



# 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)

**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

**'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord'.... Luke 19**

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 9.00am-5.00pm



**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

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

Playgroup runs every Monday during the school term only.

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 [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.**

Palm Sunday confronts us with God being disruptively different. God the revolutionary. We see God who takes on the pain, who walks the journey of Holy Week, deeper and deeper into a darkness we cannot enter. God in Jesus lets his friends deny and betray him. God, in Jesus, suffers rejection and abuse, and the ultimate desolation of a lonely yet innocent death. All the worst of human experience is heaped on Jesus. So, this Palm Sunday let us ask ourselves: what are we praying for? What are we expecting of God? The thing is, God is so infinitely loving and generous that he comes to meet us wherever we are at, because he knows and understands our sufferings.

### Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press)

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 shouted blessings and praise to God. This event is reported in each of the four Gospels. Luke's Gospel is the only one to report the exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees as Jesus enters Jerusalem. Jesus' response shows that this event, and those yet to come, are part of a divine plan. We hear this echoed again in Luke's description of the Last Supper when Jesus speaks of Judas' betrayal, saying that the Son of Man "goes as has been determined." At the Liturgy of the Word on this Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Luke. We will hear these events proclaimed again during the Triduum when we read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John. Throughout Luke's Gospel we see that Jesus' words and actions proclaim the Kingdom of God. This motif continues throughout Luke's passion narrative. Jesus appears to be in total command of events at the Passover meal as he hands over the kingdom to his disciples. He welcomes them to the Passover meal announcing that this will be his last until the Kingdom of God is fulfilled. As throughout Luke's Gospel, however, the disciples show little understanding of this kingdom that Jesus often announces. Following the meal, the disciples argue about who is the greatest. Jesus takes the opportunity to distinguish the meaning of leadership in the Kingdom of God from the forms of leadership seen in the world. Jesus initiates a conversation with Simon and predicts his denial. Jesus then instructs his disciples to prepare themselves for the events that will follow. His words reveal an awareness of the challenges that all of them will face in the days ahead. As the disciples and Jesus enter the Mount of Olives, Jesus indicates the importance of the disciples' time in prayer, telling them that through prayer they will be able to face the challenges ahead. As he prays, Jesus is tested. In the garden, an angel is sent to strengthen him and to prepare him for the events ahead. After this moment, Jesus is again in charge of the events and circumstances. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is portrayed as active and vocal throughout his passion. When one of the disciples strikes the high priest's servant, Jesus heals the man, an event reported only in the Gospel of Luke. Jesus stops the disciples' protest against his arrest by noting that this is the "time for the power of darkness." Jesus engages and responds when brought before the Sanhedrin; his words speak about the "power of God" that will bring about the reign of the Son of Man. When questioned by Pilate, Jesus responds with just one phrase; yet before Herod, Jesus refuses to speak. When Luke describes the Way of the Cross and Jesus' crucifixion, he calls to our attention many events that are not reported in the other Gospels. Throughout his Gospel, Luke has paid heed to the women who accompanied Jesus. Now, on the road to Calvary, Jesus speaks to the women who walk with him. Only Luke reports Jesus' words of forgiveness spoken from the cross. And only Luke reports the dialogue between Jesus and the good thief. Finally, in contrast with the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Luke reports no words of abandonment spoken by Jesus on the cross. Instead, Jesus, in full command until his death, commends his spirit to his Father and takes his final breath. Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on 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 and brought to fulfillment the Kingdom of God.

## HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:

<b>Monday</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>9.10am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>7.30am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>9.10am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>(no morning Mass) 7.00pm</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>
<b>Friday</b> 	<b>18<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>10.00am  3.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross  Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>(no morning Mass) 6.00pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>8am, 10am &amp; 6pm</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>9.10am</b>	<b>Easter Monday Mass</b>

**MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** If you are attending one of the Easter Liturgies at St Martha's Church and you are on the regular roster, could you please consider volunteering to fill the gaps across the Easter Ceremonies. We are in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, Lectors & Altar Servers. Please contact **Helen Williamson on 0408 970 120.**

# EASTER ROSTERS

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

	1 <sup>ST</sup> READING		2 <sup>ND</sup> READING	
Readers	Lisa Dennis		Maria Soo	
Special Ministers	Anne Marrins	Relyn Aguinaldo	Volunteer Needed	
Altar Servers:	Emilio A.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Washing of the Feet	1. Maria Soo	2. Michelle Ta	3. Mary Kalavrytinis	4. Genaro Aguinaldo
	5. Ellanor Lombardo	6. Leonardo Lombardo	7. Anthony Thurn	8. Gian Surjadinata
	9. Artha Surjadinata	10. Connie Muthee	11. Volunteer Needed	12. Volunteer Needed
Warden	Volunteer Needed		Acolyte	Volunteer Needed

## GOOD FRIDAY– Stations of the Cross

Altar Servers:	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Warden:	Paul Abela	

## GOOD FRIDAY - Passion

	1 <sup>ST</sup> READING	2 <sup>ND</sup> READING	PASSION	SOLEMN INTERCESSIONS
Readers:	Michael Quinlan	Maria Soo	N: Anne Marrins	Aiden Elias
			O: Claudia Elias	
Special Ministers:	Beatrice Bonett	Georgette Sayhoun	Lisa Dennis	
Altar Servers:	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	
Warden:	Trudie Rogers		Acolyte	Peter McCluskey

