) Puglisi, William (Bill) & Dorothy Starr, Roger O'Reilly, Stefano, Estelle Thurn, Anne Cecilia Glass, Reginald & Agnes Glass, Gerald & Frances Gleeson, Faado & Alice Herro, Patrick & Janet Reynolds, Jim Reynolds, Ken Rich, Monica & Patrick Ryan,

Anniversaries:

Steven Elias, Dorothea Starr, Bernard & Mark Kelly, Eric Leahy & Marie Leahy, Joy Quinlan & Kevin Quinlan, Giuseppe & Raffaele Pagano, Mary Campion, John Liu & Mary Liu, Netta O'Hara, Norman Gode, Jan Loney, Harold Crocker, Albert Khoury, Doreen McNamara, Mary Loscocco, Ivan Skuric, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Caterina & Matteo Genova, Francis & Roslyn Sinnadurai, John Ferguson, Lough Campion, Antonious Katrib, Julia Georges, Joseph Moussa Tannous, Reg Jones, Clare Kenny,

Sick Intentions:

Newborn Alice Ladd needing Open-Heart Surgery, Margaret Davidson with Multiple fractures from car accident, The Ladd Family, Marc Kayrouz, Br Jude Butcher cfc & Peter Starr.

Special Intentions:

Siva & Sothy of Good Health & Wellbeing, Father's day Mass for John McManus, Jack Craig, Annie Craig, Eileen Crocker, Bertha & Clem Jones, Deceased Friends & Benefactors of the Dominican Order Phil Robinson, Sarah Argiro, Members of the Lucich & Argiro Families, Members of the Casmiro & Martins Families, Pauline Murphy, John Murphy, Kristian Seric & Family.

3rd & 4th October

3 rd & 4 th OCTOBER	5.00PM VIGIL	8.00AM	10.00AM	6.00PM
SPECIAL MINISTERS	Vince Blefari Beatrice Bonnet	Christine Ng Geraldine O'Sullivan	Therese Issa Maria Soares Helen Williamson	Andrew Bova Mary L'Estrange
READERS	5.00PM VIGIL Donald Bonnet Helen Blefari	8.00AM Beatrice Cooney John Edwards	10.00AM Merlyn D'Souza Michael Quinlan	6.00PM Miriam Redolfi Anne Chow
ALTAR SERVERS	5.00PM VIGIL Frederick S. Christian S. Samuel P. Luke P.	8.00AM George C. Elias C. Dominic N. Volunteer Needed	10.00AM Catelyn C. Elijah M Emilia T. Volunteer Needed	6.00PM Marina B. Oliver B. Volunteer Needed Volunteer Needed
WARDENS	5.00PM VIGIL Ken Goodrick	8.00AM Georgette Sahyoun	10.00AM Trudie Rogers	6.00PM Phil Robinson

If you are unable to attend your rostered Mass kindly organise a replacement.



First Eucharist Dates for 2020



Parent information night	Tuesday 13 October 7pm- parents only
Lesson 1 plus commitment mass	Saturday 17 October 3.30pm followed by 5pm commitment mass
Lesson 2	Saturday 24 October 3.30pm followed by 5.00pm mass
Lesson 3	Saturday 31 st October @3.30pm followed by 5.00pm mass
Lesson 4	Saturday 7 November @3.30pm followed by 5.00pm mass
Retreat	November 14 2.00pm-4.30pm
First Holy Communion Masses	Sunday 15 November 12pm, Saturday 21 November 11am and 22 November 12pm

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and they follow me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 21:28-32

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,

by which you have given me hope.

This is my comfort when I am brought low.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we

proclaim his Death. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTIONS ON THE GOSPEL

THE PATIENCE OF GOD

The parable about two sons in today's Gospel can be understood on various levels. In Jesus' own context it probably served to defend his practice, shocking to the religious authorities, of celebrating the discovery of God's mercy with those considered outcasts and sinners.

At a deeper level, the parable shows that what God looks to—and can wait for with infinite patience—is the *final* outcome in people's lives. God can put up with an initial *No*, and many other *No*'s besides, on the way to a final and lasting *Yes*.

