



ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD

Parish Priest: Father John Hayes

Assistant Priest: Father Liem Duong

Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro admin@stmarthas.org.au

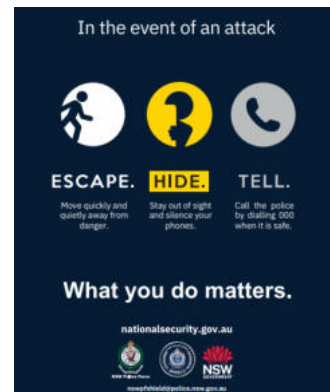
Sacramental Coordinator: Linda Praum sc@stmarthas.org.au

Safeguarding Officers: Dianne Dawson safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au

Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson

Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub & Marion Li

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Alannah Hickry



'Who is my neighbour?'... Luke 10

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

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

Mission:

Alive with the Spirit

Inspired by St Martha

We Celebrate & Witness

God's love

Using our Gifts & Talents

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.



JULY: For formation and discernment.
"Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel"



Thank you for supporting the Annual Holy Father's Appeal last weekend. This appeal, also known as Peter's Pence, is a gesture of solidarity with the universal Church to support the works of the Holy Father Pope Leo.

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.

2024/2025 TAX RECEIPTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE CHURCH FOYER



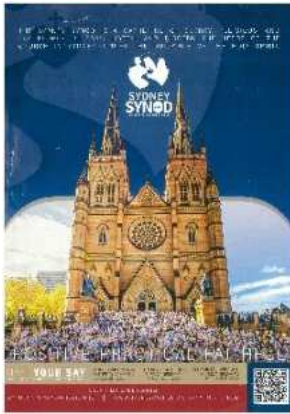
Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press): As Jesus continues his journey to Jerusalem, he is confronted by a scholar of the law who wants to test him. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. Here, in Luke's Gospel, the lawyer asks what we must do to inherit eternal life. In the other two Gospels, Jesus answers the question by quoting Deuteronomy 6:5, on loving God with all your heart, and Leviticus 19:18, on loving your neighbor. Here Jesus asks the expert to answer this question, "What is written in the law?" The man is caught and responds with Deuteronomy 6:5. This verse is one of the most important prayers in Judaism, and it was said twice a day in Jesus' time. Love of God and love of neighbor are what is required for eternal life. Jesus' response is simple, "Do this and you will live." Having been shown up by Jesus, the lawyer tries another question: Who is my neighbor whom I must love like myself? In the society of Jesus' time, with its distinctions between Jews and Gentiles, men and women, clean and unclean, this was a trick question. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. It is found only in Luke's Gospel. The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descends 3,300 feet in just 17 miles. Its narrow passes and rocky terrain made it an easy place for bandits to wait for travelers. The traveler in this parable is identified only as "a certain man." Luke uses this phrase in many of his parables so that the audience, Jew or Gentile, could identify with the man. After the attack, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along. The listeners would probably expect him to be an Israelite. This would make the parable a criticism of the religious leadership. Instead he is a Samaritan, an Israelite's most hated neighbor. Samaritans were descendants of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbor in this parable. Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion. When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: "Go and do likewise." The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.

Family Connection: Families rely on selfless love. Parents show love for their children not just when it's convenient, but whenever their children's needs must be met. Imagine if the members of a family were concerned only with their own needs. How quickly things would fall apart! In the story of the Good Samaritan, we learn about someone who went out of his way to care for the needs of another. He recognized the victim as his brother and accepted responsibility for him. As a family, talk about the responsibilities of each member of the family. Share how you, as parents, care for the needs of everyone in the family even when it's inconvenient. Ask your children to share times when they did chores and helped the family even when it was not convenient. Read aloud this Sunday's Gospel, Luke 10:25-37. Talk about how the Samaritan went out of his way to care for the needs of the victim. Make a commitment as a family to follow the example of the Good Samaritan. Explain that the more you learn to accept responsibility for each other's needs at home, the more you'll be able to accept responsibility for the needs of others in the world.



The Church is preparing to celebrate the 5th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, on Sunday, 27th July 2025, with the motto Blessed are those who have not lost hope" (cf. Sir 14:2). The theme, announced by the Vatican 4 February, is taken from the Book of Sirach as part of its moral instruction to the Jewish faithful. The theme expresses the blessedness of the elderly and points to the hope placed in the Lord as the way to a Christian and reconciled old age. Particularly during the Holy Year 2025, the world day seeks to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and elderly people can become a sign of hope in every family and ecclesial community. The Church observes the World Day each year on the fourth Sunday in July, close to the feast of Jesus' grandparents, Saints Joachim and Anne. Pope Francis instituted this Day in 2021 since, he believes, grandparents are often forgotten, yet they "are the link between generations, passing on the experience of life and faith to the young." Pope Francis chose as this year's theme "Do not cast me off in my old age". As Christians, he said, the World Day dedicated to grandparents and the elderly calls us to put aside our throwaway culture and show "tenderness and affectionate attention" to the most fragile members of our communities.

SYDNEY SNOD RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH FOYER



Important Information from NSW Police

The Terrorism Protections Unit of the New South Wales Police Force as part of its on-going guidance in the event of a terrorism attack, has released additional resources which we share with our Parishes. While the chance of our Parish being caught up in a hostile act remain low, it remains important to be vigilant and aware of these guidelines.



Flyers are available in the Church Foyer to take home.

A reminder also to be wary of scam emails, text messages and phone calls.

