



# 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](mailto:stmcc@tpg.com.au)

[www.stmatthewswindsor.org.au](http://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:

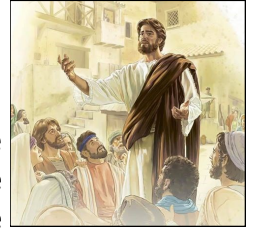
1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays monthly

##### Marriages:

By appointment

### Third Sunday of Lent Year C

20th March, 2022



When Jesus is asked about the deaths of some Galileans and some residents of Jerusalem, he seizes the opportunity to remind his audience that their obsession with the 'sin' of the victims is misplaced. He challenges all who are listening that unless they repent, they will all perish in a similar fashion. This would have been very confronting to those in the audience who were ingrained in the thinking that 'bad things only happen to bad people'. The purity codes of the day stated that if one maintained purity of action – obeying the Law and respecting the prohibitions on certain actions – then one was fulfilling one's duty and maintaining right relationship with God. Jesus chastises the people for this attitude and tells them that they all must 'repent'. For 1st Century Jews, the word 'repent' had a greater depth of meaning than our current understanding. Rather than simply 'being sorry', to repent meant to completely turn life around – both individually and as a society. His injunction to repent would be seen as a challenge to question motives and actions and set a new direction.

To follow this up, Jesus tells his audience a parable about a fig tree that has not borne fruit after three years. There are many interpretations of this parable and it is often interpreted in isolation from the gospel passage that immediately precedes it. Given the challenge to 'repent' that is given so strongly, we can see the parable as an example to the listeners that their time for repenting is running out. The one year reprieve for the fig tree is an indication to the listeners that their change of heart and change of spirit had better take shape in the very near future.

#### LIVING THE GOSPEL

Today's gospel taps in to the vexing question: 'Why do bad things happen to good people?' The question implies that God is punishing good people. Surprisingly, this attitude continues and one only has to watch news coverage of a tragedy to hear someone ask, 'How could God let this happen?' The very question suggests a belief in a God who interferes in our lives and manipulates events. Jesus suggests that tragic events are not punishment from God, but the accidental, deliberate or natural event does provide a reminder to turn our lives around and live lives that matter.

Greg Sunter [liturgyhelp.com](http://liturgyhelp.com)

#### 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 RECOMMENDED

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** My eyes are always on the Lord, for He rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

**FIRST READING:** Exodus 3 : 1-8, 13-15

*This is what you must say to the children of Israel, I Am has sent me to you.*

**RESPONSE:** The Lord is kind and merciful.

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 10 : 1-6, 10-12

*All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.*

**ACCLAMATION:** Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**GOSPEL:** Luke 13 : 1-9

*Unless you repent, you will all perish as they did.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow finds a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.



**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**



**Deceased:**

Please pray for the deceased Antonio De Silva, George Seguna, Antonia Ripa, Nicola Ripa, John Mifsud, Bonnie Farrugia, Jesse Ripa, Emanuel, Frank and Maryanne Attard, Anna and Paul Micallef, Paul Dimech, Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut, Chris, John, Maryanne Sultana and family.

**Sick:** Please pray for Jessica Moloney and Sid Kelly.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD IN THE CHURCH AT 7PM EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT.  
ALL PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME.**

**BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL**

Next weekend, we will be holding the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal for Catholic Care's Community Drop-In Centres. Catholic Care is working hard to reach our neighbours in need and to reduce social isolation and loneliness throughout our community. Will you be a Good Samaritan and help Catholic Care reach our vulnerable neighbours, so they have safe, welcoming places to connect with others and access support? Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal by taking an envelope and returning it next weekend. Donations can also be made at [yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal](http://yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal) or by scanning the QR code on the poster at the back of the Church. Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support.



**PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY**

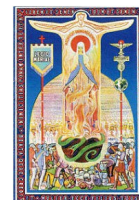
Janice 44, is a proud Wagilak woman, a traditional dancer, who tells stories through movements handed down over generations. With your support, Janice and the Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation support the community to generate income and employment, while keeping culture alive. Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or call 1800 024 413. Please note that donation envelopes can be placed in one of the collection boxes at the back of the Church.



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

## LEGION OF MARY

All Active and Auxiliary Members are invited to the Annual ACIES Ceremony in St John Vianney's Parish, 17 Cameron Street Doonside, on Saturday 26th March 2022. It will start at 2pm with opening Prayers and Holy Rosary, followed by the ACIES Ceremony and then closing Benediction. Light refreshments will be offered afterwards so please bring some food and drinks to share. For enquiries please call: Fely 0481 373 579 or Tony 0488 110 111.



## SACRISTY CLEANERS URGENTLY NEEDED

We are in desperate need of more sacristy cleaners. Some duties are to wash and rinse the chalice, clean the Sacristy, dust the Sanctuary and altar. A list of duties is available in the Sacristy. It would only take about an hour of your time. Please consider helping as we will be down to only two groups in April. For more information please contact the Parish Office.

