

# ST MARTHA'S PARISH STRATHFIELD

Parish Priest: Father John Hayes  
 Assistant Priest: Father Liem Duong  
 Administration Coordinator: Nicolle Mazzaferro [admin@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:admin@stmarthas.org.au)  
 Sacramental Coordinator: Linda Praum [sc@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:sc@stmarthas.org.au)  
 Safeguarding Officer: Dianne Dawson [safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@stmarthas.org.au)  
 Parish Ministries Coordinator: Helen Williamson  
 Music Ministry: Marcella Ayoub  
 Children's Liturgy Coordinator: Alannah Hickry



**'My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink' ... John 6**


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 Phone: 9746 6131 Fax: 9764 3040  
 Email: [office@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:office@stmarthas.org.au)  
 Website: [www.stmarthas.org.au](http://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](mailto: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



1<sup>st</sup> 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:

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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 **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday** during the **school term only**.  
 Contact: [Info@stmstrathfield.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](mailto: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.

It is with much sadness that we announce the death of our long time parishioner Ron Weaver who died on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May.

A Requiem Mass will be at St Martha's at 11.00am on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June followed by interment at Rookwood Catholic Cemetery.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in Peace.*

**ST MARTHA'S COUNTING TEAM - VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:**

Can you spare 2 hours on a Monday morning? The parish is looking for 3 people to join the Counting Team between 8am and 10am every Monday. Anyone who is interested please speak directly to Father John or send an email to [admin@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:admin@stmarthas.org.au)

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

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

**PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM**

Would you like to become a regular contributor to St Martha's Church?

If so, please fill in this slip and return it to the Parish Office via any collection plate or send an email with your details to the parish office at [admin@stmarthas.org.au](mailto:admin@stmarthas.org.au).

Name..... Telephone No.: .....

Address:.....

Email : .....

WOULD LIKE ENVELOPES

WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE USING CREDIT CARD OR DIRECT DEBIT

*Understanding Scripture (Liturgia) - Bread And Word Give Life*

In the last verse of this Sunday's gospel Jesus recalls for the crowd the story of how 'our ancestors ate [manna in the desert]' (6:58). While God's giving the manna comes in response to the people's complaint about their lack of food, this Sunday's first reading reminds them that there was more to this story than God's providing for their physical needs. Moses informs the people that their hunger was a test from God: Would they do as God commanded? When God sent the manna, God commanded: 'Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not' (Exodus 16:4). But, failing to trust that God would provide them their daily bread, people hoarded more than they needed. Consequently, the surplus became rotten. Moses reveals the significance of this test: 'not by bread alone does man live, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of the Lord' (Deut 8:3). In other words, while bread will satisfy their hunger, people will find their life in keeping God's word. Thus, the manna or 'bread from heaven' (Exodus 16:4; Ps 78:24) signified something far more than physical food: it pointed to the true source of life - obedience to God's word. There is a profound connection between bread and word. In the gospel Jesus is 'the living bread that came down from heaven' (6:51), a bread that gives eternal life to those who eat it. As Jesus explains, the heavenly bread is his flesh. In John's gospel Jesus is also the Word of God (1:1); in turn, the Word became flesh (1:14) and gives life (5:24). Indeed, the Word is the source of life (1:4). In John's gospel both heavenly bread and word are revealed in the flesh of Christ; both bread and word give life. Under both aspects Jesus gives himself for one purpose: 'for the life of the world' (6:51). The self-giving of the Word is accomplished in the incarnation; the self-giving of the bread/flesh is accomplished upon the cross.



Beyond Blue  
P: 1300 22 4636

W: [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)



CatholicCare - Archdiocese of Sydney  
P: 13 18 19

W: [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org)



Call 1800 55 1800



Crisis Support. Suicide Prevention.

Lifeline  
P: 13 11 14

W: [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)



NATIONAL DOMESTIC FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE COUNSELLING SERVICE

1800RESPECT  
P: 1800 737 732

W: [www.1800respect.org.au](http://www.1800respect.org.au)

## Happy Birthday to Father Liem on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

On your birthday, we thank God for the gift of your vocation and your dedicated Ministry to St Martha's. Your wisdom, compassion, and unwavering faith have touched so many hearts in our parish. May you always feel the guiding presence of the Holy Spirit in your priestly journey and may God continue to bless and shower you with His abundant grace. Wishing you a wonderful year ahead!

Father Liem will be away from the parish between 10<sup>th</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> July. We wish him safe and happy travelling.

**Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press)** This Sunday we celebrate a second solemnity during this period of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. This day was once called Corpus Christi, which is Latin for "Body of Christ." In the revised Lectionary the name for this day is expanded to reflect more completely our Eucharistic theology. Today's Gospel is taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading is part of a discourse between Jesus and a crowd of Jews. The discourse comes shortly after the miracle of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and fishes. In John's Gospel, miracles such as this are identified as "signs" through which people come to believe that Jesus is the Son of God. These signs are followed by dialogue, or discourse that interprets and explains the miracle. In John's Gospel, Jesus' multiplication of the loaves is said to have occurred near Passover, thus linking it to the Exodus story and God's saving action toward the Israelites. Having seen Jesus multiply the loaves and fishes, the crowd pursues him, perhaps seeking more food but also looking for another sign. Jesus tells the crowd that he is the bread of life. He explains that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. It is in this context that Jesus repeats those words in today's Gospel and tells them again that he is the living bread that came down from heaven. Jesus' words are not well understood by the crowd; they argue that Jesus is not from heaven but born of Mary and Joseph. The crowd also has trouble understanding how Jesus could give them his flesh to eat. Jesus tells them that when they eat his flesh and drink his blood, they will remain forever connected to him. These are difficult words, but they are important because they seek to show us our intimate connection with Jesus. This is the mystery that is at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus' Body and Blood are truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ's Body in the world.

**Family Connection:** Our faith teaches us that when we gather to celebrate Mass, Jesus is present to us. The bread and wine truly become the Body and Blood of Christ. This is what we mean by the word transubstantiation: Jesus makes himself present to all who receive the Body and Blood of Christ. If there are children in your family who have already celebrated their First Holy Communion, invite them to share their memories of this special day. If there are family photos taken on this occasion, bring them out and share them together. Adults in the family may also share memories or photos that they have of their First Communion. Then read together today's Gospel, John 6:51-58. Reflect together on what Jesus means when he calls himself the "living bread." Recall that every time we receive the Eucharist, Jesus keeps the promise he made in today's Gospel—those who eat his flesh and drink his blood will remain forever connected to him. Perhaps family members can share what it means for them to receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Together thank God for this gift of Holy Communion. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm.

### Mass Intentions

<b>Recently Deceased:</b>	Father John Thomas Hayes (Fr John's uncle in QLD) Ron Weaver, Marion Li, Dilki Peiris, Hannah Theresa Teklic, Graham Burland, Sister Patricia Bell, Peter Tohme, Marion Issa, Madeleine O'Rourke, Pat (Ivy) Killalea, Peter Cranny, Ana Adaman, Anne Burton, Matthew Quan.
<b>Repose of The Soul:</b>	Fr Adrian Horgan, Fr Paul Ryan, Kevin Bouffler, Br Ray Dowding, Francesco & Sarina Campanale, Daniel Lucich, Stefano, Francesco & Maria Colagiuri, 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, Nejja 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, Pauline Gibson, Robert Rumore, Elize Castelino, Jim Bradbury, Julian & Mabel Doyle, Olga Chidiac, Joseph & Charbel Mannah.
<b>Anniversaries:</b>	Dalisay Bacho, Tony Khoury, Zmerod Chidiac, Terry McWilliams, Michael John Cusack, Stephen Patrick Cusack, Kevin Bouffler, Dennis O'Hara, Andrew Coote, Paul Duggan, Boulos Baini, Joseph Mannah, Dionisio Parulan, Michael Leahy, Rex Fernandes, Joseph Lam, Carmel Josephine Jack.
<b>Sick Intentions:</b>	Dan Deehan, Simon Alam, Patrick Connolly, Amy Scott, Dareth Flavell, Paul Woodbury, Baby Mia Valente, Geoff Sims, Cameron Stacy, Helen McAlister, Elliot Leahy, Norma Habib, Joe Everitt, Alf Buda, Ann Cincotta-Tangey, Mark Samaha, John Weitering, John Hay, Ajith Antony, 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.
<b>Special Intentions:</b>	Members of the Li and Deehan Families. Deceased friends, relatives & Benefactors of the Dominican Order & St Vincent de Paul Society.



# Tim Fischer Oration on Ethics in Public & Political Life

The Tim Fischer Oration 2026 is an opportunity to give thanks for what we have received. It calls forth young people to protect and promote the common good through ethical attitudes and actions in public and political life. Professor Mary Healy will deliver the third Tim Fischer Oration.

## DETAILS:

**Date:** Wednesday, 17 June 2026 at 6.00pm

**Venue:** Rosehill Gardens

**Cost:** \$50 per ticket

For more information, visit [tfo.org.au](http://tfo.org.au) or see church noticeboard.



## 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June

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

	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
<b>Special Ministers</b>	Peter McCluskey	Gian Surjadinata	Elias Family	Kynetha Torcato
	Marian McCluskey	Artha Surjadinata	Ivenna Siu	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Readers</b>	Maria Soo	Robert Smith	Elias Family	Andrew Chasle
	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Chelsea Valentin	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Celeste & Thomas S.	Ryan W.	Alysha N.	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	Jeff & Rolon C.	Dylan W.	Aidan M.	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
	Matthew Z.	Matthew C.	Elias Family	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Wardens</b>	Linda Praum	Abhoud Baladi	Trudie Rogers	Paulina Roncevic
<b>Acolytes</b>	Peter McCluskey	Anton Ravi	Roger Bonett	Joseph Samarasinghe



This winter, we're calling on our community to help support locals doing it tough. By donating to Vinnies, you'll help provide warmth, practical support, and hope to families in our area who need it most during the colder months.

Every contribution makes a real difference.

SCAN TO DONATE



St Vincent de Paul Society NSW great works