



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

'We have come from the East to worship the King' ... Matthew 2

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

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday after 9.10am Mass or by appointment.

SYDNEY MALAYALEE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Rosary, Mass & Adoration from 6.30pm to 8.00pm on
the 2nd Saturday of each month.

BAPTISM:

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

(One months' notice is required).

Baptism Preparation by appointment only.

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.

PRAYER GROUP / ADORATION AT

ST MARTHA'S CHURCH:

Resumes February 2024

*Please support our Catholic Press
Copies of the Catholic Weekly \$2
& Catholic Leader \$2.50 are available
at the Church Entrance.*



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.



**Office of the
Children's Guardian**

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.**

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

O GOD, WHO BY THE GUIDANCE OF A STAR DID ON THIS DAY MANIFEST YOUR ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON TO THE GENTILES, MERCIFULLY GRANT THAT WE WHO KNOW YOU BY FAITH MAY ALSO ATTAIN THE VISION OF YOUR GLORIOUS MAJESTY. THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.



Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press)

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel. We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus. We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death. The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.

Family Connection: The tradition of giving gifts at Christmas is thought by some to be rooted in the gift giving of the Magi. In many cultures, gifts are not exchanged at Christmas, but rather on the feast of the Epiphany. Whenever you exchange your Christmas gifts, take some time to reflect on this tradition of gift giving at Christmas. Think of the best gift you have received. What was it? What made it special? Was it the gift itself, the thought that went into it, or the person who gave it to you? Read today's Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12. The gifts of the Magi—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—have come to be understood as symbols of Christ's royalty, divinity, and eventual suffering and death. They are special because in giving them, the Magi acknowledge who Jesus was to be: our Savior. We pray that we will acknowledge Jesus as Savior in all that we do and say. Conclude by singing together "We Three Kings."

The New January to July Roster is now available from the side entrance of the Church and on the parish website.

13th & 14th January

	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
Special Ministers	Peter McCluskey	Georgette Sahyoun	Anne Marrins	Ravi Family
	Marian McCluskey	Peter Yamin	Maria Soares	Ravi Family
	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
Readers	Helen Blefari	Paulina Roncevic	Mark Soares	Helen Williamson
	Patricia Saad	Robert Smith	Rachel Suriano	Volunteer Needed
	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
Altar Servers	Celeste S.	Mary Louise I.	Bonett Family	Lawrence X.
	Jeff C.	Ryan W.	Bonett Family	Jayden Y.
	Matthew C.	Dylan W.	Suriano Family	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Suriano Family	Volunteer Needed
	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
Wardens	Edith Pun	Mary Cook	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn

MASS OFFERINGS

Recently Deceased:

George Bugeja, Una Curley, James Coughlan, Tony Grace, Les Maley, Tony Grace, Sam Galluzzo.

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, Henry & Lorraine Laus, Roberta & Les Young, Alan & Peg Bailey, Matteo & Caterina Genova, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Lisa Cooke, Michael & Mary Cassar, Margaret Raeburn, Giuseppe & Romilda Reginato, Rex Fernandes, Cecilia Bailey. John McManus, Harry Thorpe, William Starr, Gerald Gleeson, Des McNamara, Anne Cecilia Glass, Beryl Erskine, Norma McMillan, Michael D'Cunha, Peter & Marie Hetheron, Emily Mattar, Annie Bonett, Anna Torresan, Maria Pagano, Maria Rosa Natale, John St George, Dorothea (Dorothy) Starr.

Anniversaries:

Damien Gleeson, Dareth Flavell, Rudy Raeburn, Carminella Tiberio, Theo McLean, Joseph Akkary, Sylvia Watson, Sheree Mouawad, Virgilio Lim, George Jabbour, Dr Maher Ishak Morian, Graham Byrnes, Stephanie Harrington, Phil Harriss, Sophie O'Donnell, Ken South, Ajith Antony, Pat Fraser, Siena Fabrie, Giuseppe Faraone, Joanna Jo, Simon Alam, Rosanne Sukkar, Henry D'Souza, Kevin O'Connor.

Sick Intentions:

Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order. The Bowden Family, Antonia, Giuseppe, Raffaele, Teresa, Matteo, Filomena & Maria Pagano, Caterina & Francesco Agostino, Sofie & Jerome Druart.



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

Father Liem will be away from the Parish until the end of January. We wish him & his family safe travels to Vietnam.