



# 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

## *Fourth Sunday of Lent Year C*

*27th March, 2022*



The first words Jesus utters in the Gospel of John is the question, 'What do you want?'

The question could well be asked of the elder son. Just what did he want? What he thinks he wants, he has made himself incapable of receiving. Joy, love, happiness, celebration are all states of mind and heart that entail going out of oneself. But this man is so totally wrapped up in himself, he has made of himself a slave – and a low one at that – one whose every move is done with calculation. He thinks that love will be earned by good behaviour, not realising that good behaviour is rather a fruit of love.

This parable was directed at the religious leaders who put great store by following the law in order to earn God's favour. And it is directed to us who profess ourselves as Christians. If we want to earn God's favour by our good behaviour, we have lost the plot. We are treating love and goodness as mercantile quantities, which such things of the heart are not. Our good behaviour comes because we have been favoured by God. Indeed, as the favoured ones of God, we should ask, what do we want? If the answer is joy, happiness, love – then they have been given us but we need to straighten the self-serving twist in our own hearts to become capable of recognising and receiving them. The primary means we have to do this is by being generous and forgiving – especially of those brothers and sisters who have wronged us. Then we will become Godlike, good and loving

## **REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD**

In the presence of your God, pray the words of the Our Father, 'forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.' Slowly and gently, recall those who have offended you, those towards whom you hold resentment. Hold them out to the Father and ask him to take the pain that they have caused you and show you how you are to deal with it.

Sr Kym Harris OSB [www.prayasoucan.com.au](http://www.prayasoucan.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 RECOMMENDED

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Rejoice Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

**FIRST READING:** Joshua 5 : 9-12  
*The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.*

**RESPONSE:** Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**SECOND READING:** 2 Corinthians 5 : 17-21  
*God reconciled us to himself through Christ.*

**ACCLAMATION:** Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my father and tell him; Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**GOSPEL:** Luke 15 : 1-3, 11-32 : 1-9  
*Your brother here was dead and has come to life.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.



#### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



##### Deceased:

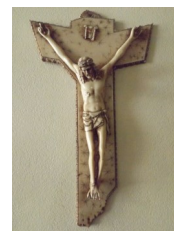
Please pray for the deceased Antonio De Silva, John Mifsud, Chris, John, Maryanne Sultana and family.

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

*If you know of someone who would like to have their name included in the sick of the Parish, please contact the Parish Office. Please note that if you are placing someone else's name on the list, you do need to obtain their permission first.*

#### FRIDAY NIGHTS IN THE CHURCH

The Rosary will be said every Friday night commencing at 6.30pm. Following the Rosary, Stations of the Cross will be held at 7pm and then after that, Exposition will be held at approximately 7.45pm for about half an hour. All parishioners are most welcome to attend. No bookings are required, you can just turn up for all or part of the evening. This will only take place until Holy Week.



#### BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL

This 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. Extra envelopes can be found at the back of the Church. Thank you for your heartfelt prayers and support. 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.



#### PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY

From her life as a child soldier in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rosalie is now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants seeking to readjust to civilian life.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help women like Rosalie to succeed in the future, providing hope For All Future Generations. 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 or by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.



### 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 half 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.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION TALK

The next Baptismal Preparation Talk will be held this Thursday, 31st March at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Baptisms are held on the first, second and third Sundays of each month at 11am. Bookings for the Baptism are made at the talk. Bookings are also required for the talk and can be made by contacting the Parish Office 4577 3073.



### ACT OF CONSECRATION OF UKRAINE AND RUSSIA

The Australian Catholic bishops are united in support of Pope Francis' consecration of Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary which took place last Friday, 25th March. Bishop Vincent celebrated Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, joining with the Holy Father in consecration of Ukraine and Russia, and offered prayers for peace in Ukraine. The ACBC are encouraging people to check the Parramatta Diocese website to view the actual prayer for consecration.

### MENTORING COUPLES TO BE MARRIED

Following the success of the Masterclass on Mentoring Engaged couples for Marriage, we are offering an additional Zoom for those who missed out on recent face-to-face training. Are you a married couple looking to accompany Engaged couples preparing for Marriage using the SmartLoving Online program? This time limited commitment of 4-9 weeks can be undertaken in your own home. To learn more and register for the Zoom Session on Saturday 9th April at 10am, please call Marisa on (02) 8838 3460 or email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org).



### CATHOLIC OUTLOOK LENT/EASTER EDITION OUT NOW!

Catholic Outlook Easter edition is out now and free to all parishioners. It features a range of articles on choosing your next step in life as well as how the faithful across the Diocese celebrate Holy Week. Feel free to take a copy home with you after Mass.

### MISSION OPPORTUNITY OVERSEAS—PALMS AUSTRALIA

Getting involved in people centred Human Development as an invited guest means humbly putting your person and your skills at the disposal of your trusted hosts. You will be a stranger in the place and for six months a Pilgrim learning the wisdom of local ways. Palms Australia has 60 years of experience preparing and assisting Australians to learn and pass on their skills in another culture. Is one of our assignments your opportunity to Reach Beyond? Find Out More: Phone: 0422 742 567.



**PLEASE TAKE WITH YOU OR THROW OUT.**

**DO NOT RETURN TO THE BACK OF THE CHURCH OR LEAVE ON THE SEAT.  
THANK YOU.**

ROSTERS 2ND/3RD APRIL 2022			5TH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C	
Church Cleaning: M. Quattromani and J. Mooney.			Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.	
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	J. Newland	J. O'Neill	I. Willingham	S. Naylor
Reader	J. Rapa	G. O'Neill	T. Victorino	M. Claravall
Acolyte/Adult Server		J. Coco	F. Watkins	G. Claravall
Altar Servers	I. Spiteri		C. Adam	C. Naylor
	D. Spiteri		J. Biviano	



## 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).

## 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.



Australian Catholic  
Bishops Conference

## DONATE TO CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S UKRAINE APPEAL

Caritas Australia's long-standing partner, Caritas Ukraine, is on the ground providing shelter, food, clean water, medicine and psychological support. Donate now to help the people of Ukraine. Donate today at 1800 024 413 or [www.caritas.org.au/ukraine](http://www.caritas.org.au/ukraine) Keep up to date on how Caritas agencies are responding to this crisis by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/ukraine-news](http://www.caritas.org.au/ukraine-news)



## HAVE YOU THOUGHT? THE PRODIGAL

Because the only context in which most people ever hear the word prodigal is in relation to this parable, there is a common misunderstanding of the word. Because the parable is also referred to as the parable of the lost son, many people think prodigal means lost. However, to be prodigal means to be wastefully extravagant. When the son took his father's money he adopted a prodigal lifestyle. However, the irony of the story that is often lost is that the father too was prodigal in the extravagant welcome he gave. The father's extravagance echoes God's extravagant and abundant grace and love.

## Parable of the Lost Son

Can you help the prodigal son find his way back to his father?

