



ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD

Parish Priest: Father John Hayes

Assistant Priest: Father Liem Duong

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

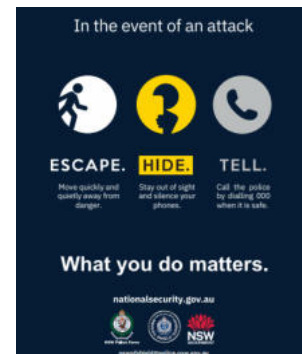
Sacramental Coordinator: Linda Praum sc@stmarthas.org.au

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



'God will see those who cry to him vindicated' - Luke 17

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.

MISSIONARIES OF HOPE

among all peoples

Appeal Weekend 18th & 19th October

For women like Sharon, who must choose between feeding their children or selling their crops to survive, and Grace, who risked her life traveling 160km for safe childbirth, hope comes through Sr Jane and Kayula. Through sustainable farming, Sr Jane helps women provide for their families. At the Chilonga Mission Hospital, Kayula ensures mothers and babies receive the dignity and care they deserve.

This World Mission Month, we invite you to extend your generosity to help enhance the vital work of the Church. Your support can make a significant difference to the lives of many, offering hope to the people of Zambia.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission



First Reconciliation

(For Year 2 Students or older)

Enrol Now

On our parish webpage

<https://stmarthas.org.au/sacraments/reconciliation/>

(Enrolments close Monday 20th October 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 20th October 2025 @ 6pm

In the Church of St Martha's Strathfield



IN THIS JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Come and hear a word of Hope

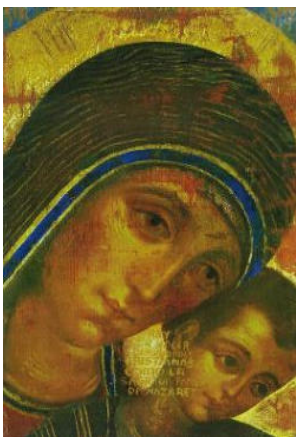
You are invited to a series of talks to help reawaken Faith and Hope

"...a hope which will not let us down, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us." (RM 5:5)

"...reawaken in us, pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of Heaven." (Jubilee Prayer)

Sundays and Thursdays at 7.00pm in the Parish hall (the old Church).

Child minding provided. Enquiries: Domenico 0419 536 536.



GOD'S WORD

Daily Reflections

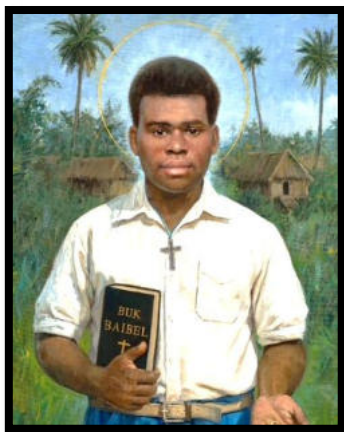
2026



2026 GOD'S WORD DAILY REFLECTIONS BIBLE DIARIES – LIMITED STOCK IS AVAILABLE SO RESERVE YOUR COPY NOW

. These Bible Diaries are designed to help you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. A companion on the journey to pray, to share, to grow in God's love and be nourished by the Word of God make these an ideal Christmas gift. Please write your name and contact details on a payment envelope in the Church Foyer. **\$20 each (rrp \$21.95) Cash payments only. PRE-ORDERS ARE NOW READY FOR COLLECTION IN THE SACRISTY AFTER MASS**

TAX RECEIPTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING THE PARISH OFFICE



