



ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD

Parish Priest: Father John Hayes

Assistant Priest: Father Liem Duong

Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro (Mon, Tues & Thurs) admin@stmarthas.org.au

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

Sacramental Coordinator: Linda Praum sc@stmarthas.org.au

Safeguarding Officer: Dianne Dawson & Helen Williamson safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au

Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson

Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Alannah Hickry

Plenary Council Ambassador: Helena O'Neil

'If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest' ... John 12

70 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

Phone: 9746 6131 Fax: 9764 3040

Email: office@stmarthas.org.au

Website: www.stmarthas.org.au

Parish Office Hours:

Mon, Tues & Thurs 9am-5pm & Fridays 9am-3pm



St Martha's School: 9764 1184

Email: info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Carolyn Parsell

Assist Principal: Steven Belcastro

Acting REC: Cindy Ronzini

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



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

Mission:

Alive with the Spirit

Inspired by St Martha

We Celebrate & Witness

God's love

Using our Gifts & Talents

MASS TIMES

Tuesday: 7.30am

Wednesday: 9.10am

Thursday: 9.10am

Friday: 9.10am

Saturday: 9.10am, 5pm Vigil Mass

Sunday: 8.00am; 10.00am & 6.00pm

1st Saturday of every month:

8.30am Adoration followed by Mass



ACU Strathfield Campus celebrates Mass every Wednesday and Friday at 12:00pm. The Campus is located 25A Barker Road, Strathfield. Everyone is welcome.

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday after 9.10am Mass or by appointment.

BAPTISM:

2nd & 4th Sundays of the month at 11.00am

Please introduce yourself to Father after Mass to request a Baptism Information pack. Contact the 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

7.30pm on Fridays in conjunction with Marian Movement of Priests

Cenacle and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

ST MARTHA'S PRAYER GROUP:

Mondays 10.30am – 11.30am (during the school term only)



PLAYGROUP:

Monday 18 March 2024 from 8:50am to 9:50am in the Parish Hall.

followed by morning tea until 10:20am

RSVP is greatly appreciated by email to:

elena.razzoli@syd.catholic.edu.au

Playgroup is a great opportunity for children aged 0 to 5 y.o. to

enjoy some books and craft activities and get to know each other.

Feel free to invite your friends too.



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.

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes 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 (02) 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.

Commitment Statement

The Archdiocese of Sydney is wholly committed to ensuring the safety, well-being and dignity of all Children and Adults at Risk, and it acknowledges its important legal, moral and spiritual responsibility to create a safe and nurturing environment for Children and Adults.



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.

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.

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ANY CELIAC PARISHIONERS. IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION PLEASE TELL THE CHURCH WARDEN OR SEE AN ACOLYTE IN THE SACRISTY PRIOR TO MASS.

*Please support our Catholic Press
Copies of the Catholic Weekly are in the Church Foyer \$2.*

The Feast Day of St Patrick - Mass will be celebrated at 7.30am on Monday 18th March

An Old Irish Blessing for St. Patrick's Day

May your days be many and your troubles be few.
May all God's blessings descend upon you.
May peace be within you, may your heart be strong.
May you find what you're seeking, wherever you roam.
May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us.
May the hand of God protect us, may the word of God direct us.
May thy Salvation, O Lord, be always ours this day and for evermore. Amen.

The Feast Day of St Joseph - Mass will be celebrated at 7.30am on Tuesday 19th March

Blessed Joseph, husband of Mary, be with us this day.
You protected and cherished the Virgin;
loving the Child Jesus as your Son,
you rescued Him from the danger of death.
Defend the Church, the household of God, purchased by the Blood of Christ.
Guardian of the Holy Family, be with us in our trials.
May your prayers obtain for us the strength to flee from error
and wrestle with the powers of corruption so that in life we may grow in holiness
and in death rejoice in the crown of victory. Amen.

The 21st March represents:

Harmony Day - the celebration that recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. Diversity simply means the **things that make us different from one** another. It's about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. You can show your support by wearing something orange on Harmony Day.

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and National Close the Gap Day. These important days, focus on Australian multiculturalism and health equality for First Australians as a fundamental right for all. This day aims to remind people of the consequences of racial discrimination. It also seeks to encourage people to remember their obligation and combat racial discrimination.



