



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

Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Alannah Hickry



'Do not fear those who can kill the body' ... Matthew 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

Acting Principal: Steven Belcastro

Acting Assistant Principal: Chelsea McKeown

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**



*Please
continue
to support the
St Vincent De Paul Society
through the Church
Poor Boxes.*

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.

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: Info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au

**Please support our Catholic Press
Copies of the Catholic Weekly are in the
Church Foyer \$2.**



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.

Father Liem will be away from the parish until 14th July.
We wish him safe and happy travelling.

**** END OF FINANCIAL YEAR PROCESS ****

**The Last Banking day for the 2025/2026 Financial Year will be at
9am on Monday 22nd June.**

Any donations received after this date will go into the next financial year.

New sets of 2026/27 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.

Understanding Scripture (Liturgia) - Mission and opposition

This is the second of three consecutive Sundays on which we read from 'The Mission Sermon' (10:1-42; see the Introduction to Matthew's gospel at the beginning of this volume). The grim descriptions of opposition, the challenge of fidelity, the danger of infidelity, and ultimate punishment or reward are all addressed to disciples whom Jesus sends out to make known what he has taught them privately (10:27). In these verses Matthew is addressing the situation of the Church and its missionaries in the last third of the first century. Escalating hostility and active persecution would certainly challenge and discourage disciples from leaving the relative safety of their Christian community. But the message of Jesus and the message about Jesus must not be contained. Still, Jesus acknowledges that the task will be difficult and the stakes are high: 'Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father' (10:32). Thus, success in carrying out the mission of Jesus is measured by fidelity to Jesus. Fidelity is never easy. In the first reading and responsorial psalm two individuals (Jeremiah and the psalmist) describe in painful detail their hardships - terror, vengeance, insult, shame, being outcast. All this they suffer because of their fidelity to God: 'to you [God] I have entrusted my cause' (Jer 20:12); 'zeal for your house consumes me' (Ps 69:10). Yet, precisely because of their fidelity they turn to God in prayer: Jeremiah says, 'O Lord of hosts . . .' (20:12); and the psalmist, 'I pray to you, O Lord . . .' (69:14). The outcome of such fidelity is as surprising as it is reassuring: Jeremiah and the psalmist move from suffering to prayer to - rejoicing! Jeremiah exclaims, 'Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord' (20:13); and the psalmist counsels others to 'be glad . . . praise him' (69:33, 35). Both state the reasons for their confidence: God 'has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked' (Jer 20:13); and 'the Lord hears the poor' (Ps 69:34). The disciples of Jesus can learn from their ancestors in faith: fidelity brings hardship but, fear not: God delivers from distress. Fidelity to God is overmatched by God's fidelity to disciples.



Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press) We read today's Gospel in the context of last week's Gospel in which Jesus sent the twelve disciples to proclaim the kingdom of heaven. In between last week's reading and today's reading, Jesus has predicted that the disciples will face difficulties in their mission. Many people will not receive them well, even within the land of Israel. Even family members will turn away from the disciples because of the disciples' commitment to Jesus and the kingdom. Today's Gospel offers the disciples consolation against this difficult truth. This section of Matthew's Gospel should be read in the context of Matthew's intended audience, a Jewish-Christian community. The Gospel alludes to the dangers and persecutions that this community has most likely already faced and will continue to face. To reassure this community, Matthew recalls for them the encouraging words of Jesus that we read today. In this Gospel passage, Jesus might be understood as putting suffering in perspective. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to keep their focus on God. Those who can harm the body do not have ultimate power; God does. Still persecution and suffering cannot be avoided or prevented. But Jesus reassures his disciples that God knows and cares about what happens to his children. We might not face the same type of persecution, but we do experience difficulties as we endeavour to live a Christian life. Sometimes we let the opinions of others prevent us from doing what we know to be right. We need the reminder that what God thinks about us is more important. We are reassured by the promise that God cares for us and protects us.



Family Connection: It is not only individuals who need reassurance about God's love and protection. Communities need this reassurance as well, including the community of the family. Children rely on the confidence of their parents for this assurance. Parents can help the entire family's growth in trust and confidence in God by witnessing ways in which daily family needs are entrusted to God's care. As the family gathers, distribute pieces of paper to each person. Tell them to write or draw ways in which they believe that God's help is needed for each person and for the family as a whole. Each slip of paper can then be collected in a basket. Invite one member of the family to read aloud today's Gospel, Matthew 10:26-33. Recall together

how well God knows your family and thank God for this wonderful grace. Conclude by praying together for each of the needs identified on the slips of paper. After each need is read, pray together, "God, we trust you because you know us so well." Conclude by praying the Glory Be to the Father. This practice might become a regular part of your family's prayer. Set the basket in a place of prayer and encourage family members to add other needs throughout the week. Perhaps your family can pray for these things together during a family meal.

The next parish appeal will be the annual Holy Father's Appeal held across the weekend 4th & 5th July. 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.



