



St Matthew's Catholic Parish

(Established 1831)

12 Tebbutt Street, Windsor, NSW 2756

Tel: (02) 4577 3073 or 1300 504 991 Fax: (02) 4577 2124



Our Parish Mission Statement:

We believe and live out the mission of Jesus Christ as a community of worship and faith shared in service.

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: *Fr Robert William*
Sacramental Coordinator: *Ms Cita Adams*
Parish Secretary: *Ms Judy Rigg*
Parish email: stmcc@tpg.com.au
www.stmatthewswindsor.org.au
Office hours - 9.30am - 4.30pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday :

Schools:

St Matthew's Primary Phone: 4560 2300
Principal: Mr Tim Vane-Tempest
Chisholm Catholic Primary Phone: 4573 3200
Principal: Mr Michael Mifsud
Bede Polding College Phone: 4560 2900
Principal: Mr Mark Compton

Masses:

Weekend:

Sat. Vigil 6.00pm
Sun. 7.30am, 9.00am and 5.00pm

Weekday:

Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am

Reconciliation:

Saturday 9.30am

Adoration

Tuesday and Thursday 8.30am

Baptisms:

1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays monthly

Marriages:

By appointment

Second Sunday of Advent Year C *5th December, 2021*



I recently read Wild; from Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail by Cheryl Strayed. Yes, the surname is peculiar – she took it on herself, after a particularly unstable part of her life. She had messed up. At the time she set out to walk part of the PC Trail, a wilderness walk that stretches through the mountains of the West Coast of North America, she had no experience of backpacking. With no training, carrying a pack of over 50 pounds and wearing a pair of boots a size too small, and which would cost her 6 toenails, she walked over 1100 miles, yes, miles not kms, alone. The positive thing to say about Strayed is that she stuck to this track, largely. Occasionally she sensibly altered her plans. Yet, no matter how wonderful the scenery, nor glorious the weather, at some point in each and every day, the walk became a slog where, tempted to give up, it took every effort to put one foot in front of another and then again. Her personal, and even spiritual, transformation was intensely entwined with learning the sheer physical disciplines of survival: filtering water, watching out for snakes and bears, etc. Through these small daily practices she not only survived but discovered her own voice.

If you are going to hear a voice crying in the wilderness, you have to go out into the wilderness and remain there. To encounter our personal wilderness, most of us do not have to do anything as extreme as Strayed. Our marriages, our relationships, our work, our study, our health can lead us to confront our own personal liabilities, where our hardest wilderness is found. The basic requirement to have the wilderness yield its wisdom to us is to be faithful to it as a wilderness. In our society we have so many opportunities to mask the pain: drugs, drink, mindless TV or internet surfing – the list goes on. While these may seem necessary indulgences, ultimately they will undermine our quest. We will not get to see the valleys filled in, the mountains laid low, nor the salvation of God in our midst, if we do not daily, and with difficulty, allow ourselves to be humbled in the wilderness.

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD.

Imagine how the words of the prophet Isaiah would apply to your life: If Jesus came to you offering to help you- what parts of your life would you feel need straightening out? what makes you go into a 'valley' – to feel despondent or depressed? what challenges seem like a mountain in your way? what are the rough places of your spirit that need to be gentled? As you face these aspects of yourself, know that Jesus wants to bring his grace here more than you could possibly want yourself.

Sr K. Harris OSB prayasyoucan.com.au

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE CHURCH IF YOU:

- ⇒ ARE EXPERIENCING COLD OR FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS
- ⇒ HAVE A TEMPERATURE
- ⇒ HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANYONE THAT IS EITHER A SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19
- ⇒ FACE MASKS ARE MANDATORY

**PLEASE TAKE WITH YOU OR
THROW OUT. DO NOT RETURN TO
THE BACK OF THE CHURCH**

ADVENT RESPONSE: Come, Lord Jesus

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

FIRST READING: Baruch 5 : 1-9

Jerusalem—God will show your splendour.

RESPONSE: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1 : 3-6, 8-11

Show yourselves sinless and without blame in the day of Christ.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. . Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 3 : 1-6

All people shall see the salvation of God.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Deceased:

Please pray for the recently deceased Lachlan McPherson, Herbert Schuster, Lorry Vella, Des Donoghue, Alisia Malimban, Eddie Malimban, Christine Conway, (Anniversaries of George Seguna and Daniel Micallef) as well as Bryan and Joan Mullins, Jason Vella, Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana family.

Sick:

Please pray for Jessica Moloney and Sid Kelly.