Today's Gospel reading is taken from the Gospel of John. We are reading much further into John's Gospel than we have for the past two weeks. Chapter 12 of John's Gospel is a preparation for the beginning of the passion narrative to follow. Jesus has just raised Lazarus from the dead—an important sign in John's Gospel, which inspired many people to believe in Jesus. This event also marks the turning point in Jesus' conflict with the Jewish authorities. John's Gospel tells us that the Sanhedrin met after this event and made plans to kill Jesus. In the 12th chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus is anointed at Bethany and enters Jerusalem in triumph. We again see evidence of the significance of the raising of Lazarus to this event; John reports that the crowds also gathered to see Lazarus. Following his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Jesus predicted his suffering, death, and Resurrection and prepared his disciples to believe in the salvation that his death would accomplish. Using the metaphor of the grain of wheat, Jesus presented the idea that his dying would be beneficial. He also taught that those who would be his disciples must follow his example of sacrifice. This theme will be repeated in John's account of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples

as an example of how they must serve one another. The final section of today's Gospel might be read as John's parallel to the agony in the garden. Unlike the Synoptic Gospels, the Gospel of John does not record Jesus' anguished prayer in the garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. Although comparable words are found in today's reading, Jesus gives a confident response to the question he raises when asking God to save him from his impending death. After announcing his conviction that it is for this purpose that he came, a voice from heaven speaks, as if in answer to Jesus' prayer. This voice, like the one heard at Jesus' baptism and at Jesus' Transfiguration—events reported in the Synoptic Gospels but not in John's Gospel—affirms that God welcomes the sacrifice that Jesus will make on behalf of others. In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches that this voice was sent for the sake of those who would believe in him. In today's Gospel, we also hear Jesus speak about the cosmic framework against which we are to understand his passion, death, and Resurrection. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, the ruler of this world. In this way the world is judged, but the judgment is not condemnation. Instead, through Jesus' dying and rising, salvation is brought to the world.

Family Connection: Family life is often a balancing act in which we prioritize and attend to a variety of competing needs. We learn the value of putting others' needs ahead of our own. In family life we also learn that when we make personal sacrifices to serve others, we gain so much more than we may have lost. As you gather as a family, talk about how important it is to your family life to gladly serve one another. Ask each person to consider the last time that another family member asked for help. What was your response? Did you cheerfully try to honor the request, or did you ask "Why me?" Read today's Gospel, John 12:20-33. How do you think Jesus would want us to respond when someone in our family asks for help? Invite each family member to make a commitment for the next week to try to respond cheerfully to requests for help. Pray together, asking God's help with this commitment. Pray the Prayer of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve You as You deserve; to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to ask for reward save that of knowing I am doing Your Will. Amen.

Due to a limited supply, regrettably the parish will not be able to provide enough palms for everybody this year. We are asking those who can bring their own palm or olive branch with them to Mass to please do so. Anyone who is able to provide large palms to assist in decorating our Church can drop them off after the morning Mass on either Friday or Saturday.

PALM SUNDAY – 23rd & 24th March

	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
Special Ministers	Vince Blefari	Gina Surjadinata	Rachel Suriano	Mary L'Estrange
	Beatrice Bonett	Andri Surjadinata	Maria Soares	Andrew Bova
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
Readers	Donald Bonett	Maria Yu	Claudia Elias	Owen Loney
	Marianna Soo	Robert Smith	Merlyn D'Souza	Volunteer Needed
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
Passion	N: Helen Blefari	N: Paulina Roncevic	N: Helen Williamson	N: Helen Williamson
	O: Patricia Saad	O: Daniel Martins	O: Emmanuel Nathan	O: Volunteer Needed
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
Altar Servers	Grace T.	Mary Louise I.	Beatrice L.	Oliver B.
	Peter T.	Ryan W.	Emilia T.	Marina B.
	Volunteer Needed	Dylan W.	Marcus V.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Elijah M.	Volunteer Needed
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
Wardens	Edith Pun	Peter Yamin	Trudie Rogers	Phil / Anthony

MASS OFFERINGS

Recently Deceased:	Michael Harber, Samantha Murphy, Patricia Gurney, Mike Kennelly, Adam Coulson, Jessie Baird, Luke Davies, Sally Ripplingale, Morna Marturia, Sr. Patricia Bundock, Gianluigi Pau, Joy Hocking, Elias Aslan.
Repose of The Soul:	Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Br Ray Dowding, Francesco Campanale, Francis Doumit, Frederick McDowell, Dorothy Harris, Daniel Lucich, James Brady, Ken Fraser, Elizabeth Keating, John McManus, Aldo Amarino, Salvatore Puglisi, William & Dorothy Starr, Bruce & Estelle Thurn, Anne Cecilia Glass, Reginald & Agnes Glass, Gerald & Frances Gleeson, Faado & Alice Herro, Roger O'Reilly, Patrick & Janet Reynolds, Jim Reynolds, Ken Rich, Monica & Patrick Ryan, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, Betty Warbrick, Gerald Wilson, Dr Stephanie Winfield, Philip Winfield, Mary Trefle', Anne Trefle', Elie Sahyoun, Alan & Peg Bailey, Matteo & Caterina Genova, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Lisa Cooke, Michael & Mary Cassar, Margaret Raeburn, Giuseppe & Romilda Reginato.
Anniversaries:	Edward Campion, Maud Soares, Hubert Saldanah, Rosy Regina D'Costa, Hary Amalan, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, Habib & Josephine Khoury, Judith Mueller, Suki Singarayar, Maureen Sarks, John Tandiono.
Sick Intentions:	Ajith Antony, Karen Chung, Dr Frank Hume, Patricia Wilson, Dareth Flavell, Rudy Raeburn, Carminella Tiberio, Theo McLean, Joseph Akkary, Sylvia Watson, Virgilio Lim, George Jabbour, Dr Maher Ishak Morian, Graham Byrnes, Stephanie Harrington, Phil Harriss, Sophie O'Donnell, Ken South, Pat Fraser, Siena Fabrie, Giuseppe Faraone, Joanna Jo, Simon Alam, Rosanne Sukkar, Henry D'Souza, Danielle Fabien.
Special Intentions:	Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order. Greg Glass, Antonia, Giuseppe, Raffaele, Teresa, Matteo, Filomena & Maria Pagano, Caterina & Francesco Agostino & Robert Rumore.

