



# 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](mailto:admin@stmarthas.org.au)

**Administration Support:** Larissa Argiro (Friday) [office@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:office@stmarthas.org.au)

**Sacramental Coordinator:** Linda Praum [sc@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:sc@stmarthas.org.au)

**Safeguarding Officer:** Dianne Dawson & Helen Williamson [safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au](mailto: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

**'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord' ... Mark 11**

70 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

**Phone:** 9746 6131 **Fax:** 9764 3040

**Email:** [office@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:office@stmarthas.org.au)

**Website:** [www.stmarthas.org.au](http://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](mailto:info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au)

**Principal:** Carolyn Parsell

**Assist Principal:** Steven Belcastro

**Acting REC:** Cindy Ronzini

THE PARISH OF ST MARTHA'S ACKNOWLEDGES THE WANGULI 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

**1<sup>st</sup> 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:**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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:**

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.

Next date to be advised. Contact:

[elena.razzoli@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:elena.razzoli@syd.catholic.edu.au)

## **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 [safeguardinginqueries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardinginqueries@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.**

**URGENT VOLUNTEERS ACROSS ALL MINISTRIES ARE NEEDED FOR EASTER SUNDAY 6.00PM  
MASS. ALTAR SERVERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE 10AM STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON GOOD  
FRIDAY.**

Easter is the largest liturgical celebration throughout the year so if you are on the regular roster and attending these Easter Liturgies, could you please consider volunteering. Please either write your name on the sheets located in the Church Foyer or contact **Helen Williamson on 0408 970 120.**

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum—three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today’s Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus’ triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they blessed God and shouted “Hosanna!” This event is reported in each of the four Gospels. At the Liturgy of the Word on Palm Sunday, the events of Jesus’ passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle B, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Mark. We will hear these events proclaimed again when we celebrate the Triduum later in the week. On Good Friday, we will read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John. In Mark’s Gospel, Jesus’ passion and death are presented as the consequence of the tension between the Jewish authorities and Jesus that had been building throughout his public ministry. This tension reached its breaking point when Jesus drove the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple. After this event, the chief priests and scribes began seeking a way to put Jesus to death, and yet, this is only the surface explanation for his death. When Jesus was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin—the council of Jewish priests, scribes, and elders—he was charged with blasphemy, citing his threat to the Temple. When he was brought before Pilate, however, the religious authorities presented his crime as a political one, charging that Jesus claimed to be king of the Jews. In continuity with a theme of Mark’s Gospel, the messianic claim of Jesus is widely misunderstood. In Mark’s Gospel, Jesus’ disciples are rarely models of faith and do little to invoke confidence in their capacity to continue his ministry after his death. They fare no better in Mark’s narrative of Jesus’ passion and death. At the Last Supper, the disciples insisted that none among them would betray Jesus. When Jesus predicted that their faith would be shaken in the events ahead, Peter and the other disciples protested vehemently. Yet in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus returned three times to find them sleeping. Jesus prayed in agony over his impending fate while his disciples slumbered through the night. Just as Jesus predicted, Peter denied Jesus, and the disciples were absent during Jesus’ passion and death. Only the women who had been followers of Jesus in Galilee are said to have been present at the Crucifixion, but they remained at a distance. Throughout this Gospel, Mark challenges the reader to consider the claim with which the Gospel begins: Jesus is the Son of God. When we read Mark’s account of the passion, we begin to comprehend the deeper theological statement being made about Jesus’ death. In Mark’s telling of the passion narrative, Jesus understood his death to have been preordained, and he accepted this death in obedience to God’s will. Jewish Scripture is quoted only once, but there are several references to the fulfillment of the Scriptures. Jesus understood his anointing in Bethany as an anticipation of his burial, and he announced that this story would be told together with the Gospel throughout the world. Jesus predicted his betrayal by Judas as well as Peter’s denial. At his arrest, Jesus acknowledged that the preordained time had arrived. Jesus was both confident and silent before his accusers. After he was sentenced to death, Jesus did not speak again until his final cry from the cross. The bystanders misunderstood and believed that he was calling for Elijah. The Roman centurion, however, affirmed what Mark has presented throughout this Gospel: Jesus is the Son of God. Nowhere was this revealed more fully than in his death on the cross. During Holy Week, we prayerfully remember the events of Jesus’ passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God’s Son.

