



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

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

'The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you'.... John 14

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 9.00am-5.00pm



St Martha's School: 9764 1184

Email: info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Carolyn Parsell

Assist Principal: Steven Belcastro

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

6.00pm 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 **2nd Monday** during the **school term only**.

Contact: 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 safeguarding@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.



Please keep the Confirmation candidates in your prayers during their final preparations. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be held on Friday 13th June and we look forward to welcoming Bishop Tony Percy to St Martha's Parish..

Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press): This portion of John's Gospel comes near the end of the first of four chapters that make up Jesus' long farewell discourse at the Last Supper. This section of chapter 14 actually sums up the themes of the opening of the discourse: the Christian's life is not shaped by Jesus' absence but by God's abiding presence; God's presence overcomes anxiety about God's absence; and the present holds in it the seeds of a fresh future shaped by love, not fear. These verses also contain a glimpse of some of the other themes of the farewell discourse: Jesus' relationship with the Father and the disciples' relationship to Jesus connect the disciples to the Father as well. Jesus promises to send an Advocate or intercessor who will remind the disciples of everything that Jesus taught them and bring them peace. Jesus is preparing his disciples in advance for his absence so that they will continue to believe in him and not feel all alone after his return to the Father. After the initial excitement of his Easter appearances, Jesus will remain with his followers in a very different way throughout the centuries. As our celebration of the Easter season is coming to an end, the liturgy reminds us that Jesus remains with us through the Holy Spirit, who teaches us everything we need to know, reminds us of all that Jesus taught, and brings us peace.

Family Connection: Parents are always helping their children prepare for something, whether that consists of getting ready for school, preparing for an exam, or making preparations to go on vacation. In today's Gospel, Jesus prepares his disciples for his Passion, death, and Resurrection. He promises his Holy Spirit, gives them the gift of his peace, and tells them not to be troubled. As a family, talk about the kinds of events that you have prepared for together; surgeries, funerals, vacations, and first days of school are some examples. Talk about why it is important to prepare for important events in our lives. Then read aloud this Sunday's Gospel: John 14:23-29. Talk about how Jesus prepared his disciples for his Death and Resurrection and how he wanted them to be prepared for what would happen so that they would be able to believe. Talk about how, as a family, you can prepare for Pentecost (only 2 weeks away), when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, our Advocate.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING SESSIONS – Thank you to the children who attended the Altar server training last Tuesday in preparation to become Altar Servers at St Martha's. There 2nd training session will be on **Tuesday 27th May at 3.30pm.**



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY'S WINTER APPEAL 31st MAY / 1st JUNE.

Our conference members thank you sincerely for your past donations. Times are tough for everyone, and there are many calls on your generosity. Our members and those we serve are grateful for anything you can spare. As always, you can give by cash or credit card by putting the appeal envelopes in either collection. Wardens with buckets will also be at the church doors at the end of Mass on that weekend. You can also scan the QR code that will be available or give online at <https://www.vinnies.org.au/>. Thank you again for your generosity! Anthony Thurn, St. Martha's Conference, St Vincent de Paul Society.

New sets of 2025/26 Planned Giving Envelopes are now available for collection in the Church Foyer. We encourage all Parishioners to join the giving system by either Weekly Envelope or Monthly Credit Card as this is the main income of the parish, by means of which we run everyday expenses, funds projects and plan for the future. Tax deductibility is 30%. If you would like to join, please complete the slip below or completed a form in the Church Foyer which can be returned via any collection plate or directly to the parish office.

**** END OF FINANCIAL YEAR PROCESS ****

The last banking for the 2024/2025 financial year will be at 9.00am on Monday 23rd June.
Any donations received after this date will go into the next financial year.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

Would you like to become a regular contributor to St Martha's Church?

If so, please fill in this slip and return it to the Parish Office via any collection plate or send an email with your details to the parish office at admin@stmarths.org.au.

Name..... Telephone No.:

Address:.....

Email :

WOULD LIKE
ENVELOPES

☐

WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE
USING CREDIT CARD
OR DIRECT DEBIT

☐

St Martha's Piety Stall

\$5	Children's Books – The Immaculate Conception & Our Lady of Lourdes
\$10	Mother – Framed Stained Glass
\$10	Devotional Candles (variety)
\$20	Coloured Crystal Rosary Beads
\$20/\$30	Rosary Necklaces
\$35	Bronze pocket Mary Statue
\$40/\$50	Genuine Mother of Pearl Rosary Beads
\$125	Madonna & Child Figurine



If you would like to purchase an item, please see the Church Warden after Mass.

31 st May / 1 st June				
IF YOU CANNOT FULFIL YOUR ROSTER DUTY PLEASE ORGANISE A REPLACEMENT.				
Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Beatrice Bonett	Gina Surjadinata	Jackie Romanous	Theresa Kuk
	Volunteer Needed	Andri Surjadinata	Rita Piras	Volunteer Needed
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Donald Bonett	Maria Yu	Anne Marrins	Owen Loney
	Volunteer Needed	Robert Smith	Steven Doumit	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Marissa B.	Mary Louise I.	Jay Li	Volunteer Needed
	Olivia B.	Archie S.	Jarvis L.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Linda Praum	Anton De Almada	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	Neville Ashby, Dennis O'Hara, Theresa Orton, Sr Rosemary O'Neill, Anne Bechara, Don & Marie Anderson, Helen Behan, Michael Leahy, Fr David Coffey, Dawn Clarice Davis, Basil Hayes, Ivy Fernandez.
Repose of The Soul:	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, Joseph Tannous, Nejia 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, Isabel Mancel Mendoza. Deceased members of the Georges & Sassine Families.
Anniversaries:	James Erskine, Paul Duggan, Kevin Bouffler, Tony Khoury, Zmerod Chidiac, Henry D'Souza, Blanche Saldanha, Deborah Dahdah, Harry Doumit, Maria Schiavo, Andrew Coote, Damia Baini, Francesco & Mary Sorbello.
Sick Intentions:	Giuseppe Mazzaferro, Pia Rossi, Br Tony Wheelan cfc, 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, Stephen Chase (snr).
Special Intentions:	Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order. Michael D'Cunha, Tony & Julie Gabastie.