The Canonisation of Papua New Guinea's first saint, Blessed Peter To Rot will be on 19th October 2025. Peter To Rot was a lay catechist who was martyred in 1945 for continuing his apostolate despite a ban imposed by the Japanese. His case is special for several reasons: he will be the first native Papuan saint, a fervent defender of marriage and the family, a catechist committed to the mission of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. His sanctity is the fruit of the close collaboration of priests and laity in evangelisation. Prayer cards will be available in the Church foyer. Mass will be celebrated on 19th October 2025 commencing 2.30pm at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, Randwick. All welcome to attend! On Sunday, 26 October, Holy Cross Parish, Kincumber, in the Diocese of Broken Bay, will host a Mass at 11 am in honour of the newly canonised saint, followed by refreshments. The day will also include unveiling a St Peter To Rot relic, blessing a new statue of St Mary MacKillop, and presenting papal blessings to dedicated parish volunteers. Peter To Rot was a lay catechist and martyr who continued his Christian ministry during the Japanese occupation of PNG in WWII. Let us come together in faith and thanksgiving to celebrate his inspiring witness.



Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press): This is the first of two parables that Jesus tells in Luke 18 about prayer. (The second will be read at Mass next Sunday.) This first parable is a lesson in persistence in prayer. (Next Sunday's parable will address attitude in prayer.) While the parable seems to present prayer as nagging God for what we want, such a reading misses the point. God is not like the judge in the parable, worn down by requests and coerced to respond. The key is found in the description of the judge as corrupt and unjust. Since God can be neither, we must understand Jesus to be saying that if even an unjust judge responds to the persistence of the widow, how much more so will God listen to our prayers. God truly wants to hear our needs and respond generously. It is the final lament of Jesus that gets to the point of the parable. The lesson is about the persistence of the one who prays. God wants us to be like the persistent widow, staying in relationship with God, confident that God hears and answers prayers. Then Jesus laments, "Will such faith be found when the Son of Man comes?" In this lament, Jesus notes how easy it can be for us to lose heart.



Family Connection: Children nag because it works. Parents, like the judge in the parable, often get worn down by the persistence of their children asking for things large and small. Nagging is not a positive trait, to be sure. The confidence and the persistence behind this behavior, however, confidence in the goodness of the giver and the tenacity to stay in the relationship, are traits worth emulating in our relationship with God. Read together Luke 18:1-8. Talk about appropriate ways to make needs and desires known to one another and to God in prayer. Recall that God wants to answer our prayers. As a family, offer your needs as prayers of petition to God.



October is the month of the Rosary. A prayer full of blessings as we contemplate the mysteries of our salvation. Let us make use of this beautiful prayer as we continue to grow together in faith and love. We extend our sincerest thanks to the Quan Family, formerly from the Solomon Islands and Founders of the Rosary Mission Group, for generously donating a variety



of colourful hand-made and beautifully beaded Rosaries to St Martha's. The Rosary can be a source of hope and comfort, especially during challenging times. Praying the Holy Rosary is a great opportunity for each of us to strengthen our relationship with Our Lady. The Blessed Rosaries are available in the Church foyer and are free, however an offering into the

LIFELINE DONATION BOX would be appreciated. **THE DONATION BOX IS LOCATED IN THE CHURCH FOYER**



Fresh look at Sydney's pioneering priest, Fr Therry. Fr John Joseph Therry is one of the pillars of the Catholic Church in Australia. A book to be published next year by Colonial Press explains the significance of this 200th anniversary. Drawing on thousands of rare and previously unpublished letters uncovered in Irish and Australian archives, historian Damian John Gleeson shows that Therry's "dismissal" had the opposite effect to this controversial decision: it galvanised support for an unconventional and intensely nationalist priest across the religious divide. If readers have documents relating to the church in early NSW, Port Phillip or Van Diemen's Land and Fr Therry's connection, Gleeson asks them to get in touch with him at carnew1798@gmail.com or PO Box 343 Goulburn NSW 2580.



