



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

'Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish'.... John 21

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 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.

Donate to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal

3 and 4 May 2025

The CWF is the charity of the Catholic community in Sydney and your local parish. Together, we bring hope and care to those who need it most.

Give generously.
Your tax-deductible gift changes lives.



To donate:

Scan the QR code

Visit: www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-cwf

Call: 1800 753 959

Or complete the parish envelope.

Scan to Give



Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press): In Lectionary Cycle C, our Sunday Gospels are usually taken from the Gospel of Luke. The Gospels for the Easter Season, however, are taken from the Gospel of John. Today's Gospel is one of the post-Resurrection appearances reported by John. Recall that in John's Gospel, Jesus appears first to Mary of Magdala, second to all of the disciples except Thomas, and finally to Thomas and the disciples (which we heard last Sunday). After those appearances, John's Gospel seems to conclude with a reference to other signs that Jesus gave after his Resurrection, which have not been recorded. Because it follows this apparent conclusion, most scholars believe today's Gospel passage (and all of John 21) to have been an addition to John's original text. Because there are significant differences between this report and the other appearances described in John's Gospel, it is quite likely that this story is from a different source. There are details in the story that recall Jesus' call to Simon Peter and the other fishermen as well as the miraculous catch of fish (found in the Gospel of Luke, with parallels in the other Synoptic Gospels). The end of the chapter, where Jesus asks Peter three times whether he loves him, most likely is meant to represent the reconciliation that occurred between the community represented by John's Gospel with the larger Christian community represented by Peter. This Gospel reading is a rich and textured story that speaks of Jesus' presence in the Eucharist and our commission to serve others as Jesus did. Last week we heard that Jesus appeared to the gathered disciples in a locked room, probably in Jerusalem. In today's Gospel, the disciples are no longer in Jerusalem; they are in Galilee, returning to their work of fishing. Simon Peter is still presented in the role of leader: when he announces that he is going fishing, the other disciples follow. They spend the night fishing but are unsuccessful. Jesus calls to them from the shore, but just as when Jesus first appeared to Mary of Magdala, the disciples do not recognize him immediately. Still, they follow the stranger's instructions and bring in a large haul of fish. It is at this point that one of the disciples (the "disciple whom Jesus loved") realizes that Jesus is appearing to them. Upon hearing this news, Simon Peter leads the way again, jumping from the boat and swimming to shore. The other disciples follow in the boat, dragging the fish. The disciples have brought to shore a tremendous catch of fish that Jesus has directed them to find. But once on the shore, they see that Jesus has already prepared fish and bread on a charcoal fire. Jesus directs the disciples to bring their catch of fish as well. Jesus is host at the meal that follows, feeding the disciples the bread and fish. In this detail we see allusions to the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes told in John 6. There are also allusions in the Gospel to our gathering for the celebration of the Mass. In the Eucharist, we too are fed by Jesus in the bread and wine that have become his very Body and Blood. We also find in this story insight about the Presentation of the Gifts at Mass. The gifts we bring to the altar, bread and wine, are made from gifts that God gave first to us: grain and grapes, the fruit of the earth. God has no need of anything further. Yet God accepts the offering we bring—bread and wine, "the work of human hands"—and transforms our offering into the gift of his very presence. After the meal, Jesus directs himself to Simon Peter. The community of John's Gospel probably looked down on Peter because of his denial of Jesus. This dialogue with Simon Peter is a reversal of Peter's three denials. Peter is forgiven. Having been restored to friendship with Jesus, Simon Peter is sent on a mission. "Feed my lambs . . . Tend my sheep . . . Feed my sheep." These commands indicate that Peter is to be as Jesus, even unto sacrificing for the flock. As Jesus has fed Peter in this meal and as Jesus feeds us in the Eucharist, so he also sends us to follow him, asking that we offer our lives in service and sacrifice.

Family Connection: Today's Gospel describes what we can easily imagine as a picnic on the beach. Just as Jesus' miracle at the wedding feast at Cana blesses the love between man and woman celebrated in the sacrament of marriage, Jesus' attentiveness to food and mealtimes raises the possibility that our meal gatherings can be sacred times. In families, the domestic church, our meals together are everyday opportunities to gather and recall Jesus' presence with us. As in the Eucharist, we bring the gifts that God has given us, which have been prepared especially for our Mass, and at our family meals we share gifts that God has given to us and that we have worked together to prepare. This includes the food on the table and also the people who gather around the table. We ask God to bless these gifts and to be present among us in all of our interactions. Consider a recent family meal: What food was served? Where did the food come from? Who prepared the food? Who served the food? Was mealtime a happy time? Why or why not? Observe that today's Gospel tells about a meal that Jesus shared with his disciples after his Resurrection. Read aloud today's Gospel, John 21:1-14. Reflect on the Gospel reading using the questions above. Talk about ways in which this meal that Jesus shared with his disciples might remind us of the meal we share at the Eucharist. You might choose to plan a special meal together as a family, encouraging each person to participate in the meal preparation. Pray together that Jesus will make his loving presence known in your family life. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.



The Canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis: the first millennial saint has been postponed.

The Canonization of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati will be on 28th July.