## 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:	Helen Williamson	Claudia Elias	Lisa Dennis	Aiden Elias
Special Ministers:	Georgia Elias	Kristen Elias	Volunteer Needed	
Altar Servers:	Annalise E.	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	
Warden:	Edith Pun		Acolyte:	Volunteer Needed

## EASTER SUNDAY

	8AM	10AM	6PM
Readers:	Robert Smith	Don Bonett	Andrew Chasle
	Maria Yu	Anne Marrins	Linda Praum
Special Ministers:	Gian Surjadinata	Beatrice Bonett	Volunteer Needed
	Marian McCluskey	Rachel Suriano	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers:	Archie S.	Jay L.	Volunteer Needed
	Dylan W.	Jarvis L.	Volunteer Needed
Wardens:	Peter Yamin	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn
Acolyte:	Peter McCluskey	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed



## LENTEN PIETY STALL

Religious items and Easter Cards are now available to purchase in the Church Foyer. Bible keyrings and stickers \$2, Necklaces from \$5-\$10, a wide variety of crucifixes from \$8-\$15. Boxed Easter cards (12) \$10.

Cash payments only. Please see the Church Wardens for assistance.

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 17th. 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.

**Good Friday**  
HOLY LAND COLLECTION





**JUBILEUM 2025 - Resources and copies of the Decree on the Proclamation of Places of Pilgrimage in the Archdiocese of Sydney on the occasion of the Jubilee Year of Our Lord 2025 are available to take home in Church Foyer.**

**ST MARTHA'S PRAYER GROUP BOOK OF SPECIAL INTENTIONS:** For many years, a book has been available in the foyer of St Martha's Church in Strathfield for individuals to write their special prayers of intention. When these books fill up, they are burned, and the ashes are then scattered around the church garden. This practice ensures that all those intentions remain within the church and your Prayers are never wasted.

### Mass Intentions

<b>Recently Deceased:</b>	Basil Hayes, Don Anderson, Ivy Fernandez, Carmel Josephine Jack, Bill Graves, Moussa Soueid, John Cullen, Rebecca Forwood, Sue Yee, Angela Vasta, Paul Pickering, Mary Henry, John Butcher, Ann Hoban.
<b>Repose of The Soul:</b>	Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Fr Mark Baird, Elias & Julia Georges, Alfredo Pjanic, Kevin Bouffler, Br Ray Dowding, Sr Audette Mansour, Francesco & Sarina Campanale, Daniel Lucich, Stefano, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Filomena & Giuseppe Pagano, Matteo & Caterina Genova, Caterina Guarnia, Frances 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 & Slaiman Herro, Aldo & Fiorella Amarino, Salvatore Puglisi, Roger O'Reilly, Monica & Patrick Ryan, Elie Sahyoun, Christopher John Stewart, Stephen Maxwell Stewart, Margaret Raeburn, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, Bruce & Estelle Thurn, Gerald Wilson, Lisa Cooke, Michael & Mary Cassar, Giuseppe & Romilda Reginato, James Webb & Wajih Saliba, Xavier & Josephine Sellathambu, Joseph Sellathambu, Teresa & Christy Moses, Myrtle Fernandes, Ian Jack.
<b>Anniversaries:</b>	Harry Caratzas, Olivia Dahdah, Deborah Dahdah, Andrew Coote, Damia Baini, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, Peter Turpin, Antoinette Akle, Mary Colletta Saverimuthu, Antoine Nader, Irvan Fernandez, Paul Duggan, Mattia Taglini, Rosy D'Costa, Anna Lam, Patrick Marrins (snr), Harry Amalan, Anne Lam, Jim Henness, Morna Marturia, Giuseppe Mazzaferro, Toni N, Norma Habib, Joe Everitt, Alf Buda, Ann Cincotta-Tangey, Margaret Harrington, Mark Samaha, John Weitering, Willie Quan, John Hay, Ajith Antony, Rudy Raeburn, Robert Rumore, Carmine Tiberio, Theo McLean, Joseph Akkary, Sylvia Watson, Virgilio Lim, George Jabbour, Dr Maher Ishak Morian, Stephanie Harrington, Phil Harriss, Sophie O'Donnell, Ken South, Siena Fabrie, Joanna Jo, Simon Alam, Rosanne Sukkar, Henry D'Souza, Danielle Fabien, Maroun Moussa, Stephen Chase (snr).
<b>Sick Intentions:</b>	Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order.
<b>Special Intentions:</b>	

## Donate Today Myanmar Earthquake Appeal

Join us in helping Earthquake Victims receive the support they need.

**Salesian Missions AUSTRALIA**

www.salesianmissionsaus.org.au  
email: salmiss@salesians.org.au  
Ph: 03 9377 6060

## Come... and LIVE in the Spirit of Confirmation Enrol Now

To prepare and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.  
This sacrament will be for those candidates in year 6 or over and have received the sacrament of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

**Download enrolment application  
from our parish webpage**

<https://stmarthas.org.au/sacraments/confirmation/>

(Enrolments closes 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 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 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 @ 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: [sp@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:sp@stmarthas.org.au)