From the human angle, people who appear religious and obedient from the start may never have sufficiently plumbed the depth of God's mercy to know God as God really is. Conversion at depth and the knowledge of God that goes with it overflows into a pattern of life truly reflecting God's grace. But a hard, judgemental attitude to others may indicate lack of true conversion and knowledge of God: something that may leave such people waiting at the door, while those whom they thought far less worthy enter into the fullness of life before them.

What ultimately determines fitness for eternal life is conformity of the human heart to the heart of God. None of us could ever amass sufficient good works to merit even a second of life with God. That life will be God's gift in abundance if only we have grown—sometimes in the course of a very winding and to-and-fro journey—into the capacity to receive it.

BRENDAN BYRNE, SJ

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Trybooking for weekend Masses

- Thank you to all our parishioners for registering for weekend masses.
- Please Ensure that bookings are made in a timely manner to allow for adequate time to print
- Please arrive 20-30 minutes before mass to confirm your details.
- If you fail to come 5 minutes before mass begins your place will be given to a parishioner who is waiting.
- If you require assistance booking for a mass please call the parish office or speak to the wardens at the back of the church. Assistance. <https://www.trybooking.com/BKONZ>

trybooking

NEW SETS OF WEEKLY PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE CHURCH.

We encourage all Parishioners to join the giving system by either Weekly Envelope or Monthly Credit Card as this is the main income of the parish, by means of which we run everyday expenses, funds projects and plan for the future. If you would like to join, forms are available in the Church Foyer which can be returned via any collection plate or directly to the parish office.

2019/2020 **TAX RECEIPTS** are now available in the Church Foyer. If you would like your receipt mailed, please contact the parish office on 9746 6131 (option2) or email admin@stmarthasparish.org.au

Confirmation



Congratulations to the newly Confirmed candidates. As you celebrate this milestone, may the Holy Spirit be with you to renew and strengthen you in your commitment to follow Christ.

Thank you to Bishop Terry Brady for presiding over the 2 masses & to Father Jack for his spiritual guidance and for accommodating families with an extra mass every week during preparation. A very special thank you to Patricia Saad, our Sacramental Coordinator for all her hard work in preparing the candidates. Thank you also to Felicia Alfred for the beautiful flowers, Rachal Suriano, Roger Bonett and Janine Sherringham for helping prepare the Children, Mrs Judy Gaston, Leanne Meehan & Elena Razzoli from St Martha's School, and to all our parishioners for their prayers.



Order of Australia Honours

Our St Martha's community warmly congratulates both Cathy Milgate OAM and Professor Peter Mc Cluskey AO, upon the presentation of their Australia Day Honours Awards at The Investiture Ceremonies. Truly a great achievement and both very well deserved.



OCTOBER – Month of the HOLY ROSARY



The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others. "Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources — from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church — it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven.

The Dempsey Medal

The Dempsey Medal seeks to encourage and to recognise outstanding contributions and service by members of the Sydney Archdiocesan community to the local Catholic Church or the wider society. The Dempsey Medal is awarded for outstanding service or witness to parish, diocese, or community but it is primarily intended to recognise those who have made a substantial contribution to the context of their local Parish. This year, two of St Martha's Strathfield Parishioners have been selected to receive the Dempsey Medal. Congratulations to Mrs Theresa Kuk and Mr Phillip Robinson on your selection.

Mrs Theresa Kuk has merited this award because she has demonstrated dedication to the Church's mission through her roles at the Parish of St Martha, Strathfield, including those as a Eucharistic Minister, Minister of the Word, warden, money counter, Catechist, assistant with the children's Sacramental program, member of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, and through her work organising various social events.

Mr Phillip Robinson has merited this award because he has demonstrated dedication to the Church's mission through his roles at the Parish of St Martha, Strathfield, as a warden, money counter, Secretary of the Parish Finance Committee, member of the St Vincent de Paul Society, and through his work facilitating various family outings.

Normally, this Medal is presented to the chosen recipients by the Most Rev. Anthony Fisher in person at the Cathedral. However, because of COVID-19, this year they will be presented by Father Jack at St Martha's. The presentations will take place at the 8am Sunday Mass for Phillip and during the 6pm Sunday Mass for Theresa. Once again, congratulations to Theresa and Phillip on your selection.