**Family Connection:** Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week. During this week, we prepare ourselves for Easter by prayerfully reflecting on the events of Jesus’ passion and death. During this week, your family might display a crucifix in a prominent place as reminder of the salvation that Christ won for us. This can also serve as the focal point for family prayer during Holy Week. Because of the length and complexity of the passion narrative, it is difficult for children to remain attentive when it is proclaimed in its entirety. Families can make it a tradition to read a portion of this Sunday’s Gospel each day of Holy Week, providing ample opportunity for children to ask questions and respond to the events described there. In this way, the entire week can become a “way of the cross.” Each day during Holy Week, the family can gather in a prayerful space with a crucifix as its focal point. The passion as found in Mark’s Gospel might be read as follows throughout the week:

Sunday: Mark 11:1-10; Monday: Mark 14:1-11; Tuesday: Mark 14:12-26; Wednesday: Mark 14:27-52; Thursday: Mark 14:53-72; Friday: Mark 15:1-41; Saturday: Mark 15:42-47 - After reading from the Gospel each night, the family might reflect on the reading together. Conclude your prayer time together by praying the Lord’s Prayer or by singing an appropriate hymn such as “Jesus, Jesus,” “Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?” or “What Wondrous Love is This.”

**HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:**

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

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



## GOOD FRIDAY VENERATION OF THE CROSS

We must continue to show caution in the way we Venerate the Cross.

**Kissing of the Processional Cross WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.**

Bowing to the Cross is recommended, but touching with the hand is also allowed if hand sanitizer is used to cleanse hands BEFORE and AFTER doing so. Hand Sanitizers are located at both ends of every pew.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding.

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, March 29th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from this collection. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the ongoing war it is a difficult time for the Church and people of the Holy Land with much reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world so we again ask Catholics around the world to be as generous as possible. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday and please keep them in your prayers. Thank you.

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



### HOLY THURSDAY – Mass of the Lord's Supper

	1 <sup>ST</sup> READING		2 <sup>ND</sup> READING	
Readers:	Lisa Dennis		Marianna Soo	
Special Ministers	Claudia Elias	Georgia Elias	Leontia Jo	
Altar Servers:	Kristen 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. Connie Muthee	10. Elijah Mureithi	11. Leonardo Lombardo	12. Ellanor Lombardo

### GOOD FRIDAY – Stations of the Cross

Altar Servers:	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
----------------	------------------	------------------

### GOOD FRIDAY - Passion

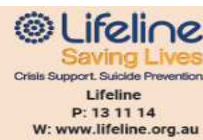
	1 <sup>ST</sup> READING	2 <sup>ND</sup> READING	PASSION	SOLEMN INTERCESSIONS
Readers:	Claudia Elias	Donald Bonett	N: Anne Marrins O: Michael Quinlan	Aiden E.
Special Ministers:	Lisa Dennis	Beatrice Bonett	Mary L'Estrange	
Altar Servers:	Kristen E.	Annalise E.	Volunteer Needed	

### EASTER SATURDAY VIGIL

	1 <sup>ST</sup> OT READING	2 <sup>ND</sup> OT READING	3 <sup>RD</sup> 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	Linda Praum
Special Ministers:	Emmanuel Nathan	Michael Quinlan	Volunteer Needed
	Yvonne Martins	Anne Marrins	Volunteer Needed
	Gian Surjadinata	Rachel Suriano	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers:	Liam D.	Jay L.	Volunteer Needed
	Shannon D.	Jarvis L.	Volunteer Needed





The Drama begins...

