



# 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

**'Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone'.... John 8**

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.**


# Stations of the Cross – Every Friday of Lent at 7pm

**Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press):** The Gospel for the fifth Sunday of Lent continues to offer lessons about God's mercy and forgiveness. Last Sunday we heard the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of Luke. Today we hear not a parable, but the report from John's Gospel of an encounter among Jesus, the scribes and Pharisees, and a woman caught in adultery. In John's Gospel, the conflict between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees occurs much earlier than in the Synoptic Gospels. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem is reported at the beginning of John's Gospel. Even after this event, Jesus continues to teach in the Temple. After returning to Galilee for a time, Jesus again enters Jerusalem and cures a man on the Sabbath. From this point forward in John's Gospel, the Pharisees are described as making plans for Jesus' arrest and seeking his death. In the chapter preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the Temple area. Feeling threatened by his teaching and his actions, the chief priests and the Pharisees are already sending guards to arrest Jesus. The guards return, however, without arresting Jesus because they have been impressed by his words. Even more than this, some among the crowds are considering the possibility that Jesus is the Messiah. The chief priests and the Pharisees change their plan. Before making an arrest, they seek to gather more evidence against Jesus by posing a question intended to trap Jesus. Today's Gospel begins by reporting that Jesus is again teaching the crowds in the vicinity of the Temple. The scribes and the Pharisees approach Jesus, bringing a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. They put to Jesus the question of what ought to be done in this case. The Pharisees state clearly that according to the Law of Moses, those caught in the act of adultery were to be stoned to death. Under Roman occupation, however, the Jewish people did not have the authority to execute people; this is cited in John's passion narrative. To answer the Pharisees' question, Jesus must propose an action that will be either contrary to the Law of Moses or contrary to Roman law. The purpose of the question appears to be similar to the question about paying taxes found in Mark 12:13-17. Either answer, yes or no, will support the Pharisees' case against Jesus. Jesus avoids the trap, however, by offering an answer that was not anticipated by those who posed the question. Jesus, after writing on the ground with his finger, addresses those who stand before him and suggests that the one without sin cast the first stone. Jesus then returns to his writing. This Scripture reading, by the way, is the only evidence we have of Jesus writing. Yet there are no specific details about what he wrote. We can easily imagine the scene as the Pharisees and the elders disperse, one by one. Jesus has eluded the trap they had prepared. We might also give credit to the elders and the Pharisees who do not, in the end, claim to be sinless and worthy of passing judgment. These Pharisees are not as self-righteous as the portrait found in the parable of the pharisee and the tax collector (See Luke 18:9-14). Left alone with the woman, Jesus asks where the accusers have gone. With no one remaining to condemn the woman, Jesus (the one who truly is without sin) sends the woman on her way, refusing to pass judgment on her and exhorting her to avoid future sin. Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.

**Family Connection:** There are few people that we know better than the members of our own family. We know one another's strengths and abilities, and we also know one another's limitations and weaknesses. Like the Pharisees in today's Gospel, we may be tempted to focus on the faults and sins that familiarity with one another can sometimes reveal. As family members, however, we also have the ability to see one another's faults and sins within the context of the whole person. When we can keep this perspective, we are more likely to look upon one another with compassion. Family life, then, presents us the opportunity to see one another as God sees us, not with judgment and condemnation for our weaknesses and failings, but with mercy and compassion. When we learn to withhold judgment for the faults we know are there and seek the best in one another, we help one another to experience the depths of God's compassion, mercy, and love. As you gather as a family, observe that when we know people well we know their faults as well as their strengths. At times, we can be tempted to focus on the faults we see in others. Discuss what your family life would be like if you always focused on one another's faults. Observe that in today's Gospel, Jesus refuses to focus on the sin of the woman brought to him for judgment. Read aloud today's Gospel, John 8:2-11. Ask: What did the people who focused on the woman's sin want to do? (stone the woman) What does Jesus say to the people who accused the woman caught in adultery? (that the person with no sin should throw the first stone) Are any of us without sin? (No.) Observe that we can help each other to grow in God's love by refusing to focus on one another's faults and sins. In this way, we can help one another to see ourselves as God sees us: with understanding and compassion. Conclude in prayer together asking God to forgive our sins by praying the Act of Contrition.

