



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 next week - 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:

Next Weekend:

Sat. Vigil 6.00pm

Sun. 7.30am, 9.00am and 5.00pm

Next Week:

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 Easter

8th May, 2022

(Mother's Day)



Shepherds in the first century did not have a particularly good reputation. Whilst the task itself was a responsible one, it was usually undertaken by hired help – usually young men or even boys. Being hired help, they had little allegiance to the flock and were generally regarded as basically untrustworthy and often accused of illicitly selling off the sheep's milk and even the occasional lamb. They lived for months at a time out in the hills with the sheep; often risking their lives in defense of their flock, yet still regarded with suspicion. Shepherds were held in such low regard that they could not appear in court as a witness. Yet, despite this grim picture of shepherds, Jesus described himself as the Good Shepherd. With that one word, he acknowledged the reputation of shepherds but utterly dismissed it by describing himself as a shepherd – but a good shepherd. He chose to describe himself as the worst of all occupations but raised the status to unimpeachable heights.

In describing himself as the good shepherd, Jesus joined a distinguished list of biblical shepherds: Abraham, his son Isaac, and grandson Jacob were all shepherds; Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, when God appeared to him in the burning bush and revealed God's name; and the great King, David, began life as a humble shepherd-boy. So, despite the poor reputation of shepherds in Jewish society, some of the greatest leaders of the Jews began life as shepherds.

Today's gospel passage follows the famous 'good shepherd' passage in the gospel of John and continues on the image. The passage portrays Jesus as 'claiming' his flock; guaranteeing them not only safety but also eternal life. This oath of loyalty and commitment is all the stronger and more remarkable in light of Jesus' rehabilitation of the status of shepherds.

Greg Sunter liturgyhelp.com

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD

The relationship God has with each one of us is unique. Consider the times and ways in which God speaks to you in your life. If you had to give a name to the differing tones you have heard, what would they be? As you consider the differing ways God's speaks to you, can you recognise the 'voice' God has for you?

Sr Kym Harris OSB www.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 RECOMMENDED

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the Word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acta 13: 14, 43 - 52

We are now turning to the gentiles

RESPONSE: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

SECOND READING: Apocalypse 7: 9, 14 - 17

The lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 10: 27 - 30

I give my sheep eternal life

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly dies for his flock, alleluia!



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased:

Please pray for the recently deceased Barry Edwards, Rose Bugeja, Paul Tanti, Ione Mackie, Carmelo Galea, (Anniversaries of Maria Galea, Agepito Perez, Jason Vella, Josephine and Michael Dimech, Ruth Smith and Robert Nault) as well as Wendy Williams, Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut, Chris, John, Maryanne Sultana and family.

Sick: Please pray for Jessie Moloney and Sid Kelly.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

First Holy Communion

Over the next two weekends, the children who have been preparing for their First Holy Communion will receive the Sacrament during special Masses. We ask that parishioners keep these children and their families in your prayers at this special time.



APPEALS THANK YOU

We would like to thank parishioners for their generosity over the last month with the various Appeals that were conducted in the Parish.

Our Good Friday collection raised \$639- for the Holy Land and

Project Compassion raised just over \$2,900- for Caritas.

The funds will be used for the various missionary work they both conduct.

LEGION OF MARY

WINDSOR PRAESIDIUM-OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR

The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary the rosary will be prayed (to be led by the Legion of Mary) on:

Saturday: 5:30pm before the 6pm Mass

Sunday: 7:00am before the 7:30am Mass; 8:30am before the 9am Mass and 4:30pm before the 5pm Mass.

Prayer to St Matthew:

O Glorious St Matthew, in your Gospel you portray Jesus as the longed-for Messiah who fulfilled the Prophets of the Old Covenant and as the Lawgiver of the New Covenant. Obtain for us the grace to see Jesus living in His Church and to follow His teaching in our lives on Earth so that we may live forever with Him in heaven. Amen.



CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to congratulate Joyce Rapa, Carmen Kanzler and Nicole McMahon who became official members of the Legion of Mary during special Legionary Promise Ceremonies at the end of April and early May. If you would like to join the Legion or would like more information, they meet every Monday evening at 7pm in the Parish Hall. We would also like to congratulate the new office bearers, Fely Watkins - President, Tony McMahon - Vice President, Allen Turner - Treasurer and Secretary - Terry Victorino.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

The purpose of this Prayer Group is to profess and proclaim the truth of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Most Holy Eucharist. Anything that has not been approved by the Church will not be presented. All parishioners are most welcome to come along and experience the splendour of our Catholic Faith. The first session will be an introductory lesson to the Divine Mercy and the following sessions will continue from where they were stopped because of covid. The first meeting will be at 10am on Saturday, 28th May in the Parish Hall. Then sessions will be held at 10am every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month beginning on Saturday, 11th June. Please take a flyer from the back of the Church or call Mary Said 0402 841 146 if you require further information.

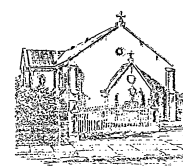


COUNTING GROUPS

We are hoping to recommence counting again for the weekend Masses starting the first weekend in June. A new roster will be made and distributed but we will be in touch with the counters prior to finalising the roster. If you would like to join a counting group, please contact the Parish Office.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Due to various reasons, the Parish Pastoral Council has not been able to be Commissioned yet. In view of this, we are asking for more nominations. Any age or gender will be appreciated, so that we can have a variety of opinions as to the direction the Parish will take. If Fr Robert approaches you to nominate, please consider his request as the more members we have, the better.



AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA

This month can you provide transport to help priests and religious reach and nourish the faithful in Tanzania? Your offering will bridge the divide between priests and their people in Tanzania due to the harsh terrain and dangerous travel. By providing a means of transport, the faithful will be able to participate in more frequent Masses and partake of the Sacraments, as well as providing a means of help to the people, including pregnant mothers, to reach medical facilities. To make an offering to ACN's Project of the Month visit www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject

SMARTLOVING BREAKTHROUGH - An Online Course for spouses in troubled marriages

If your marriage is under stress or you feel disconnected from your spouse, but don't know how to ease the pain, join us for this online course. Identify your conflict triggers. Learn strategies to de-escalate an argument. Restore hope with practical relationship strategies. smartloving.org/breakthrough Divine Mercy Sale 50% Off (ends May 31) Use coupon code: DivineMercy



ANNUAL MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

We are excited to announce the Annual Schoenstatt May Pilgrimage will be held for the first time since 2019. The program begins at 9.30 am to approx. 3.30 pm. Bishop Vincent will celebrate Holy Mass at 10.30 am outside, please bring your own chairs. Come for an hour or come for the day, everyone is welcome. Food is available to purchase or bring a picnic lunch. See the flyer at the back of the Church for more details or visit www.schoenstatt.org.au

ROSTERS		14TH/15TH MAY, 2022			FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C	
Church Cleaning:		M. Quattromani and J. Mooney.			Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.	
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM		
Commentator	T. Ripa	C. Attard	L. Buchanan	M. Claravall		
Reader	M. Said	S. Mackenzie	M. Grosvenor	T. Victorino		
Acolyte/Adult Server	T. Jordan	J. Coco	T. McMahon	F. Watkins		
Altar Servers	O. Thompson		E. El Hindy			
			A. El Hindy			

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE

The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 18th October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 29th October 2022. During the pilgrimage they visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. If you are interested, there is a brochure on the board at the back of the Church or for an itinerary and application form, please contact national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or phone 8912 4818.



RIGHT TO LIFE PETITION

During the Month of March this year there was an ePetition against the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 on the board at the back of the Church. They are now requesting that we promote a paper petition. Dr Brendan Long our CEO has been working closely with the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney to sponsor this paper petition in order to overturn the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 which will be voted on next Wednesday, 11th May. The petition needs to be signed with the name and address of the person and they need to be over the age of 18 and is at the back of the Church.

POSITIONS VACANT IN THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Senior Administrative Support Co-ordinator

The Diocese of Parramatta is seeking an experienced person for a full or part-time (4 days a week) role in our Governance, Risk, Compliance and Assurance team. You will have extensive experience in providing high-level administration support, and a customer-focused and 'can-do' attitude. If you would like to know more about the role and to obtain a copy of the Position Description, please contact Nevine at REACH Human Resources, nevine@reachhr.com.au or 0418 698 327.



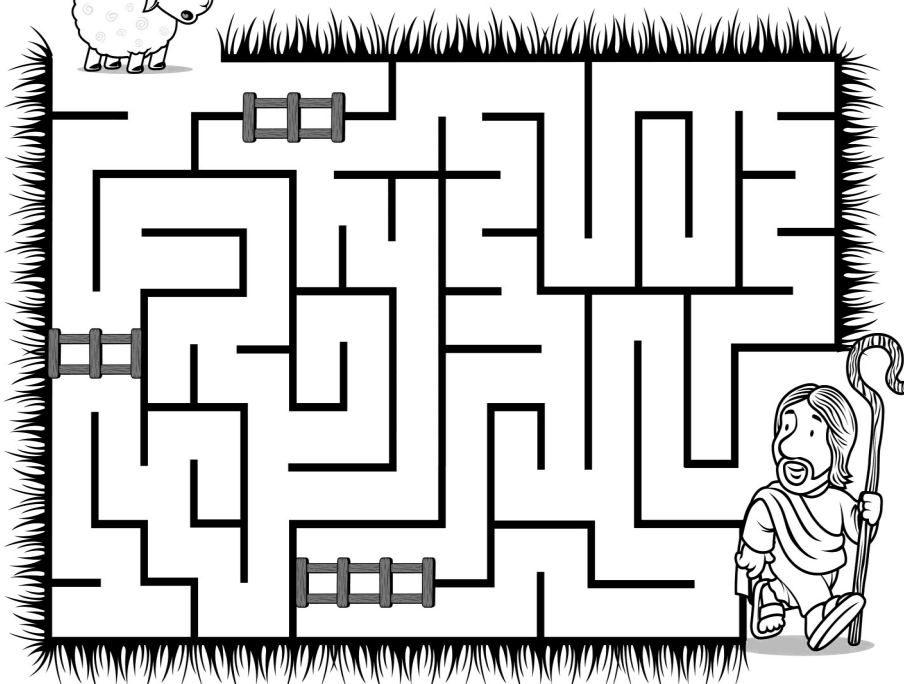
Fundraising Campaigns Manager – Put Your Faith Into Action For The Common Good

Parramatta Catholic Foundation is seeking a dynamic Fundraising Campaigns Manager, following Bronwyn Muir's retirement. This is a heart-warming, for-purpose vocational opportunity to put your faith into action, supporting our mission to share Christ's message of love and salvation with all. The role is pivotal to nurturing faith, hope and charity throughout Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains through the Diocese of Parramatta's ministries including our Holy Spirit Seminary, Clergy Support Foundation (caring for retired and ill priests), Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (Special Religious Education) and Catholic Care's social welfare services. For information please call Dianne Wigan, Head of Fundraising on 0408 922 478.

Jesus Is Our Shepherd



Help this sheep to follow Jesus



Mother's DAY Blessings

May the Lord
bless you and keep you,
may His face shine on you,
and be gracious to you,
and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

Pregnant? Worried, confused,
feeling alone? Want to chat?
Call our 24/7 support line 1300
792 798 or visit our
website <http://www.pregnancyhelpsydney.com>.