



# 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 & Marion Li

**Children's Liturgy Coordinator:** Alannah Hickry

**Plenary Council Ambassador:** Helena O'Neil

**'He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak' ... Mark 7**

70 Homebush Rd Strathfield NSW 2135

**Phone:** 9746 6131 **Fax:** 9746 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 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

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

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:**

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. From 8.50am to 10.00am in the upstairs school hall.

Playgroup runs every Monday during the school term only.

Contact: [anne.wu@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:anne.wu@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 [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto: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.**



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. We recommit to cultural change that will help

the Church be a place that builds and supports safe communities for all people.

**Resources are available to take home from the Church Foyer**



Thank you for supporting the Priests' Retirement Foundation appeal last weekend. Also known as the Father's Day Appeal, each year our Archdiocese hosts this annually to support retired priests and thank our Fathers for their wonderful service to our community. Your gift is a 'thank you' to our priests who've contributed in many ways in your life. They are friends who've counselled, comforted and provided spiritual nourishment through their wisdom and willingness to teach. The collection raised \$1,287.00



**IMPORTANT NOTICES**

**DUE TO UNI COMMITMENTS, LARISSA WILL BE AWAY FROM THE OFFICE FROM FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST AND RETURN ON FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER. THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE UNATTENDED ON FRIDAYS DURING THIS TIME.**

**NICOLLE WILL BE ON ANNUAL LEAVE FROM THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER AND RETURN ON TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER.**

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL ONLY BE ATTENDED DURING LIMITED HOURS, BUT YOU MAY LEAVE MESSAGES THAT WILL BE RESPONDED TO ASAP.**



**Season of Creation Laudato Si 2024**

**1<sup>st</sup> September – 4<sup>th</sup> October**

**THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION.**

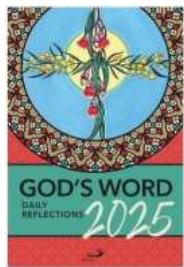
**Hope and Act with Creation. Let us join in praise and celebrate the gifts and wonders that God bestows on us.**

**How can you be a part of Pope Francis' call for us to walk gently on this planet.**

**Resources are available in the Church Foyer.**

**Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press):** Today we continue to hear the Gospel of Mark proclaimed. In today's reading, Jesus heals a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment. This is a story about Jesus' healing power, and in it we find clues about our understanding of sacrament. We are struck by the physical means used to heal the man, the use of spittle and touch. The Church continues to celebrate the sacraments using physical means. In the Sacrament of Baptism, water and oil are used to show the power of the Holy Spirit. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we are anointed with holy oil on the forehead and the hands. In the Eucharist, bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. We are a sacramental people who believe that God's grace is given to us through these physical signs. Some, however, see in this Gospel an image of the proclamation of the good news of Jesus to the Gentiles. The geographic references tell us that Jesus is journeying through Gentile territory. Jesus had previously visited this region and healed a person possessed by a demon. Jesus was already famous there, which explains why people brought the deaf man to him. The story that precedes this reading in Mark's Gospel sets the stage. Jesus encounters a Gentile, a Syrophenician woman who asks him to heal her demon-possessed daughter. Jesus engages her in a dialogue about not feeding to dogs the food intended for children. Jesus is struck by the woman's great faith when she replies that even dogs eat the food that falls from the table, and he heals her daughter immediately. The faith of this Greek woman compels Jesus to respond to her plea. Mark shows that Jesus' own mission affirms the early Church's mission to the Gentiles. This was a significant issue to the early Christian community, which found that the good news of Jesus took root and spread quickly among the Gentiles. Yet there is an irony in the story of healing that Mark tells. Jesus gives the man the gift of speech, but then tells him not to use it. Jesus asks that the news of his healing power, which is evidence of his identity as the Messiah, not be spread. This is a recurring motif in Mark's Gospel and is sometimes called the "messianic secret."

