



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 & Marion Li

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Alannah Hickry

Plenary Council Ambassador: Helena O'Neil

'Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst' ... John 6

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



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 at 9.10am.



Divine Mercy Prayers recited every Thursday after 9.10am mass. We welcome and encourage you to come along.



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:

St Martha's Primary School Playgroup is a great opportunity for children aged 0 to 5 years to enjoy some books and craft activities and get to know each other. Next date TBA.

Contact: elena.razzoli@syd.catholic.edu.au

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

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.

GIFT CARD SCAM WARNING

It has come to our attention that a text message scam is targeting some of our parishioners by impersonating Father John and requesting gift cards. **Please notify the parish office if you have been contacted.** We encourage everyone to remain vigilant and not to respond directly to the message and do not click on any links in the message (which may contain viruses).

Phishing emails or text messages disguise themselves as legitimate messages, but are actually ploys to get you to reveal personal information—such as passwords, credit card numbers—or gift card codes. They may say that they need help, or ask a favour or that they're in an emergency situation.

What to do if you or someone you know is a victim of a scam

If you or a family member has experienced a scam, you should report the scam to your local police department. You can also report scams to the ACCC's Scam Watch website. You can also report scams to the Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC).

Please note: that neither Father John or Father Liem would ever ask anyone to purchase giftcards. The Parish is not responsible for reimbursing victims who engage with scam emails and text messages without authenticating it's source and origin.

A Requiem Mass will be held to celebrate the life of John Moses at 10.00am on Tuesday 6th August. We ask you to keep Angela and daughters Lauren, Emma and Margaret in your prayers at this very sad and difficult time.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

"The Lord is my Shepherd, there is nothing I shall want" (Ps 23:1)

Do you sometimes feel lost?
Are you searching for your path in life?
Do you want your faith to grow?

Come and Listen

to the voice of the Good Shepherd in a series of Catecheses
for adults (teenagers upwards)

*"There is no need to be afraid little flock, for it has pleased your
Father to give you the kingdom" (Lk 12:32)*

Mondays & Thursdays at 7.00pm
Commencing Monday 22nd July 2024

At St. Martha's Parish Hall
90 Churchill Ave, Strathfield

Child minding provided
(Enquiries: Domenico 0419 536 536)

Renewing our Baptismal Graces

Mondays at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall,
adjacent to the Church, we will be hosting a
series of Catecheses for adults
(teenagers upwards).

These talks open a way of renewing the Grace
of our Baptism.
All are welcome.

*"There is no need to be afraid little flock,
for it has pleased your Father to give you
the Kingdom" (Lk 12:32).*



Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press): This Sunday we continue to read from the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, but not continuously. Our Lectionary omits John's report of Jesus' walking on water. This event is reported much less dramatically in John's Gospel than in the Synoptic Gospels. After the feeding of the multitudes, the disciples leave in a boat and Jesus follows them. The disciples are said to be terrified by what they see. Jesus reassures them and rejoins them. In today's Gospel, we learn that the crowd has noticed the departure of Jesus and his disciples and so seeks them out in Capernaum. In the dialogue that follows between Jesus and the crowd, Jesus unfolds for us the gift of himself that that he gives in the Eucharist. In today's Gospel, there are four exchanges between Jesus and the crowd. In the first, the crowd, having followed Jesus to Capernaum, asks a very matter of fact question: "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus replies by naming their motivation in pursuing him. They have been fed. Jesus acknowledges this, yet challenges them to see beyond the fulfillment of their material needs. The crowds have followed Jesus because they have been fed. They ought to be seeking out Jesus because he can give them eternal life. As the second dialogue begins, it seems that the crowd might be on their way to accepting Jesus and his mission. They ask: "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus replies that they must have faith in the one sent from God. But in the third dialogue, the crowd reveals their inability to see Jesus' true identity. They ask Jesus for a sign so that they might know that Jesus is from God. How strange this sounds since Jesus has just fed more than 5000 people. What more is expected? But the crowd cannot see beyond the surface of the sign. They show this in their interpretation of the sign that came from Moses. In their description, they identify Jesus with Moses, as if to say, as Moses gave the people manna in the desert, give us a sign so that we will know that you are from God. They are looking to identify a prophet without realizing that God is standing before them. Jesus corrects their misinterpretation, saying that the manna received by their ancestors came from God. As God fulfilled their ancestors' needs in the desert, so God has provided them with food for eternal life. In the bread that they have received from Jesus, they have received physical nourishment and also spiritual nourishment. Jesus wants the crowd to see beyond the surface to the One who provides true nourishment. The conclusion of the dialogue reveals the crowd's blindness. They ask for what Jesus has just told them they have found: "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus answers plainly that he himself is the Bread of Life they seek. Jesus himself is the Bread of Life who will satisfy every hunger and thirst. This is the first of several such statements found in John's Gospel. We understand these better when we remember that God revealed his name to the people of Israel as "I am," as Yahweh. Jesus is now claiming this name for himself. In the weeks ahead, we will see the offense that this gives to the people.

