



ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD

Parish Priest: Father John Hayes

Assistant Priest: Father Liem Duong

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

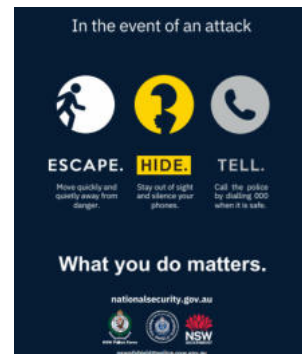
Sacramental Coordinator: Linda Praum sc@stmarthas.org.au

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



'Your endurance will win you your life' - Luke 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

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.

Important Notice:

The roster commencing January 2026 is currently being compiled. Please advise the parish office of any changes or if you wish to join in these Ministries by 1st December. The sign-up sheets are in the Church foyer.

Also just a reminder that it is essential that we follow guidelines set out by the Archdiocese. If you are an Acolyte; Reader; Eucharistic Minister or in the Music Ministry you are required to sign in – (red folders are kept in the sacristy). The altar servers sign-in folder is located in the side corridor. Thank you.

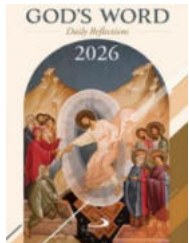
CHRISTMAS ROSTER SIGN UP SHEETS ARE NOW IN THE CHURCH FOYER

THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION – 2025

Please keep the candidates in your prayers during their final preparation before receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation next week. Thank you to Linda Praum, Sacramental Coordinator, teachers, helpers and parents for preparing the children.

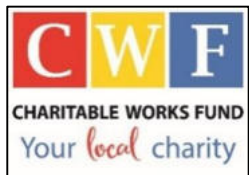


2026 GOD'S WORD DAILY REFLECTIONS PRE-ORDERED COPIES CAN NOW BE COLLECTED IN THE SACRISTY AFTER MASS



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

We invite all families to write the names of departed loved ones in the books of remembrance. Mass Offering Envelopes are also available. (names cannot be printed in the Weekly Bulletin due to the large volume). We contemplate the lives and deaths of our loved ones and all the departed, recognizing our unity with them in the Church, and praying for their eternal rest. It is a time to be thankful for the gift of life, remember the power of God's love, and reflect on the destructive power of sin, while also reaffirming faith in eternal life through Christ's victory over death. This day provides a moment to extend compassion, hope, and prayer for those who have passed.



CWF NOVEMBER PARISH APPEAL - The Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Parish Appeal is still running this weekend. The Quota for our parish is \$7,675. Your donation will help those most vulnerable in Sydney. Appeal envelopes are available in the Church Foyer. You can also make a donation and find out more at www.ourfaithourworks.org/cwf

Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press): In the context of Luke, today's Gospel appears near the end of Jesus' teaching in Jerusalem, just prior to the events that will lead to his crucifixion. His warnings and predictions are ominous but can be read in many ways. To those who first heard Luke's Gospel, those may have been words of encouragement. The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Romans was history (70 A.D.); Luke's Gospel, Catholic scholars propose, was written between 80 and 90 A.D. His audience was probably Gentile Christians. Luke here tries to interpret the fall of Jerusalem for them and to locate it in God's plans for humankind (salvation history). At the same time, Luke is suggesting to his audience that there will be a considerable elapse of time before Jesus' final coming. Luke's listeners have likely seen much upheaval and are anxious to know if these are the signs of Jesus' coming. Luke is urging greater patience. In the second part of today's Gospel, Jesus warns that his followers will face persecution for their beliefs. Luke presents persecution as an opportunity for the followers of Jesus for "It will lead to your giving testimony" (Luke 21:13). In persecution God's wisdom and power will be shown in the example of followers of Jesus. Perseverance in the face of persecution will lead to their salvation. Here Jesus is assuring his followers that God is present to all believers, even in times of trouble. Ultimately, Jesus will witness to this with his own death. As disciples of Jesus, we try to follow his example, trusting in God's mercy and protection, even when we are facing difficulties.

Family Connection: Children, while innocently naïve about most world events, are also profoundly sensitive to the concerns felt by adults. We can help children interpret adult concerns by sharing information about current events in appropriate ways. We can also put these concerns in the light of God's kingdom and the assurance of God's care for us. Discuss with your children one or more current events or a situation in your family which shows difficulties that may challenge our trust in a God who cares for us. Then read together today's Gospel, Luke 21:5-19. Notice how Jesus said that even when his disciples are persecuted, God would be with them. Together with your children, talk about ways in which God might bring good out of the difficult events you discussed. Talk together about some actions you might take as a family to make better the situations you discussed. Conclude by praying for the needs of the people involved in the events you named. In prayer, place each of these difficult situations into God's hands.

The Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands are seeking an experienced Assistant in Nursing. The position is based in Strathfield. Hours: Mon-Sat, 8.30am-1.30pm. Enquiries Colleen 97449511.

St Martha's Piety Stall located in the Church foyer has a wide variety of sacramental and religious goods such as candles, statues, rosaries, cards, and other devotional items. Please see the warden after Mass if you would like to purchase an item.



JUBILEE INDULGENCE 'PILGRIMAGE' – 24th November 2025

Dear Parishioners, as you know, in this year of the Jubilee of Hope, we can apply a Plenary Indulgence for a departed soul, or for another living person in need of this grace. To facilitate this Special Grace, we will have an opportunity on **Monday 24th November** to fulfil the conditions required for applying the Indulgence. This includes sacramental confession, celebrating Mass, praying for Pope Leo XIV, professing the Creed and visiting a designated Indulgence Church. So, on Monday 24th November, from 5.30pm to 6.30pm there will be sacramental confession

available in our Parish Church at St Martha's. Then at 7.00pm there will be Holy Mass celebrated by Father John Hayes at St Joachim's Church Lidcombe, one of the 12 Indulgence Churches in Sydney. In this month of November, this is a very fitting way to pray for the departed souls of our loved ones.