A MESSAGE FROM CARITAS AUSTRALIA

As part of our commitment to connecting the local Catholic community to the mission of Caritas Australia, we are seeking a Caritas Ambassador within each parish. This volunteer will be part of a network of contacts across the country and be supported to promote the work of Caritas Australia, particularly during Project Compassion in Lent. It is our hope that a Caritas Ambassador will make it easier to organise and run Project Compassion within your parish each year. This role will be a great opportunity for anyone who is keen to be involved in the life of the parish and is flexible; how much time or energy the Ambassador is able to give is very much up to them. To nominate as an Ambassador for your community, please email your details to NSWACTAmbassadors@caritas.org.au



APPEAL

Caritas are also holding their Global Gifts Christmas card Appeal. Through their Global Gifts website, you can purchase Christmas cards for your family and friends with the proceeds going towards supporting the world's most vulnerable. You can choose the gift of education, food or water. All gifts are real items they use to assist people in their fight against poverty and injustice. For more details, call 1800 024 413 or visit their website: www.globalgifts.org.au

2022 COLUMBAN CALENDARS

We again have calendars for sale. Only \$10– each. They make a perfect gift for that unexpected guest, as a stocking filler or just because they are a very useful item. Buy one today before they are sold out as we only have limited stock.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Last weekend we held the Annual Bishops Christmas Appeal. No mother or child should be homeless and without support at Christmas. CatholicCare's Houses to Homes provides hope for vulnerable women and children facing abuse and hardship. Our Parish raised approximately \$1420– which will help change the lives of homeless young women, who like Mary, seek a safe haven to raise their newborn child. If you were unable to donate last weekend, there are still envelopes available at the back of the Church that can be placed in one of the collection boxes. Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.





2021 CHRISTMAS MASSES

FRIDAY, 24TH DECEMBER: (Christmas Vigil)

6.30pm Open Air Family Mass
(in St Matthew's School Grounds)
Please bring your own chair/rug)

8.30pm Mass (Church)

SATURDAY, 25TH DECEMBER: (Christmas)

Midnight Mass (Church)

7.30am Mass (Church)

9.00am Mass (Church)



PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE **NO** EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

RECONCILIATION

First Rite



Saturday, 18th December: 9.30am

Tuesday, 21st December: 9.30am

Wednesday, 22nd December: 9.30am

Thursday, 23rd December: 9.30am

Friday, 24th December: 9.30am

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

Friday, 3rd December marks the International Day of People with Disability and provides an opportunity to celebrate the lives, contributions and achievements of the 4.4 million Australians with disability. The day aims to raise awareness and take steps towards a more inclusive and accessible community. Please pray for people with disabilities in our communities. May their voices be heard, their experiences honoured and their gifts flourish.

**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA INVITE PARISHIONERS TO A SPECIAL INTERFAITH CHRISTMAS REMEMBRANCE SERVICE ON SUNDAY, 12TH DECEMBER AT 7.30PM IN ST MARYS CATHEDRAL.
FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE SEE THE FLYER AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.**

ROSTERS 11TH/12TH DECEMBER, 2021			THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C	
Church Cleaning: A. Tabone.			Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.	
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	K. Apap	J. Wein	M. Grosvenor	M. Claravall
Reader	J. Newland	C. Attard	T. Victorino	S. Naylor
Acolyte/Adult Server	T. Jordan		F. Watkins	G. Claravall
Altar Servers		S. Tierney	E. El Hindy	C. Naylor
			A. El Hindy	

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COVID SAFETY REMINDERS AND HOUSEKEEPING
PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU READ

- ◆ Please maintain social distancing at all times in and around the Church.
- ◆ As restrictions are one person per 2 square metres, we are only allowed **140 people** in the Church at one time.
- ◆ Bookings are no longer required for weekend Masses.
- ◆ **Please check in with the QR code for all Masses.**
- ◆ *Only use the sign in sheet if you are unable to use the QR code for check in.*
- ◆ While sitting in the pews, please ensure you are 1.5 metres from the person in front, behind and next to you. (You are only exempt if you are from the same household)
- ◆ **FACE MASKS ARE STILL MANDATORY.**
- ◆ **CONGREGATIONAL SINGING IS NOT PERMITTED.**
- ◆ Please form one line when receiving Holy Communion and keep 1.5 metres from the person in front and behind you.
- ◆ Parishioners sitting at the right of the Church are to receive communion on the right and those sitting on the left are to receive on the left. That way social distancing is easier to maintain.
- ◆ Please take your bulletin with you and dispose of the seat wipes in the bin available at the back of the Church.
- ◆ Please leave the Church immediately after Mass. You are welcome to chat outside the Church on the driveway or street but please still maintain social distancing.
- ◆ Live streaming of the 9am Mass will continue for parishioners who are especially vulnerable or who would still prefer to attend Mass online.
- ◆ We would like to thank everyone for their patience and help in trying to keep our Parish and community safe.



The Parish Team.

Make A Straight Path For The Lord.

Color the shapes that contain dots purple. Fill the other shapes with different colors.