**Family Connection:** Today's Gospel invites us to consider how we witness the healing presence of Christ in our care for and ministry to those who are sick. We notice that the deaf man is brought to Jesus for healing by his friends. These people beg Jesus to lay his hands on this deaf man so that he might be healed. Jesus' healing power is shown in his opening of the man's ears and the restoring of his speech. When family members care for one another when they are sick, they bring Christ's healing presence. When we pray for those who are ill, we ask God to show his healing power. When health is restored, we share that good news with others. As you gather as a family, recall a time when a family member was ill. What steps were taken to help restore this family member to health? Talk about what it feels like to care for a person who is ill, and about how it feels to be the sick person being cared for. In today's Gospel, we hear about a time when Jesus healed a man who was deaf. Read today's Gospel, Mark 7:31-37. Notice how the man who was cured and his friends could not honor Jesus' request to keep quiet about Jesus' power to heal. We continue to celebrate Jesus' healing presence in our lives by giving thanks to God for the gift of healing and health. Conclude in prayer, thanking Jesus for the gifts of health and healing. Pray together for those who are sick. After each person is named, pray, "Jesus, heal us."



**2025 Bible Diaries** (limited stock) - To reserve a copy please write your name & phone Number on a completed payment envelope in the Church Foyer. **Orders will be available for collection from 1<sup>st</sup> October.** These Bible Diaries are designed to help you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. A companion on the journey to pray, to share, to grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word of God make these an ideal gift. **\$20 each (rrp \$21.95) Cash payments only.**

May God bless the children coming forward this Sunday to receive the Sacrament of **First Holy Communion**. On this special day, we congratulate you on taking this big step in your faith journey and we hope that you experience the joy of God's presence in your lives always. Thank you to Linda Praum, our Sacramental Coordinator and her team of helpers for preparing the children.



### CANA COMMUNITY APPEAL 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> September



This appeal assists in the support of those people who are truly living on the margins in Sydney. The Cana Communities are not government funded and rely on the generosity of people who want to contribute to their ministry of compassion and care. Some parishioners from our parish volunteer their time and love at Cana to assist those who are in such great need for the practical care of others.

<b>Recently Deceased:</b>	Sr Patricia Woodbury, Sr Frances Caine, Adriana Lugo, Marie Winfield, Bishop Manning, Samir Hakim, John Moses, Jean Tabbakh, Gwenda Monaro.
<b>Rest of The Soul:</b>	Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Fr Mark Beard, Kevin Bouffler, Br Ray Dowding, Francesco Campanale, Daniel Lucich, Stefano, 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, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, James Webb & Wajih Saliba, Bruce & Estelle Thurn, Gerald Wilson, Dr Stephanie Winfield, Philip Winfield, Lisa Cooke, Greg Doyle, Jim Bradbury, Julian & Mabel Doyle, Michael & Mary Cassar, Giuseppe & Romilda Reginato, Antonio Sahyoun, Larry & Fernando Laurento.
<b>Anniversaries:</b>	Khalil Herro, Therese Mitry, Julian & Mabel Doyle, Greg Doyle, Jim Bradbury, Mary & Damian Nadarajah, Emil & Foula Moubarak, Phillip & Hind Azar, Monica Ryan, Joseph Sellathamboo, Bernard & Mark Kelly, John B & Mary N Liu, Gladstone Jebanasam, Duncan Maclean Snr, Maria Santana Almeida, Joy & Kevin Quinlan, Eric & Marie Leahy, Carmelina Truscello, Francesco Campanale, Giuseppina & Lorenzo Tati, Roslyn & Francis Sinnadurrai.
<b>Sick Intentions:</b>	Giuseppe Mazzaferro, Mary Matthews, Willie Quan, Sr Mary Campion, John Hay, Margaret Harrington, 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.
<b>Special Intentions:</b>	Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order.