Due to a limited supply, regrettably the parish will not be able to provide enough palms for everybody this year. We are asking those who can bring their own palm or olive branch with them to Mass to please do so. Anyone who is able to provide large palms to assist in decorating our Church can drop them off after the morning Mass on either Friday or Saturday.

## PALM SUNDAY – 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL

	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Tandiono Family	Georgette Sahyoun	Anne Marrins	Theresa Kuk
	Tandiono Family	Peter Yamin	Rita Piras	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
<b>Readers</b>	Natalie Baini	Paulina Roncevic	Mark Soares	Andrew Chasle
	Maria Soo	Robert Smith	Michael Quinlan	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
<b>Passion</b> 	N: Lisa Dennis	N: <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	N: Claudia Elias	N: Helen Williamson
	O: <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	O: <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	O: Aiden Elias	O: <b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Lincoln M.	Ryan W.	Bonett Family	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	Hayden M.	Dylan W	Bonett family	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Beatrice L.	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	VIGIL	8AM	10AM	6PM
<b>Wardens</b>	Edith Pun	Anton De Almaida	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn



Easter is the largest liturgical celebration throughout the year and many volunteers are still needed across all ministries. If you are on the regular roster and attending any of the Easter Liturgies, could you please consider volunteering. Please write your name on the sheets on the rear table of the church or 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	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	
Altar Servers:	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Washing of the Feet	1. Maria Soo	2. Michelle Ta	3. Mabel Lee	4. Winnie Lee
	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	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			

## 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
	Volunteer Needed	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

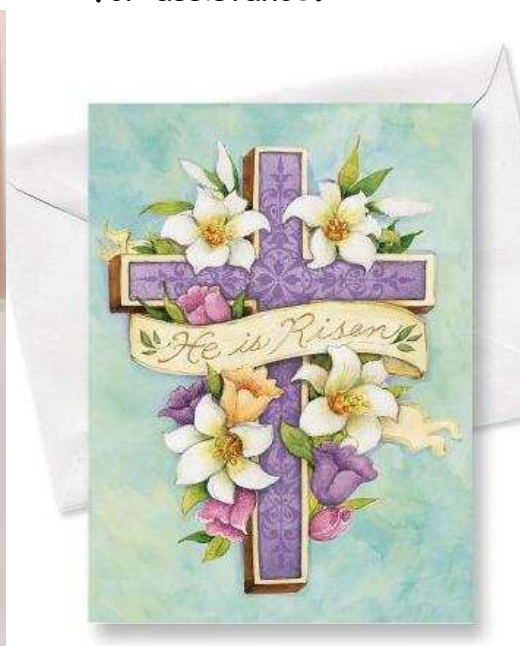
## HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:

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



## 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.



**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.**



### 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 Sellathamboo, Teresa & Christy Moses, Myrtle Fernandes, Ian Jack.
<b>Anniversaries:</b>	Antoine Nader, 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, Peter Choi.
<b>Sick Intentions:</b>	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, Carminella 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.
<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 Entrance. If you would like a Mass offered on a particular date, please contact the parish office to arrange this.*



**Volunteering Opportunity** - Join our vibrant and supportive team at the St Vincent de Paul Office in Burwood, where you'll play a key role in assisting local disadvantaged clients. The office is located on Burwood Road, just near the train station so transport is easy. As a volunteer, you'll receive comprehensive training to ensure you're well-equipped to make a meaningful impact. You'll work alongside a passionate group of like-minded individuals, all dedicated to supporting the more vulnerable members of our community. This is a fantastic opportunity to give back, learn new skills, and be part of a dynamic, fun team that truly makes a difference in the lives of those in need. If you have a few hours or a full day each

week to help with this important work, or if you'd like to learn more, please reach out to our Regional President, Cathy Nelson-Smith on 0417 657 573.