Prayer cards are available in the Church foyer.

**A limited number of Divine Mercy, St Charbel, The Holy Family & Sacred Heart of Jesus
Devotional Candles are available at the Piety Stall in the Church Foyer (\$10 each)**



Our best wishes to Mr Greg Glass who celebrates his 90th Birthday on Sunday 4th May. We hope your day is filled with love, laughter and cherished memories. You are truly a gift from God to us, so we celebrate the blessing that you are and the joy you have given to our Parish Community over the past 52 years. Thank you for sharing your knowledge and wisdom. May the Lord Bless you and keep you.

Happy 25th Wedding Anniversary Daniel & Yvonne Martins

We extend our congratulations and prayers to a couple who created a beautiful family filled with love and values. May your love and commitment continue to be a source of inspiration for your children and generations to come. May our Lord impart special blessings upon you today and always.

Francis, Pope of the Peripheries

(Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, Catholic Archbishop of Sydney)

The Church in Sydney and Australia joins with people throughout the world in mourning the passing of the Holy Father, Pope Francis. As priest, bishop and pope, he embodied Christ's command to care for all people, especially the most vulnerable. He was a Pope of many firsts. He was the first to take the name 'Francis,' the first Jesuit pope, the first pope from the Southern Hemisphere, and the first non-European pontiff in more than a millennium. Yet for all those firsts, he will be remembered foremost as the 'pope of the peripheries', determined to lead the Church in reaching out to those on the margins—the poor, elderly, disabled, unborn, refugees and prisoners. He demonstrated this in the way he carried out the Petrine ministry, making pastoral visits to many parts of the developing world or to prisons and detention centres in the developed world, using his global profile to give voice to those too often forgotten. His care for those on the peripheries was animated by his belief in the transformative power of God's mercy. His motto, taken from St Bede's homily on the call of St Matthew, was "Miserando atque eligendo" ('by having mercy and by choosing Mercy'), reflected the importance of Divine Mercy to his own faith and vocation, to what he taught and to how he treated others. We will always remember the moving images of Pope Francis stopping his vehicle to embrace those with severe disabilities, joyfully greeting young children who broke through security barriers to reach him, and washing and kissing the feet of prisoners on Holy Thursday. Pope Francis passionately decried views and actions contrary to human dignity and flourishing. He condemned what he described as 'the globalisation of indifference' when it came to refugees and the poor, 'the ideological colonisation' of the developing world by secularising Western forces, and 'the throwaway culture' that treats everything and everyone deemed no longer useful, including the unborn and elderly, as disposable. He cared deeply for all of God's creation, especially our common home the earth, and his celebrated encyclical, *Laudato Si'* called for an integral ecology and reinforced the teaching that Christians must be good stewards of the natural world. Francis was also 'the pope of synodality', inviting all members of the Church to journey together as pilgrims, listening to each other and to the voice of the Holy Spirit, in order better to carry out the mission of evangelisation and outreach. Pope Francis died on Easter Monday only hours after giving his Easter Sunday "Urbi et Orbi" blessing to the city and the world. He said "From the empty tomb in Jerusalem, we hear unexpected good news: 'Jesus, who was crucified, is not here, he has risen'. Jesus is not in the tomb, he is alive! Love has triumphed over hatred, light over darkness, and truth over falsehood. Forgiveness has triumphed over revenge. Evil no longer has the upper hand; it no longer has power over those who accept the grace of this day." Now Pope Francis has himself entered into the triumphant truth, goodness, mercy and love of the Risen Lord he served so well. Whilst saddened by his death, we are grateful for the blessing of his long life, spent in service of Christ and His people. Pope Francis began his papacy and ended his every Sunday Angelus by asking those gathered to pray for him. Let us all heed this request now, offering our prayers for the Holy Father, that he will now receive the merciful embrace of the Lord he preached and served so well.



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



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



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

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	Helen Behan, Michael Leahy, Fr David Coffey, Dawn Clarice Davis, Basil Hayes, Don Anderson, Ivy Fernandez, Carmel Josephine Jack,
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, 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, Isabel Mancel Mendoza.
Anniversaries:	Deborah Dahdah, Harry Doumit, Maria Schiavo, Andrew Coote, Damia Bains, Francesco & Mary Sorbello, Peter Turpin, Antoinette Akle, Mary Colletta Saverimuthu.
Sick Intentions:	Giuseppe Mazzaferro, 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.




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.

10 th & 11 th May				
IF YOU CANNOT FULFIL YOUR ROSTER DUTY PLEASE ORGANISE A REPLACEMENT.				
Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Grace Herro	Gian Surjadinata	Relyn Aguinaldo	Kynetha Torcato
	Rick Herro	Artha Surjadinata	Helen Williamson	Volunteer Needed
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Donald Bonett	Greg Glass	Emmanuel Nathan	Andrew Chasle
	Maria Soo	Sonia Gomez	Michael Quinlan	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Beatrix A.	Archie S.	Emilio A.	Volunteer Needed
	Collin A.	Shannon D.	Emilia T.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Edith Pun	Mary Daley	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn

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 5th 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 5th 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: sa@stmarthas.org.au