Family Connection: In today's Gospel, the crowd asks Jesus for a sign so that they can believe that he has come from God. This is a curious request, because Jesus has just fed more than 5000 people with just five barley loaves and two fish. How quickly they seem to have forgotten the wonderful thing that Jesus has done for them. Or, maybe they never recognized the miracle in the first place. Sometimes we don't recognize the wonderful things that God has done for us. And, sometimes, we simply forget and ask for further evidence of his love and care. We pray that God will remove our blindness so that we can receive with thanks and praise all the wonderful things that God accomplishes in our lives. Together as a family, name the wonderful gifts that God has given you and some of the remarkable deeds that God has accomplished in our world. Observe that it is important to stop to count our blessings because we can easily miss recognizing all of the wonderful things that God does for us. Read together today's Gospel, John 6:24-35. Ask: Why are the people seeking out Jesus? (because he has fed them) What do they want from Jesus? (a sign that he has come from God) What does Jesus tell them? (He says that he will give them something greater and more important than the bread that fed their physical hungers; he will give them bread that will give them eternal life.) Recall that we have this gift from Jesus in the Eucharist. Pray together, thanking God for all that he has given to us, especially for the gift of eternal life and the Eucharist. Pray together the Magnificat.

TAX RECEIPTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH FOYER.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Feast of the Assumption of Mary is a Holy Day of Obligation.
Masses will be celebrated on Thursday 15th August at
7.30am, 11.40am (with the school community) and 6.00pm.

Happy Feast Day to our Josephite & Dominican Sisters.

*Ever-generous God,
You inspired St Mary MacKillop to live her life faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ
and constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who were disheartened, lonely, or needy.
With confidence in your generous providence and joining with St Mary MacKillop,
we ask that you grant our request. ... (name your request).
We ask that our faith and hope be fired afresh by the Holy Spirit so that we too,
like Mary MacKillop, may live with courage, trust, and openness.
Ever-generous God, hear our prayer. We ask this through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

ST DOMINIC - As we honour St Dominic, ponder his patience and dedication. He immersed himself in prayer and study, and then made himself available to each person he encountered, listening, discussing, reasoning, and helping to open the eyes of many. His prayerful and humble spirit, coupled with his wise words, saved many souls. Know that God calls you to a similar vocation. Each of us must long for the salvation of souls above everything else in life. Once we are filled with that longing, we must then dedicate all we are and all we have to that mission. Nothing else in life is more important because nothing gives God more glory than rescuing one soul from sin and hell as St Dominic did so well.

Prayer: Saint Dominic, your heart was moved with compassion for those who suffered. When you encountered those misled by heresy, you longed for their freedom and dedicated the rest of your life to their salvation. Please pray for me, that I will follow your example by recognizing those around me who need to be freed from error and sin, so that I can prayerfully be open for God to use me in any way He chooses. Saint Dominic, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.

Praying for our Parishes and Parish Priests

On the feast of St John Vianney, we give thanks to Father John & Father Liem and we also remember the priests who have been fathers to us in our spiritual journey. St John Vianney was a man with a vision. Jesus Christ was the centre and purpose of his life. We all know of his heroic ministry to the people of Ars. His passion for souls exemplified in the confessional, sometimes up to 16 hours a day. His love for the priesthood, the Mass and the Sacraments, his devotion to the sick, spiritual direction, charitable works, and many others pastoral duties.



God our Father,
we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom
as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.
Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously
and courageously to your call.
May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love
in our youth and young adults.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen