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

 <p>Beyond Blue Beyond Blue P: 1300 22 4636 W: www.beyondblue.org.au</p>	 <p>CatholicCare CatholicCare – Archdiocese of Sydney P: 13 18 19 W: www.catholiccare.org</p>	 <p>kids helpline Anytime Any Reason Call 1800 55 1800</p>	 <p>Lifeline Saving Lives Crisis Support, Suicide Prevention. Lifeline P: 13 11 14 W: www.lifeline.org.au</p>	 <p>1800RESPECT NATIONAL DOMESTIC FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE 1800RESPECT P: 1800 737 732 W: www.1800respect.org.au</p>
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Is your family impacted by domestic violence?

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

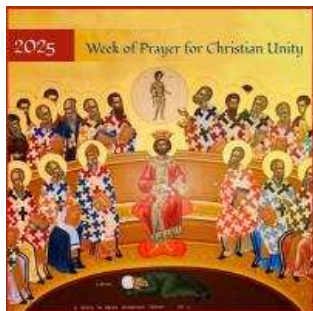
Call CCareline to find out more

CCareline 13 18 19

CatholicCare.org

✉ connect@catholiccare.org

🕒 8am – 6pm Monday – Friday



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 1 – 8 June 2025

At least once a year, Christians reflect on Jesus' prayer for His disciples, expressing the hope that: "they may be one so that the world may believe" (John 17:21). Congregations and parishes worldwide engage in the exchange of preachers and arrange special ecumenical celebrations and prayer services. This unique experience is initiated by the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an international Christian ecumenical observance kept annually between Ascension and Pentecost in the Southern Hemisphere and between 18-25 January in the Northern Hemisphere. **Prayers booklets are available to take home in the Church foyer.**

The feast day of Mary Help of Christians has been celebrated in Australia since 1844 but the history to this day dates back to the start of the 1800s. Napoleon Bonaparte had jailed Pius VI who died in jail. When Pope Pius VII was elected he too was jailed by Bonaparte, who kept him prisoner at Fontainebleau, France. The Holy Father vowed to God that if he were restored to the Roman See, he would institute a special feast in honour of Mary. The military eventually forced Bonaparte to release the Pope and on May 24, 1814, Pius VII returned in triumph to Rome. Twelve months later the Pope decreed that the feast of Mary Help of Christians be kept on 24 May. The infant Church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. In those early and mostly priestless days, it was largely the Rosary that kept the faith alive. Catholic Australia remained faithful to Mary, and was the first nation to choose her, under the title of Help of Christians, as Principal Patron.

Reflection - Our Lady Help of Christians

By Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington

Photo: Alan Pomeroy, www.alanpomeroyart.com

The Blessed Virgin Mary is a beautiful, beloved, essential and pervasive figure in Christian life and in the Church's calendar. She has been since the early days of the Church. Her feasts are as varied as the cultures of the world, with each having special traditions, customs, and habits of piety. For example, the Church honours Mary every Saturday, recalling both the one full day that Jesus spent in the tomb and the traditional belief that Mary was the disciple who best kept the faith on that day. The early Church took up the practice of keeping faith with her on that day each week. Since the Middle-Ages, the Church has devoted the month of May to Mary. Many Christians undertake pilgrimages during this month to shrines associated with the Blessed Virgin. In May, there are also three Marian feasts that are celebrated which help us to understand what Mary can teach us about being disciples. On May 13, we commemorate the Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima which recalls the appearance of the Blessed Virgin to three young children in Portugal in 1917. Mary encouraged penance, conversion and praying the rosary, warning the world of a Great War and suffering, but that, "In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph". The Feast of Our Lady, Help of Christians, which is celebrated on May 24, dates back to the sixteenth century, which was not a peaceful time in Europe. In 1571, Catholics throughout the continent joined in praying the rosary in hopes of prevailing over military forces that had long sought to expand into Europe. These prayers were answered at the Battle of Lepanto on October 7, 1571, which is now the feast for Our Lady of the Rosary. Both of these feasts highlight not only the strength we find in asking Mary's intercession, joining our prayers to her intercession, but also the confidence that God continues to act in the world. God hears the cry of those who suffer and God responds. The third Marian feast for May is the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin on May 31. We remember how Mary journeyed to the home of her kinswoman Elizabeth to care for her as the birth of her son, John the Baptist, drew near. These celebrations, like all Marian feasts, are really celebrations of Jesus Christ, for she has no privilege that she has not received from God. In these days, we learn how to stay close to him in prayer and through the practice of charity, such as caring for a relative in a time of need, with confidence that our prayers will be answered. To rejoice in Mary is to celebrate God's greatest creation - the vessel he fashioned to be his own mother, the woman who would bear him into the world. In the life of the "handmaid of the Lord," we learn what it means to say "yes" to life in the Lord and to discover in him the meaning of life. With maternal love for us, Mary wants what is best for us - she wants Jesus for us, so she urges us, "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5). Then she helps us as we lead others to know and love her Son too. Her feasts not only empower us to turn to her in prayer, but also to love Jesus and others with a greater love.



Sunday 22nd June 2025

Festival from 1:00pm in Martin Place.

The procession will begin at 2:30pm sharp from the corner of Martin Place and Pitt Street.

