



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 and Tamil Chaplain:

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

Third Sunday of Advent Year C

12th December, 2021

'And just what were you expecting?'

Expectations play a significant role in the emotional landscape of our lives. They can be a force in determining what we do. And delight or disappointment can follow from whether they are fulfilled or not.

Central to John the Baptist's call to repentance is a re-calibration of the people's expectation regarding salvation. In the text immediately preceding this Sunday's Gospel he has been aggressively attacking the presumptuous expectation of the people that their descent from Abraham would be the source of salvation for those who could claim such. Shock and disappointment must have reverberated through his hearers and we hear their response three times in this Sunday's Gospel – "What must we do?"

His responses would have challenged them yet again. Having come out into the wilderness to hear this firebrand preacher they must have expected a vigorous program of ascetic endeavour and prayer. They probably shook their heads and wondered if they had heard him right when he told them, essentially, to be generous and just in the ordinary course of their lives. No fasting, no praying and what, no deprivation! 'Give from your excess when there is a person in need.' 'Even if your job is a despised one like tax-collecting or soldiering for the occupying force, do it justly and be content with the right income.' No wonder the people thought John might be the Christ – these views were so radical.

Having heard John's challenges to the people, it is a good idea this Advent to hear and apply them to ourselves. We need to ask some serious questions: just what do we expect from our faith and what do we think we have to do to live out our faith? Applying John's criteria to our lives might not be what we expected but fulfilling them may well challenge us more than we could know.



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**

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD.

The people coming to John had a feeling of expectancy and John by his preaching, challenges them to align their expectation with God's desire for them.

As you rest in God's love, ask yourself what are the expectations you place on yourself? In relation to God? In relation to your family and friends.

Then ask yourself what expectations you believe God has on you? On your relationships with family and friends? With regards to your work? Is there a discrepancy between your expectations and God's?

Sr K. Harris OSB prayasyoucan.com.au

ADVENT RESPONSE: Come, Lord Jesus

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3: 14 - 18

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

RESPONSE: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4: 4 - 7

The Lord is near.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Luke 3 : 10-18

What, then, must we do?

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Deceased:

Please pray for the recently deceased Lachlan McPherson, Lorry Vella as well as Joseph Azzopardi, George Seguna, Daniel Micallef, Chris, John & Maryanne Sultana family.

Sick:

Please pray for Jessica Moloney and Sid Kelly.

LEGION OF MARY WINDSOR PRAESIDIUM-OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

We are resuming to pray the rosary every Monday night at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. All parishioners, LOM members and their families are invited to join us in prayers.

"For where there are two or three gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" – Matthew 18:20

For enquiries, please contact: Terry Victorino – 0407296399 or Fely Watkins – 0481373579

CATECHIST CONGRATULATIONS

The annual CCD Diocesan Mass was held on Friday 26th of November in Marayong and a few of our Catechists received a special mention for their length of service. We would like to congratulate Carmen Camilleri on her 30 years of service as an SRE. Also Annie Cutajar and Dolores Vella received Papal blessings for their 20 years of service spreading the Word of God to state school children. Congratulations ladies and thank you for your amazing dedication.



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.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

We have had 7 parishioners nominate as Council members for the 2021-2023 term. They are:

Kalie Apap,

Nadine Russell,

LeRoy Onuoha,

Rod Hair,

Thi Bich Tran Nguyen,

Tim Camille and

Tony McMahon.

As Fr Robert will be away for the meeting in February next year, the first meeting of the new Parish Council will be at 7.30pm on Thursday, 3rd March 2022. Following this meeting, the members will be commissioned during the 9am Mass on Sunday 6th March 2022.



THANK YOU

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the retiring Council members. Thank you for your support of the Parish which was made difficult during the restrictions but your contributions have been wonderful over the past years. We hope you well in your future endeavours.



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

CHRISTMAS MASSES VOLUNTEERS - WE NEED YOU

For Masses on Christmas Eve and Day, we are in need of volunteers for all of the different ministries. Please consider helping during one (or more) of the Masses. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated. If you are willing to volunteer, please place your name on the sheet at the back of the Church. Thank you.



Rouse Hill Parish Christmas Novena Dawn Masses

This Christmas, Our Lady of the Angels Parish, Rouse Hill will be celebrating a Novena of Dawn Masses leading up to Christmas. Commencing on 16th December, they will be celebrated at 5am. Bookings are NOT required. For details, please contact the parish on rousehill@parracatholic.org or (02) 8883 4063.

ROSTERS 18TH/19TH DECEMBER, 2021		FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C		
Church Cleaning: K. Moffitt and C. Conolly.		Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.		
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	M. Grosvenor	C. Attard	C. Conolly	M. Claravall
Reader	A. Sciberras	S. Mackenzie	L. Buchanan	T. Victorino
Acolyte/Adult Server		J. Coco	T. McMahon	F. Watkins
Altar Servers	E. Rijke		M Portelli	E. Sevilla

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RE: COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) UPDATE FROM THE DIOCESE 8/12/21

The NSW Government has announced some changes to the reopening roadmap for the COVID-19 restrictions. Based on the announcement, the restrictions will ease further when NSW reaches 95% double vaccination or on 15 December 2021, whichever comes first. For places of worship the following will apply from when the state hits the milestone:

Density Limits

There will no longer be any square meter rules applicable for Parishes. This includes the Church and other buildings within the Parish.

Weddings and Funerals

Proof of vaccination will no longer be mandatory. All will be able to attend regardless of vaccination status.

Choir and Singing

Singing will be permitted for everyone in attendance.

Social Events

Parish social events can resume with no person limit.

Masks

Masks will no longer be mandatory at places of worship. However, this is still strongly encouraged in venues where social distancing is not possible.

COVID-19 Safe Check-in and Record Keeping

Check in using the NSW QR Code and record keeping of all attendees are still required for places of worship.

COVID-19 Safety Plans

COVID-19 Safety Plans will no longer be mandatory.



Christmas Joy

V	H	Z	L	G	N	E	R	T	T	R	E	E	W	X
K	Y	P	D	M	M	R	Y	H	R	L	B	E	W	T
Q	A	N	S	H	L	K	I	H	U	S	L	B	K	O
I	I	W	T	N	P	M	X	B	A	C	N	W	B	Y
M	C	M	O	S	D	E	F	C	R	O	W	D	U	M
R	V	M	N	L	H	E	G	Y	U	G	V	F	J	G
O	S	O	E	S	G	S	F	I	W	V	O	O	J	Z
O	H	D	S	B	R	T	S	D	X	D	I	O	M	S
T	A	A	O	E	J	T	P	Z	E	Z	H	D	M	V
I	R	P	P	E	R	L	F	Z	Q	Z	O	B	T	O
C	E	I	N	I	C	I	I	E	Y	O	O	I	D	E
R	V	O	H	W	B	T	R	B	R	K	U	T	O	I
W	N	S	Q	S	P	I	X	B	Z	R	A	W	K	K
W	L	D	P	A	F	N	Y	M	F	C	T	K	D	O
I	S	R	B	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	B	R	M

TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS:

FIRE

ROOT

VIPERS

CROWD

SHARE

NONE

TREE

STONES

TWO

FOOD

SHIRTS

FRUIT

CHILDREN

BAPTIZED

BROOD