Recently Deceased:	Bishop Manning, Samir Hakim, John Moses, Jean Tabbakh, Gwenda Monaro, Kelsi Baker, Chahid Katrib, Karen Chung, William Tse, Cynthia Spratt.
Repose of The Soul:	Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Kevin Bouffler, Br Ray Dowding, Francesco Campanale, Daniel Lucich, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Filomena Pagano, Matteo & Caterina Genova, Francis Doumit, Frederick McDowell, Dorothy Harris, James Brady, Elizabeth Keating, Anne Cecilia Glass, Reginald & Agnes Glass, Gerald & Frances Gleeson, Elias & Julia Georges, Joseph Tannous, Faado & Alice Herro, Aldo & Fiorella Amarino, Salvatore Puglisi, Roger O'Reilly, Monica & Patrick Ryan, Elie Sahyoun, Christopher John Stewart, Stephen Maxwell Stewart, Mary & Anne Trefle', Margaret Raeburn, Giuseppe & Romilda Reginato, Francesco and Mary Sorbello, Bruce & Estelle Thurn, Gerald Wilson, Dr Stephanie Winfield, Philip Winfield, Lisa Cooke, Michael & Mary Cassar, Carl & Dorothy Butler, Beryl, Frank & Michael Ellison, Julian & Mabel Doyle, Greg Doyle, Jim Bradbury, Maria Nelly Galano, Pierino & Gilda D'Alessandro, Libos & Raya Elhage, Batrous Boukouna & Faliba Trad.
Anniversaries:	Ruth Hayes, Stephen Bonett, Salvatore Bonett, Patrick Duggan, Colin Soleiman, Joseph Tabbakh, Lawrie Soares, Clare Kenny, John McNamara, John Harrington, William (Bill) Starr, Henry O'Hara, Sidney Yenson, Veronica Riordan, Antonious Katrib, Pietro Rosso, Maria & Giuseppe Andreacchio, Narcissa Saya, Antonio Truscello, Susanna Boroczky, Elie Sahyoun, Frank Hickey, Mary Bains, Lachlan Graves, Giuseppe Cipriani, Bruce Thurn, James Webb & Wajih Saliba.
Sick Intentions:	Margaret Harrington, Marie Winfield, Ajith Antony, Dareth Flavell, Rudy Raeburn, Robert Rumore, 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, 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.

Mass Intention Envelopes are available at the Church Entrances.

Short Reflection for 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

When you think about it, we got our first clue at Christmas. It was there, in the very name of the town where Jesus was born: Bethlehem, a word which means in both Aramaic and Hebrew, "House of Bread." His followers shouldn't really have been puzzled or surprised when he told them, as we hear this Sunday in John's Gospel, "I am the bread of life." It couldn't be any other way. But the now-famous words that Jesus utters in this passage are obviously about more than just food or sustenance. Jesus is telling us something we urgently need to hear. It's about craving, desire, yearning — and the gnawing emptiness and holy longing that only he can fill.

ROSTER 10th & 11th August

Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Tandiono Family	Yvonne Martins	Anne Marrins	Ravi Family
	Tandiono Family	Joseph Samarasinghe	Maria Soares	Ravi Family
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Natalie Baini	Daniel martins	Mark Soares	Andrew Chasle
	Marianna Soo	Greg Glass	Rachel Suriano	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Lincoln M.	Lucas M.	Bonett Family	Volunteer Needed
	Hayden M.	Jacob M.	Bonett Family	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Archie S.	Beatrice L.	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Joy Li	Phil Robinson	Trudie Rogers	Vince Blefari

THE NEW ROSTER IS NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE SIDE ENTRANCE OR WEBSITE



**ST MARY MACKILLOP
FEAST DAY
CELEBRATION 2024
8th August**

We invite you to a day of celebration, prayer, pilgrimage and thanksgiving for **SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP FEAST DAY - 8TH AUGUST 2024** at **Mary MacKillop Place, 80 William St, North Sydney**

Mass times
8.00am in the Chapel
10am and 1pm on Glen Roy Green (bring a hat)
6.00pm in the Chapel
10.00am Mass will be livestreamed free via our website: www.marymackillopplace.org.au
Link: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/fp-pnaazmOb8>

Pray at the Tomb of St Mary MacKillop. Write your prayers of Petition. Reflect in the Chapel. Spend time in Alma Cottage – the place of St Mary's death.

Enjoy free entry into our Museum. Light meals and refreshments are available. Purchase memorabilia in our Café and Gift Shop.

Accommodation available onsite. www.marymackillopplace.org.au
Phone: +61 2 8912 4800




Join us!
In preparation to receive the Sacrament of **First Holy Communion.**
(For Year 3 Students or older.)

Enrol Now
On our parish webpage
@ <https://stmarthas.org.au/sacraments/first-holy-communion/>
(Enrolments close Monday 5th August 2024 at our Information Session)

Don't forget
Information Session with Fr. John
Compulsory for one parent to attend
(Both are welcome. Children can attend, though session will be for parents)
Monday 5th August 2024 @ 6pm
In the Church of St Martha's Strathfield

St Martha's Catholic Church, Strathfield
70 Homebush Road, Strathfield NSW 2135
Telephone: (02) 9746 6131 Fax: (02) 9764 3040
Parish Priest: Father John Hayes
Sacramental Email: cc@stmarthas.org.au



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 Saving Lives
Crisis Support, Suicide Prevention.
Lifeline
P: 13 11 14
W: www.lifeline.org.au



1800RESPECT
NATIONAL DOMESTIC FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE
1800RESPECT
P: 1800 737 732
W: www.1800respect.org.au

Is your family impacted by domestic violence?

Connect with counsellors and group programs to help families affected by domestic violence.

Call CCareline to find out more

CCareline 13 18 19
CatholicCare.org

connect@catholiccare.org

8am – 6pm Monday – Friday