22 nd & 23 rd November				
Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Beatrice Bonett	Gian Surjadinata	Jackie Romanos	Theresa Kuk
	Lisa Dennis	Artha Surjadinata	Rita Piras	Volunteer Needed
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Maria Soo	Greg Glass	Anne Marrins	Andrew Chasle
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Steven Doumit	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Marissa B.	Ryan W.	Jay L.	Zachary A.
	Olivia B.	Dylan W.	Jarvis L.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Matthew C.	Courtney O.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Charlize O.	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Edith Pun	Paul Abela	Trudie Rogers	Anthony Thurn

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	Sr Pauline Riley OP (Funeral 10.30am Santa Sabina Chapel Tuesday 18 th November) Sr Mary Raphael rsm, Alan Cuthbert, Kazimiera Kotulski, Paul Moynihan, Maree O'Hara, Brother Bob Wallace
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, Giuseppe Mazzaferro & Salvatore Corelli, 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, Pauline Gibson, Novak Victor Cujic.
Anniversaries:	Dominic Van So Duong, Frank & Marie Monaghan, Maud Soares & Blanche Saldanha, Thomas Kenny, Emile & Foulia Moubarak, Aida & Domenico Bucciarelli, Camillia & Carlo Tiberio, Slaiman Herro, Elias Georges, Anthony Menino D'Costa, Hamide Najjar, Noha Dimnasi Srour, Frances Doumit, Tina Doumit, Margaret McGannon, Don Khoury, Vito & Giuseppina Iannella, Paul Albert Sarks, Michael Issa, Saad Saad, Alfred, Charlotte & Juliette Alam, Ken & Patricia Miller, Maria Giovanna Frino..
Sick Intentions:	Dareth Flavell, 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 Avirneni.
Special Intentions:	Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order & St Vincent de Paul Society.

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

Please visit the Church Notice-Boards for upcoming events.



Eternal Father, Bless our time here on earth. As we approach the end of another Church year, help us to embrace Your gift of time. Help us to cherish time spent with others. May we honour time spent with You, and with Your Son, and with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Commentary

Next weekend, our liturgical year comes to a close with the Solemnity of Christ the King. As we approach the end of the year, the Church invites us to reconnect with the Bible's apocalyptic literature. Apocalyptic (Greek for unveiling) literature in the Old Testament was a form of writing used by the prophets after the periods of Jewish Exile. The Prophet Malachi, for example, reminds the people that the Day of the Lord is coming and that they should not assume that their ungodly ways will be tolerated. The unveiled message is that evil will be undone by "the sun of justice with its healing rays." Far from doom and gloom, the apocalypse or end times is something we should not be worried about, but positively expect as we look forward to the coming of our Saviour. However, it is a time in which we should be aware of the need to make lifestyle adjustments in readiness for the Lord's coming.

Question: In what way are you prepared for the Lord's return?

The Second Reading follows our previous Sunday's readings from Thessalonians and is not intended to fit within our "end times" theme for this weekend. Nevertheless, St. Paul's letter does encourage us to consider how to behave as we long for the Lord's return in glory. Paul invites his reader to imitate him as one who is busy doing the Lord's work. He urges us to avoid "minding the business of others." The message of the letter is to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord and away from the unnecessary things and preoccupations of the world. Perhaps, as we draw near to the end of our liturgical cycle, we may want to take an inventory on our lives.

Question: Within this last year, how have I been focused on the things of this world rather than on the Kingdom of God?

Apocalyptic literature does not only belong to the prophets of the Old Testament. It is also found within the New Testament. The most obvious Apocalyptic New Testament writing is Revelation. However, all of the Gospel writers present some "unveiling" literature, including Luke. In our Sunday Gospel, Jesus offers a prophetic message that the temple will be destroyed. In addition, the whole world will be filled with wars, earthquakes, famine, with "awesome sights and mighty signs" from the sky. Jesus' warning includes persecution for those who choose to remain in the Lord. He does not mince His words: "You will be hated by all because of my name." This less-than-rosy picture about the end of times should make even the strongest believer cringe. However, Jesus encourages the faithful by telling them that through their perseverance, they will secure their lives. Perseverance is a powerful word for one who is Christian. It means to "resist to stop." Faithful Christians are encouraged to resist to stop believing in Jesus, especially when life crumbles around us. It is easy to claim to be Christian when things are good. It is another thing to remain in Christ when the world is coming to an end.

Question: When trials surround you, what kind of Christian are you?

This Week's Task

Next Sunday, the Solemnity of Christ the King, is the last Sunday for the Church year. In a few words, write down three ways in which you have grown in the Lord over this year:

Prayer

O Jesus Christ,
I acknowledge You as universal King.
All that has been made, has been created for You.
Exercise all Your rights over me.
I renew my baptismal vows,
renouncing Satan, his pomps and his works;
and I promise to live as a good Christian.
Divine Heart of Jesus,
to You I offer my poor services,
labouring that all hearts may acknowledge
Your sacred kingship, and that thus the reign of Your peace
be established throughout the whole universe. Amen.



**K-6
Family Mass**

**Sunday 7th December
10am**

We warmly invite all families from the Parish
to celebrate Mass with us as part of our final
100 year celebrations.

Following Mass we look forward to enjoying a
special morning tea together on the
playground.

Please RSVP using the QR code below by 1st December.



**Celebrating
100
Years of Education
in 2025**