## SCAM ALERT REMINDER

Unfortunately, incidences of phishing, hacking and other scams (i.e. text messages, calls from someone pretending to be from authorities etc.) have increased since the start of the pandemic, especially where there is an expectation of communicating electronically rather than through face-to-face interactions. This is a reminder for you to be more vigilant. If you receive an email or any type of electronic communication from your colleagues or your Parish Priest that looks suspicious, please call them to confirm that the email, text message or electronic communication you received is from them. Also, if you are going to make a donation for flood victims, please ensure it is to a reputable and known charity.



## BIBLICAL STUDIES AT ST FINBAR—The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus according to Luke

Sr Dr Margaret Ghosn will be looking at the Gospel of Luke's interpretation of Jesus' suffering and death (together known as his "passion" at St Finbar Catholic Parish, 52 Levy Street, Glenbrook on Tuesday, 22nd March starting at 7pm. Please RSVP to [secretary@stfinbars.org](mailto:secretary@stfinbars.org) to register your attendance.

## RETREATS

### Mt Schoenstatt 24 Hours for the Lord:

Come and spend time in 24 hours of Adoration before Our Lord and His Mother at the Mt Schoenstatt Shrine and Retreat Centre, Mulgoa. It begins Friday 25th March at 6pm with Holy Mass and a BBQ meal, concluding Saturday 26th March at 5pm with Mass. Reconciliation will be available on Friday from 7.15pm to 10pm and Saturday 4pm to 4.45pm. For more information, contact (02) 4773 8338 or visit their Facebook page.



### Divine Retreat Centre One Day Pilgrimage Retreat:

The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is hosting a one-day pilgrimage from 9am to 4pm on Sunday 27th March and will feature praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Mass and ministry for children and teenagers. All retreats are held with NSW COVID-Safe compliance and masks are mandatory. Bookings are required and limited numbers are available. Please call (02) 4372 1598 or email [drcrettreatrego@gmail.com](mailto:drcrettreatrego@gmail.com) to confirm attendance. Visit <https://divineretreatcentre.org> for more info.

**THE VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING BILL WILL SOON BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO BE VOTED ON. THE RIGHT TO LIFE ASSOCIATION ARE CURRENTLY TRYING TO OBTAIN AS MANY SIGNATURES AS POSSIBLE TO ABOLOSH THE BILL. IF YOU WISH TO SIGN THEIR E-PETITION TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT, PLEASE USE THE QR CODE ON THE POSTER AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.**

ROSTERS 26TH/27TH MARCH 2022		4TH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C		
Church Cleaning: J. Dimech.		Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.		
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	T. Ripa	J. Wein	C. Conolly	M. Claravall
Reader	A. Dimech	C. Attard	F. Watkins	S. Naylor
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech		T. Victorino	
Altar Servers	E. Rijke	S. Tierney	E. El Hindy	C. Adam
			A. El Hindy	

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS ACROSS THE DIOCESE ARE ENROLLING NOW!**

Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Parramatta are enrolling now for 2023. To learn more please contact Bede Polding College, Chisholm Primary, St Matthew's Primary or visit the Diocesan website [www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/find-a-school](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au/our-schools/find-a-school).

**READY TO GO—BE PREPARED FOR NATURAL DISASTERS**

Bligh Park Community Services are currently offering a free service, called "Ready to Go", to all residents in the Hawkesbury, Blue Mountains & Lithgow local government areas. The 'Ready to Go' project assists with preparedness and aids resilience in the community by providing assistance to residents in protecting their important personal information, so they can be ready to go when necessary. All vital documents eg (license, passport, birth certificates, contracts, mortgage agreements, insurance paperwork etc) are encouraged to be brought along to the appointment with one of our project team members. Our project team members will scan the documents onto a free USB, which will be password protected for added security. Appointments can be arranged at Bligh Park Community Services. We can also arrange to meet with clients at a location suitable for them. For more information go to <https://readytogo.org.au> call 0458 723 141 or email [melissa@blighpark.org.au](mailto:melissa@blighpark.org.au)



**PRAYER FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE IN UKRAINE**

God of peace and justice,  
who change the hardened heart  
and break the power of violence,  
we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.

Protect them in this time of peril;  
let them know not death but life,  
not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all;  
we are brothers and sisters.

Give us the strength  
to live that truth in love,  
choosing peace not war.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



*Parable of the Fig Tree*

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

TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS:

- |       |           |
|-------|-----------|
| YEARS | PLANTED   |
| THREE | FERTILIZE |
| FIND  | VINEYARD  |
| USE   | PARABLE   |
| DIG   | DOWN      |
| SOIL  | MAN       |
| LEAVE | LOOK      |
| ALONE | TREE      |
| FRUIT | TOLD      |
| FIG   | CUT       |