The story which begins of Palm Sunday is basically a human drama; it is our drama. As Jesus enters into his final week, he takes humanity with him and continues to do so every Easter. We are not just remembering an historical event that happened over two thousand years ago. We celebrating and taking part in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus as it happens today to us and for us. His entry in to the city begins on a huge wave of optimism, joy and hope. The people line the streets; they wave palms, they put their cloaks and garments on the ground and they shout out his name. This was an ancient Roman tradition used to welcome soldiers and armies home after their success in battle. The crowd welcome Jesus in a similar way as they shout out, Hosanna, Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Yet, how quickly the crowd changed and turned on Jesus. The same people who were happy to welcome him with shouts of joy, will soon begin to shout 'Crucify him, Crucify him.' Jesus is even betrayed and denied by his closet friends. The rest of them run and desert him. He is left alone. There is a real danger that we can get up and lost in getting the liturgy of Palm Sunday and indeed the whole of Holy week just right. If we are not careful we can lose sight of what we remembering, celebrating and taking part in. As well as celebrating this great week with dignity and reverence, we also need to ask ourselves what it is all about and what it means to each to us. Where am I in the unfolding drama that begins on Palm Sunday and plays out over Holy Week and which climaxes on Easter? Where am I as Jesus passes by on the donkey? Am I one of the crowd shouting out his name? Am I like Judas in any way? When have I betrayed others or Jesus? When like Peter, have I denied knowing Jesus? Am I like Pilate when I judge and condemn others? How am I like Simon or Veronica who help Jesus in his time of need? Having stood with the crowd shouting out his name and welcoming Jesus, will I stand with the same people spitting out insults as I shout 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' As we celebrate Palm Sunday and begin our journey through Holy Week, we are called to ask ourselves who and where we are in the crowd. This is a week to pray and then decide what kind of followers of Christ we are and are going to be. During this busy week of prayer, liturgies and ceremonies, let us not lose sight of what we are remembering, celebrating and talking part in. As we begin this most holy of weeks, may Jesus be our constant companion. May we enter in the mystery of Jesus' life, death and resurrection with faith and hope.

## **MORE VOLUNTEER LEADERS FOR THE SUNDAY CHILDREN'S LITURGY ARE URGENTLY NEEDED**

The Children's Liturgy during the 10am Sunday runs in the Parish Hall during the school term only.

We are calling on more adults to join a regular roster as leaders so please contact the Parish Office and provide your Working with Children compliance documents. We take this opportunity to sincerely Alannah Hickry who has been coordinating the program every week.

### MASS OFFERINGS

<b><u>Recently Deceased:</u></b>	Lough Doran, Brian Gallagher, Michael Harber, Samantha Murphy, Patricia Gurney, Mike Kennelly, Sally Rippingale, Morna Marturia, Sr. Patricia Bundock.
<b><u>Rest of The Soul:</u></b>	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.
<b><u>Anniversaries:</u></b>	Paul Duggan, Peter Turpin, Andrew Coote, Anna Lam, Christopher John Stewart, Antoine Nader, Edward Campion, Maud Soares, Hubert Saldanah, Rosy Regina D'Costa, Hary Amalan, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, Habib & Josephine Khoury, Judith Mueller, Suki Singarayar.
<b><u>Sick Intentions:</u></b>	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.
<b><u>Special Intentions:</u></b>	Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order. Greg Glass, Antonia, Giuseppe, Raffaele, Teresa, Matteo, Filomena & Maria Pagano, Caterina & Francesco Agostino & Robert Rumore.

# CENTRAL DEANERY HOLY THURSDAY 7 CHURCHES CONSOLE CHRIST TILL MIDNIGHT

**St Michael's** 26 Margaret St, Belfield

**St Peter Chanel** 62 Kingsland Rd, Berala

**St Raymond's** 37 Wellington St, Auburn

**St Therese's** 15 Garrong Rd, Lakemba

**St John of God** 2 Alice St, Auburn

**St Martha's** 88 Churchill Avenue, Strathfield

**St Mel's** 7 Evaline St, Campsie

(Parking via Duke St)

**Christ the King** 3 Cantrell St, Yagoona

**Oblate Centre** 6 Kerrinea Rd, Sefton

**St Brendan's** 54 Northam Ave, Bankstown

**St Felix de Valois** 550 Chapel Rd, Bankstown

**St Joachim's** 2 Mills St, Lidcombe

**St Jerome's** 2 Turner St, Punchbowl

**St Joseph's** 763 Canterbury Rd, Belmore

**Sts John Vianney & Thomas More** (till 10pm) 31a Rawson Rd, Greenacre