*During the month of November,
we remember those who have returned to the Father*

FROM THIS WEEK WE INVITE ALL FAMILIES TO WRITE THE NAMES OF DEPARTED LOVED ONES IN THE BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE. THESE BOOKS OF SPECIAL INTENTIONS WILL BE SET UP ON A SPECIAL MEMORIAL ON THE SANCTUARY DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER. MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE. (NAMES CANNOT BE PRINTED IN THE WEEKLY BULLETIN DUE TO THE LARGE VOLUME).

All Saints Day Saturday 1st November - Mass will be celebrated at 9.10am & 5.00pm
All Souls Day Sunday 2nd November - Masses will be celebrated at 8.00am, 10.00am & 6.00pm



**PLEASE
DO NOT
DRIVE OR
PARK ON
GRASS**

IMPORTANT NOTICE: WHEN PARKING IN THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE ONTO THE GRASSED AREA. THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

NEWSLETTER: THE SEMINARY OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD are delighted to welcome you to the second edition of The House of the Good Shepherd, biannual publication by the Seminary. In this edition, you'll find fresh insights, inspiring stories, and updates that reflect the vibrant spirit of our community. We ask that you keep our seminarians in your continued prayers. Your spiritual support is a source of strength and grace, and it helps sustain the work we do. Link: <https://sgs.org.au/newsletter>



Let us keep the HSC students and their families in our prayers during this time of preparation for the final exams.



Prayer for HSC Students

Dear Lord, we ask for your blessing on our students that are preparing to undertake HSC Examinations over the coming weeks. Grant them the confidence they deserve from their years of diligent study. Grant them the ability to comprehend questions and effectively plan and articulate their responses. May they be enriched by the gifts of the Holy Spirit Wisdom, Understanding, Fortitude and Knowledge. May their faith and piety give them the strength to face these examinations and the satisfaction of achieving their personal best. We ask these things though Christ Our Lord, Amen.



25th & 26th October

Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Lisa Dennis	Gian Surjadinata	Rachel Suriano	Volunteer Needed
	Joanne Touma	Artha Surjadinata	Maria Soares	Volunteer Needed
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Maria Soo	Sonia Gomez	Mark Soares	Andrew Chasle
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Merlyn D'Souza	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Grace T.	Ryan W.	Marcus V.	Volunteer Needed
	Peter T.	Dylan W.	Elijah M.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Matthew C.	Christian C.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Edith Pun	Mary Daley	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	Paul Moynihan, Maree O'Hara, Brother Bob Wallace, Salvatore Corelli, Giuseppe Mazzaferro, Georgette Tannous, Greg Whitby, Dr Dexter Ekanayake, John Wright, Monsignor Kerry Bayada, Terry McCarthy, Tommy Partch, Pepito Anthony, Raymond Jung.
Repose of The Soul:	Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Fr Mark Beard, Elias & Julia Georges, Luke Manassa, Alfredo Pjanic, Kevin Bouffler, Br Ray Dowding, Francesco & Sarina Campanale, Daniel Lucich, Stefano, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Filomena & Giuseppe Pagano, Matteo & Caterina Genova, Caterina Guarnia, Frances & Harry 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, 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, Salvatore La Cava, Marie Mastan, Illuminata Raspa, Rex Fernandes.
Anniversaries:	Paul Albert Sarkis, Michael Issa, Saad Saad, Alfred, Charlotte & Juliette Alam, Ken & Patricia Miller, Maria Giovanna Frino, Gerald Wilson, Campbell Farrell, Dorothea Starr, Frank & Kathleen Moynihan, Joseph Manning, Khalil Herro.
Sick Intentions:	Cameron Stacy, Helen McAlister, Sr Marilyn Farley, Elliot Leahy, Toni N, Norma Habib, Joe Everitt, Alf Buda, Ann Cincotta-Tangey, Mark Samaha, John Weitering, 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 Avirmeni.
Special Intentions:	The Corelli, Howell, Mazzaferro & Coluccio Families, Nelly Galano, Dareth Flavell, Henry Quan & Willie Quan, Savitri & Anusha. Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order & St Vincent de Paul Society.