



ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD

Parish Priest: Father John Hayes

Assistant Priest: Father Liem Duong

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

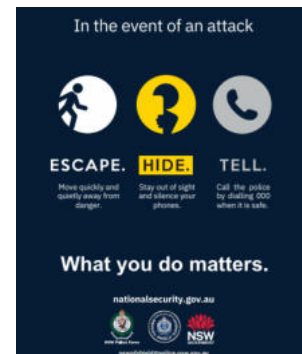
Sacramental Coordinator: Linda Praum sc@stmarthas.org.au

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

Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson

Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub & Marion Li

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Alannah Hickry



'I have come not to give peace, but discord'.... Luke 12

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.



CWF AUGUST PARISH APPEAL

Thank you for supporting the Charitable Works Fund (CWF). The Appeal will continue running until the end of August. Your donation will help those most vulnerable in Sydney - including our local Aboriginal community, as well as single mothers facing homelessness, people struggling with mental health issues and many others. Appeal envelopes will be provided for your use so please keep an eye out for them. You can also make a donation and find out more at www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf

Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press): Having reminded the apostles and the crowd that facing the coming judgment takes patience, Jesus now goes on to speak of how difficult it will be to wait. He tells them that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples on Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' Resurrection. Jesus will be the first to experience the distress of the coming judgment. His baptism will be the conflict into which he will be immersed as he approaches Jerusalem and his death on the cross. His followers will not be spared that distress. The angels at Jesus' birth proclaimed peace on earth, and Simeon, holding the baby Jesus in the Temple, said to God: "Master, now you may let your servant go in peace." Here Jesus tells the crowd not to think he has come to bring peace; he has come to bring division. Simeon said as much when he turned to Mary and said that the child was destined for the rise and fall of many and to be a sign that will be contradicted. Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters. The coming judgment forces us to look at the implications of our commitments. As Jesus warned in last Sunday's Gospel, a commitment of faith requires us to change our attitude toward material possessions and to take even more seriously our moral responsibilities. Here he reminds the crowd that those who commit to him will find it affects the way they relate to friends and family members. The angel who announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah said John would go before Jesus to turn the hearts of fathers toward their children. But a commitment to Jesus forces us to change the way we live our lives, and this can put strains on relationships. We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well.

Family Connection: Families strive for unity and togetherness. Nobody enjoys occasions when divisions in family life become all too evident. Yet, in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says that he has come to bring division and that members of households will be divided. Talk as a family about the things that you do together to bring about family unity (togetherness), such as sharing meals, going to church together, celebrating special occasions, or sharing family traditions. Explain that all of these things are important and that Jesus wants families to show this kind of love for one another. Point out that this Sunday's Gospel sounds as though Jesus is saying something very different. Tell your children to listen closely as you read aloud Luke 12:49-53. Explain that sometimes as parents, you have to make decisions that are unpopular with your children. You don't do it to divide the family but because it is the right thing to do. In the short run, such decisions may "divide" children from their parents. In the long run, however, doing the right thing will bring about a deeper unity. Talk to your children about decisions that they have to make that might be unpopular with their friends and how these decisions may divide them from others. Encourage them to pray to the Holy Spirit for the gift of courage (fortitude) so that they may do the right thing even if unpopular. Conclude by praying a spontaneous prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking for the gift of courage (fortitude).

Come, Holy Spirit, fill my heart with the fire of Your love.

Grant me the gift of fortitude, so that I may courageously face the challenges of life, overcome temptations, and persevere in my faith. Strengthen my weakness, sustain my efforts after holiness, and help me to never be separated from You.

Amen.

BECOME A CATECHIST - DURING THE SCHOOL TERM ONLY.

We are in need of additional Catechists to teach scripture in our local public schools.

- **Homebush Public School- 11.15am-12.00pm on Wednesdays.**
All training and teacher resources & support will be provided.
Please contact Lorraine Kazzi on 0400 505 205.

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.

TAX RECEIPTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE CHURCH FOYER

**Happy Anniversary to Fr Liem Duong
who celebrates 19 Years of Ordination on Tuesday 19th August.**



Welcome Home Father John



Ready to lead the group through the "Holy Doors" at Peter's. "It's a hard path & narrow road that leads to life."