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:

Monday	25th March	9.10am	Mass
Monday	25th March	6.30pm	2nd Rite of Reconciliation
Tuesday	26th March	7.30am	Mass
Wednesday	27th March	9.10am	Mass
Thursday	28th March	(no morning Mass) 7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday	29th March	10.00am	Stations of the Cross
		3.00pm	Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
		6.00pm – 8.00pm	Malayalee Stations of the Cross
Saturday	30th March	(no morning Mass) 6.00pm	Easter Vigil Mass
Sunday	31st March	8am, 10am & 6pm	Easter Sunday
Monday	1st April	9.10am	Easter Monday Mass

During Holy Week, Project Compassion Boxes can be returned to the Sacristy or the Parish Office.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS ENVELOPES FOR THE HOLY LAND AND EASTER OFFERINGS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH FOYER.



Enrolling @ St Martha's Primary School

Kindergarten Enrolments for 2025 are now being taken. Years 1-6 anytime of the year. Please contact the School Office on 9764 1184 for an Enrolment Pack or a personalised tour. All enrolments are welcome.

Easter is the largest liturgical celebration throughout the year and many volunteers are needed across all ministries. If you are on the regular roster and attending any of the Easter Liturgies, could you please consider volunteering. We are in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Lectors, Altar Servers. Please write your name on the sheets on the rear table of the church or contact **Helen Williamson on 0408 970 120.**

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALSO NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 'WASHING OF THE FEET' AT THE HOLY THURSDAY MASS. PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER.

HOLY THURSDAY – Mass of the Lord's Supper

	1 ST READING		2 ND READING	
Readers:	Lisa Dennis		Marianna Soo	
Special Ministers	Claudia Elias	Georgia Elias	Leontia Jo	
Altar Servers:	Kristen E.	Annalise E.	Volunteer Needed	
Washing of the Feet	1. Gina Tati	2. Marianna Soo	3. Michelle Ta	4. Kynetha Toreato
	5. Bosco Seric	6. Bernard Saad	7. Winnie Lee	8. Antoinette Karam
	9. Volunteer Needed	10. Volunteer Needed	11. Volunteer Needed	12. Volunteer Needed

GOOD FRIDAY – Stations of the Cross

Altar Servers:	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
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GOOD FRIDAY - Passion

	1 ST READING	2 ND READING	PASSION	SOLEMN INTERCESSIONS
Readers:	Claudia Elias	Donald Bonett	N: Anne Marrins O: Michael Quinlan	Aiden E.
Special Ministers:	Lisa Dennis	Beatrice Bonett	Volunteer Needed	
Altar Servers:	Kristen E.	Annalise E.	Volunteer Needed	

EASTER SATURDAY VIGIL

	1 ST OT READING	2 ND OT READING	3 RD OT READING	Epistle & Prayer of the Faithful
Readers:	Claudia Elias	Aiden E.	Leontia Jo	Marianna Soo
Special Ministers:	Beatrice Bonett	Georgia E.	Jacque Bonett	
Altar Servers:	Annalise E.	Kristen E.	Antoinette B.	Zac. B

EASTER SUNDAY

	8AM	10AM	6PM
Readers:	Daniel Martins	Rita Piras	Volunteer Needed
Special Ministers:	Emmanuel Nathan	Michael Quinlan	Volunteer Needed
	Yvonne Martins	Anne Marrins	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers:	Volunteer Needed	Rachel Suriano	Volunteer Needed
	Liam D.	Jay L.	Volunteer Needed
	Shannon D.	Jarvis L.	Volunteer Needed



Beyond Blue
P: 1300 22 4636
W: www.beyondblue.org.au



CatholicCare – Archdiocese of Sydney
P: 13 18 19
W: www.catholiccare.org



Call 1800 55 1800



Lifeline
P: 13 11 14
W: www.lifeline.org.au



1800RESPECT
P: 1800 737 732
W: www.1800respect.org.au