

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



'Anyone who does not accept this cross is not worthy of me' ... 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



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.**

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

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 a form in the Church Foyer which can be returned via any collection plate or directly to the parish office.

UPCOMING ALTAR SERVER TRAINING SESSIONS – Children who have received their First Holy Communion (approximately 8 year olds and over) are eligible to train for altar serving at St Martha's. The next round of training will be on 2 consecutive Thursdays 23rd July and 30th July at 3.30pm in the Church. The sign-up sheets are located in the church foyer. Parental consent and support is required so please take home and complete the consent form. Once trained, the children will be included on the weekend Mass roster so please nominate your preferred Mass time.



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.**



The next parish appeal will be the annual Holy Father's Appeal held across the weekend **4 & 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 XIV. Scan the QR or donate online at <https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give/holy-fathersappeal/>



Background on the Gospel Reading (Loyola Press) Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the instructions and consolations that we have heard Jesus offering to his disciples during the past few weeks. In this passage, Jesus summarizes both the costs of discipleship and its rewards. Once again our understanding of the Gospel is strengthened by considering the context in which it was written and the perspective of Matthew's audience. The conditions of discipleship outlined in Matthew's Gospel may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth—choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. Choosing life with Christ means that every relationship we have must be understood from a new perspective. For many in Matthew's community, this choice brought division to their

family. Matthew also outlines the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus' followers. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship, yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him. Today's Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love.



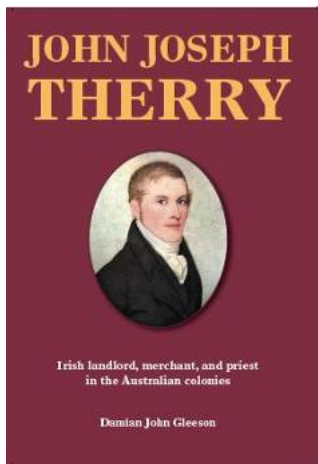
Family Connection: One can tell a lot about a family by the way they welcome others into their home. Despite parental efforts to elicit the best behaviour from their children, family efforts to entertain guests are sometimes difficult. Practicing a spirit of Christian hospitality within the family can be an occasion to reflect upon the importance of this virtue. A family spirit of hospitality is a sign of faith. When your family gathers, ask each person to consider the following questions about manners: What does it mean to be a good host? What does it mean to be a good guest? Invite each person to share their thoughts and experiences about being a guest or a host. When they have finished, read aloud today's Gospel, Matthew 10:37-42. Ask family

members to describe what Jesus says about hospitality extended to his disciples. (Those who receive Jesus' disciples also receive Jesus himself; hospitality to Jesus' disciples will be rewarded.) Then encourage family members to talk about what it means to be a good guest or a good host. You might also talk about ways in which your family's hospitality might be improved upon. Conclude in prayer together that your family grows to be one in which Christian hospitality is experienced by all. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm.

Understanding Scripture (Liturgia) - Receiving Christ

This gospel is the final portion of Jesus' 'Mission Sermon.' It began when Jesus 'summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits to drive them out and to cure every disease and every illness' (10:1). In this

Sunday's concluding section Jesus informs them that they must also 'take up [their] cross' (10:39). This stands to reason: those who would share in Jesus' power and authority must also share his suffering and death. As always, the way of the disciples must be the way of the Master. In a sermon addressed to those undertaking a mission (both in Jesus' day and in Matthew's time), it is appropriate to discuss the kind of reception missionaries might expect and also to encourage Christians to receive travelling missionaries. First, and most importantly, those who receive a Christian disciple/apostle are receiving Christ himself which, in turn, is the same as receiving God (see also Gal 4:14; John 13:20); after all, Jesus is himself an apostle of (i.e., one sent by) God (10:40). This is consistent with Jewish belief: 'a man's agent is like [the man] himself' (Mishna Berakot 5:5). Next come three scenarios of 'receiving' various people. The expression 'to receive' may refer either to welcoming someone hospitably or to accepting the message - or perhaps, both. To receive a prophet who speaks for Christ is to receive Christ himself. If a prophet is to be rewarded for faithful service, then the one who receives the prophet will receive the same reward that is in store for the prophet! So, too, in the cases of receiving a righteous person and a 'little one.' The designation 'little one' is not meant literally, i.e., children. Scholarly opinion, however, is divided on its precise meaning; it may be Matthew's term for the apostles or disciples, for Christians in general, or for the poor members of the community. In each of the three cases described, receiving a person merits a reward for it is tantamount to receiving Christ. In this sense the disciple, the prophet, the righteous person, the little are all equal: each is Christ.



New Biography challenges century-long clerical interpretations of Irish Australian pioneer

By Damian John Gleeson, PhD

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Comprehensive indexing and referencing

John Joseph Therry: Irish landlord, merchant and priest in the Australian colonies offers the most comprehensive assessment to date of Fr Therry's religious, commercial, and personal affairs. New research drawing on thousands of previously unpublished Irish and Australian manuscripts reveals that **Fr John Joseph Therry** — long celebrated as the saintly founder of Australian Catholicism — accumulated a vast property portfolio and regularly engaged in unethical commercial dealings in the penal colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land. Written by award winning historian Dr Damian John Gleeson, this first lay-authored biography of Therry overturns more than a century of traditional inaccurate hero-style narratives. Orders: colonialpressorders@gmail.com

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased:	Justin Mahoro, Father John Thomas Hayes, Ron Weaver, Marion Li, Dilki Peiris, Hannah Theresa Teklic, Graham Burland.
Repose 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:	Elie Sahyoun, Lachlan Graves, Antonio Truscello, Frank Hickey, Charlie Isaac, Margaret Hetheron, 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. Forgotten souls in purgatory.

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
	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM

Readers	Helen Blefari	Daniel Martins	Anne Marrins	Andrew Chasle
	Maria Soo	Volunteer Needed	Steven Doumit	Volunteer Needed
	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
Altar Servers	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
	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
Wardens	Edith Pun	Peter Yamin	Trudie Rogers	Theresa Kuk
	5PM	8AM	10AM	6PM
Acolytes	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



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