With Archbishop Anthony Fisher in St Paul's Basilica, Rome



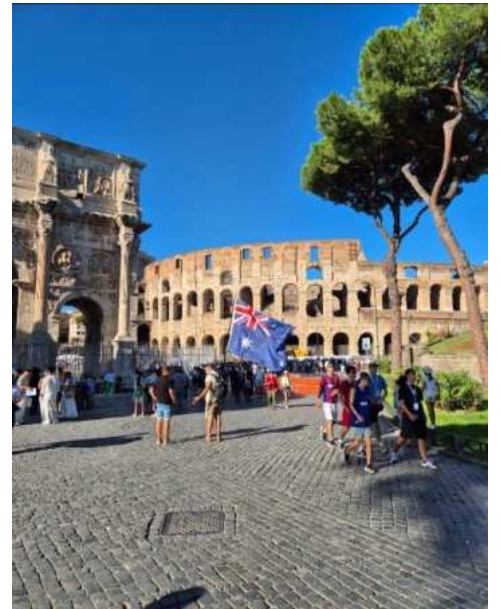
Sunday morning, waking up for Mass with Pope Leo XIV.



Street Mission in Piacenza.

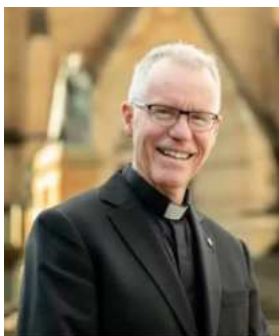


On Ponte Gobbo, near Bobbio. The bridge in the Mona Lisa.



Constantine's Arch and The Colosseum. Constantine converted to Christianity & stopped the martyrdom & persecution of Christians.

Hope - Believing the unseen to receive the eternal by Bishop Tony Percy



The Letter to the Hebrews gives the classic definition of faith, precisely because it is divinely inspired, not the work of the human mind: Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the conviction of invisible things (Hebrews 11). Faith is intimately related to hope – what lies in the future. Faith is intimately related to realities that are invisible. It is the Jubilee Year of Hope. We should ask what is hope? Hope is placing our faith in what God promises. God promises us many things, both now and into the future. He promises us 'labourers for the harvest' if we pray. He promises that if we 'remain in Jesus, we will bear much fruit.' The list goes on and on. The ultimate promise is eternal, resurrected life with God. So, notice what the preacher says in Hebrews: Abraham and Sarah are the great examples of faith and hope because they believed in the resurrection of Christ. Can this be true? Apparently it is: Abraham was confident that God had power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead. So, there you have it. It is yours to believe. Amen.

**A LOST RING WAS FOUND IN THE CHURCH AFTER THE 5PM MASS ON SATURDAY
2ND AUGUST. PLEASE CONTACT 0429 982 910.**

First Holy Communion - Please continue to pray for the candidates who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on Sunday 14th and Sunday 21st September during special Masses at 12.00 noon. May our Lord watch over them on their faith journey. A special thanks to Linda Praum our Sacramental Coordinator who has been preparing the children.

23 rd & 24 th August				
Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Grace Herro	Gina Surjadinata	Relyn Aguinaldo	Theresa Kuk
	Rick Herro	Andri Surjadinata	Helen Williamson	Volunteer Needed
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Maria Soo	Maria Yu	Emmanuel Nathan	Owen Loney
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Michael Quinlan	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Beatrix A.	Mary Louise I.	Emilio A.	Zachary A.
	Collin A.	Archie S.	Emilia T.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Shannon D.	Charlotte L.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Ryan L.	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Linda Praum	Anton De Almada	Trudie Rogers	Paulina Roncevic

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	Scarlett Dahdah, Dr Chantal Bardella, Pepito Awayan, Raymond Jung, Joseph Sarkis Baini, Vimla Hilton, Francesco Torresan, Emile Habib, Catherine Tolme, Percy Karunatileka, William Terence McWilliams, Joseph Ramanathan.
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, Bridie McWilliams, Rex Fernandes, Julian & Mabel Doyle, Jim Bradbury & Greg Doyle.
Anniversaries:	Roland George Peters, Colin Soleiman, Simon Ban, Francesco Campanale, Giuseppina & Lorenzo Tati, Josephine & Habib Khoury, Roslyn & Francis Sinnadurrai, Carmelina Truscello, Stella Cusack, Eric Leahy, Ruth Hayes, Alicia Herny Lim, Joseph Tabbakh, Stephen Bonett, Salvatore' Bonett, Annie Bonett, Patrick Duggan, Lawrie Soares, Giuseppe & Maria Andreacchio, John McNamara, William (Bill) Starr, Antonio Truscello.
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 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), Ajay Babu Avirneni,
Special Intentions:	Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order. Deceased members of the Georges & Sassine Families. Teresa Rosso, Naomi & Maher Watson, Reg O'Neill, Madanu Anthony & Sundari Family, Saleem Chatti & Kulathil & Family.

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. If you would like a Mass offered on a particular date, please contact the parish office to arrange this.

Mass Intention Envelopes are available at the Church Entrances.



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



Lifeline
Saving Lives
Crisis Support, Suicide Prevention.
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