Announcement: The Canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis and the Canonization of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati will be on 7 September. The canonizations of the two young saints—one from the early twentieth century, the other the first twenty-first-century saint—have been greatly anticipated due to the great devotion among the faithful. Pope Leo made the choice to enrol among the number of the saints two young men from different eras who led completely different lives, but who are nonetheless united in their love for Christ and their ability to impart that love to those whose lives they touched. Prayer cards, Novenas & mini posters are available in the Church foyer.

19 th & 20 th July				
Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Grace Herro	Yvonne Martins	Relyn Aguinaldo	Andrew Bova
	Rick Herro	Volunteer Needed	Helen Williamson	Kynetha Torcato
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Lisa Dennis	Daniel Martins	Emmanuel Nathan	Paulina Roncevic
	Maria Soo	Volunteer Needed	Merlyn D'Souza	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Beatrix A.	Jacob M.	Emilio A.	Zachary A.
	Collin A.	Christian C.	Emilia T.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Ryan W.	Charlotte L.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Dylan W.	Ryan L.	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Edith Pun	Paul Abela	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	William Terence McWilliams, Joseph Ramanathan, Luke James Manassa, Maria Nguyen Thi Mung, Robert (Bob) O'Hara.
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, Gladstone & Noel Jebanasam, George Lasrado, Rachel Francis, Norma Peralta Collantes, Peter Sereno, Phillip & Hind Azar, Emile & Foula Moubarak, Bridie McWilliams.
Anniversaries:	Giuseppe & Maria Andreacchio, John McNamara, William (Bill) Starr, Antonio Truscello, Samir Hakin, Mary Anne Harrington, Clare Kenny, Vincenzo Nadile, Elie Sahyoun, Frank Hickey, Mary Baini.
Sick Intentions:	Giuseppe Mazzaferro, Elliot Leahy, Jason Gereis, Br Tony Wheelan cfc, Toni N, Norma Habib, Joe Everitt, Alf Buda, Ann Cincotta-Tangey, Mark Samaha, John Weitering, Willie Quan, John Hay, Ajith Antony, Rudy Raeburn, Robert Rumore, Carminella Tiberio, Theo McLean, Joseph Akkay, 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. Deceased members of the Georges & Sassine Families.

Short Reflection

(Young Catholics):

The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C leaves us with a clear message: love is action. God's word is already in our hearts, and Jesus shows us how to live it. When we care for others, let go of divisions, and choose kindness, we follow what God truly asks of us.

Loving Without Holding Grudges

It is interesting that Jesus chooses a Samaritan as the hero of the parable. In the Gospel just one chapter earlier, a Samaritan village turned Him away. Still, Jesus does not hold a grudge. He does not see the Samaritan people as enemies. Instead, He uses one of them as an example of love and mercy. The Samaritan in the parable does not ask who the injured man is. He does not stop to question whether the man deserves help. He simply chooses to care for him. Jesus teaches us that love does not carry grudges or make excuses. Loving others means seeing their needs and responding to them with kindness. The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C invites us to let go of grudges and choose love. Jesus shows us how to look past divisions and see every person as a neighbour. When we act with mercy, we become the people God calls us to be.

Prayer

Lord, open my heart to see those who need my care. Teach me to love without hesitation or judgment. Help me to live your word through simple acts of kindness and mercy. May I become a neighbour to everyone I meet. Amen.

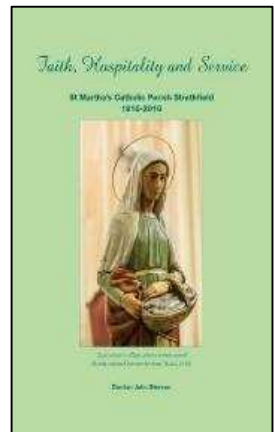


The Parish Mass to celebrate the Feast Day of St Martha, our patron saint, will be at 7.30am on Tuesday 29th July

The parish is offering copies of the Parish History Book, written by Dr Damian John Gleeson, at a reduced rate of \$10. The Book was published to commemorate the Parish Centenary in 2016. Discover the history of St Martha's Parish

Strathfield in this skilfully written, carefully researched book that includes a large number of historic photographs, illustrations and documents. Find out the story of the Parish, the evolution of its identity as a unique Catholic community, its beliefs, relationships and challenges. Copies will be available in the Church Foyer for the next few weeks.

Payment can be placed in the secure box provided.



YOU ARE INVITED TO

St Martha's Feast Day

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF EDUCATION

Tuesday 29th July 2025

9:30 am Mass at St Martha's Catholic Church
with Most Rev Terry Brady

10:30am Mosaic Blessing in School Playground

11:00am Morning Tea in School Hall

11:40am Open Classrooms

Please RSVP for the Morning Tea by Friday 4 July via
the google form link or QR code below.

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/A9VND5C9](https://tinyurl.com/A9VND5C9)

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE CELEBRATION OF OUR

100 YEARS

Gala Dinner

DATE: SATURDAY 02/08/2025

TIME: 7PM - 11:30 PM

VENUE: STRATHFIELD GOLF COURSE

52 WEEROONA RD, STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

\$155 PER PERSON
INCLUDES 3 COURSE DINNER,
UNLIMITED BEER, WINE, & SOFT DRINKS
DRESS CODE: SEMI FORMAL

To purchase tickets visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1367178>

TABLES OF 10 OR SINGLE TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE
MUST BE OVER 18 YEARS OLD TO ATTEND

RSVP 18TH JULY 2025