*Remembering someone with a Mass Intention honours them in a unique way – surrounding them with the warmth of God's love. A Mass may be offered for the living or deceased, for a Birthday, Anniversary, for somebody who is ill, or for a special intention. Mass Intention envelopes are available at the Church Entrances. If you would like a Mass offered on a particular date, please contact the parish office to arrange this.*

<b>Special Minister</b>	Tandiono Family	Andri Surjadinata	Maria Soares	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	<b>5PM</b>	<b>8AM</b>	<b>10AM</b>	<b>6PM</b>
<b>Readers</b>	Natalie Baini	Maria Yu	Mark Soares	Owen Loney
	Marianna Soo	Robert Smith	Rachel Suriano	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Altar Servers</b>	<b>5PM</b>	<b>8AM</b>	<b>10AM</b>	<b>6PM</b>
	Lincoln M.	Mary Louise I.	Bonett Family	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	Hayden M.	Ryan W.	Bonett Family	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Dylan W.	Beatrice L.	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Wardens</b>	<b>5PM</b>	<b>8AM</b>	<b>10AM</b>	<b>6PM</b>
	Edith Pun	Peter Yamin	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn

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



**THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER - R U OK? Day** - held on the second Thursday of September, is our national day of action when we remind Australians that every day is the day to ask, 'are you OK?' and start a meaningful conversation whenever they spot the signs that someone they care about might be struggling with life. A lot can happen in a year, a month, a week. Whether it's your friend, family member, colleague, partner, or teammate, the people you care about go through life's ups and downs every day. And they're not alone, with 72% of Australians reporting elevated levels of distress. Regular, meaningful conversations with the people close to you can help prevent small things from becoming big things. By checking in regularly, you build trust

and normalise talking about what's really going on, so when the people in your world find themselves struggling, they know you're someone they can talk to. So don't wait for R U OK? Day on September 12, to ask R U OK? Any Day of the year because a conversation could change a life. R U OK? is calling on all of us to let the people you care about know you're here, to really hear them. By taking the time for an R U OK? conversation and genuinely listening with an open mind, we can all help the people in our world feel supported and connected. Let the people in your world know you're here, to really hear, because a conversation could change a life. Got a feeling that someone you know or care about it isn't behaving as they normally would? Perhaps they seem out of sorts? More agitated or withdrawn? Or they're just not themselves. Trust that gut instinct and act on it. By starting a conversation and commenting on the changes you've noticed, you could help that family member, friend or workmate open up. If they say they are not OK, you can follow our conversation steps to show them they're supported and help them find strategies to better manage the load. If they are OK, that person will know you're someone who cares enough to ask. Trust the Signs, Trust your Gut and Ask R U OK? We can all make a difference in the lives of those who might be struggling by having regular, meaningful conversations about life 's ups and downs. If you feel like something's not quite the same with someone you know - there's something going on in their life or you notice a change in what they're doing or saying - trust that gut instinct and take the time to ask them "Are you OK?" By acting as 'eyes and ears' and reaching out to anyone who's going through a tough time we can show them they're supported and encourage them to access help sooner. **Resources are available in the Church Foyer.**



**1. Ask**



**2. Listen**



**3. Encourage action**



**4. Check in**

If you have noticed these signs, it's time to trust the Signs, trust your gut and ask R U OK?

**WHAT ARE THEY**

**SAYING?**

Do they seem:

- Confused or irrational
- Moody
- Unable to switch off
- Concerned about the future
- Concerned they're a burden
- Lonely or lacking self-esteem
- Concerned they're trapped or in pain

**WHAT ARE THEY**

**DOING?**

Are they:

- Experiencing mood swings
- Becoming withdrawn
- Changing their online behaviour
- Losing interest in what they used to love
- Unable to concentrate
- Less interested in their appearance and personal hygiene
- Behaving recklessly
- Changing their sleep patterns

**WHAT'S GOING ON IN THEIR**

**LIFE?**

Are they experiencing:

- Relationship issues
- Major health issues
- Work pressure or constant stress
- Financial difficulty
- Loss of someone or something they care about



A ministry of the Daughters of St Paul

**We welcome you to visit our Book Centre at 150 Castlereagh Street SYDNEY. We carry faith resources; bibles, books, missals, children's books, rosaries, crosses, cards and gifts for Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, Confirmation.**

**T 02 9264 8630 | E customerservice@paulinebooks.com.au**

**www.paulinebooks.com.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  
P: 13 11 14  
W: www.lifeline.org.au



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