Scan the QR or donate online

<https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give/holy-fathersappeal/>

Dear St Martha's,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$1,033.00 to Lifeline. We rely on the support of kind people like you so we can be there for people experiencing truly difficult moments. Gifts like yours keep us open 365 days



a year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Put simply, because of you, we are always there. Every day in Australia, we lose nine people to suicide. We are sure you agree that that's nine people too many. As a community, we can and must do better. This year alone, with your help, we will support almost one million Australians who reach out to us in pain, lonely and in crisis. This demands grows every year. We are doing our best to meet it in new and effective ways. Suicide imposes a devastating personal and societal burden, with a ripple effect that extends far beyond each individual. We need to look after each other. Your donation will help us do just that. With your support, Lifeline provides a crucial moment of connection, compassion and hope for someone who desperately needs it. We are so grateful for your help.



Working with Children Week 22–28 June 2026, is a great opportunity to reflect on how the decisions we make every day help keep children safe. This year's theme Start safe: smarter recruitment for child safety, is less about compliance and more about judgement. It's a reminder that child safety is built through people, culture and systems, often long before a child ever walks through the door. The questions we ask and the expectations that we set send clear signals about what matters in our parish community. When those signals are consistent and thoughtful, they help create a mindset where child safety is understood, prioritised and sustained. We celebrate Working with Children Week in recognition of over 1.9 million people who contribute to the lives of the state's children. The Safeguarding Office would like to thank everyone for all that

they do every day to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children within the Archdiocese of Sydney. Working with Children Week is a chance to celebrate those all those who put children first. The Safeguarding Office is committed to providing safe environments for our children by maintaining an open and inclusive culture. **We take this opportunity to especially thank our Parish Safeguarding Support Officer Dianne Dawson who dedicates a tremendous amount of time to assist our parish community with training and compliance. 2026 Colouring Pages are available at the side entrance.**

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	Justin Mahoro, Father John Thomas Hayes, Ron Weaver, Marion Li, Dilki Peiris, Hannah Theresa Teklic, Graham Burland.
Rest of The Soul:	Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Kevin Bouffler, Anne Burton, Br Ray Dowding, Francesco & Sarina Campanale, Daniel Lucich, Stefano, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, Pat (Ivy) Killalea, Mena Tarzia, 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, Filomena & Giuseppe Pagano, 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, Olga Chidiac, Joseph & Charbel Mannah, Bruan O'Hare, Diedre Banks,
Anniversaries:	Antonio Truscello, Frank Hickey, Charlie Isaac, Margaret Hetherton, Dalisay Bacho, Tony Khoury, Zmerod Chidiac, Terry McWilliams, Michael John Cusack, Stephen Patrick Cusack, Kevin Bouffler.
Sick Intentions:	Ajith Antony, Simon Alam, Amy Scott, Dareth Flavell, Dan Deehan, Patrick Connolly, Paul Woodbury, Geoff Sims, Cameron Stacy, Helen McAlister, Elliot Leahy, Norma Habib, Joe Everitt, Ann Cincotta-Tangey, Mark Samaha, John Weitering, John Hay, 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, Rosanne Sukkar, Henry D'Souza, Danielle Fabien, Maroun Moussa, Stephen Chase (snr), Ajay Babu Avirneni & Baby Mia Valente.
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 Entrance. If you would like a Mass offered on a particular date, please contact the parish office to arrange this.

27th & 28th June

IF YOU CANNOT FULFIL YOUR ROSTER DUTY PLEASE ORGANISE A REPLACEMENT.

Special Ministers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Beatrice Bonett	Yvonne Martins	Jackie Romanous	Andrew Bova
	Vince Blefari	Lilly Ravi	Helen Williamson	Volunteer Needed
Readers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Helen Blefari	Daniel Martins	Anne Marrins	Andrew Chasle
	Maria Soo	Volunteer Needed	Steven Doumit	Volunteer Needed
Altar Servers	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Marissa B.	Jacob M.	Jay L.	Zachary A.
	Olivia B.	Christian C.	Jarvis L.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Ryan W.	Courtney O.	Volunteer Needed
	Volunteer Needed	Dylan W.	Charlize O.	Volunteer Needed
Wardens	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Edith Pun	Peter Yamin	Trudie Rogers	Theresa Kuk
Acolytes	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
	Peter McCluskey	Anton Ravi	Roger Bonett	Joseph Samarasinghe

Santa Sabina College invites you to our

Threads of Connection Gala Dinner

Friday 7 August 2026 | 6:30pm – 11:30pm
Le Montage, Lilyfield

Cost \$160 | Dress Cocktail
RSVP trybooking.com/DLQNV

An evening celebrating the threads that connect us — past, present and future

16 MAY — 19 JULY
SYDNEY

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AN IMMERSIVE EXHIBITION

MUSEI VATICANI

ASK RUOK?™ ANY DAY

A conversation could change a life.

Resources are available in the Church Foyer

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.
Lifeline
P: 13 11 14
W: www.lifeline.org.au

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