



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:

Administrator: *Fr Clifford D'Souza MSFS*
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

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am

Adoration:

Tuesday 8.30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday 5pm - 5.45pm

Pilgrim Rosary (in hall):

Every Tuesday 7pm

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (in hall):

2nd and 4th Saturday monthly 10am

Baptisms:

2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays in January

Marriages:

By appointment

Third Sunday of Advent Year A
11th December 2022



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (Feast Day 8th December)

Pope Paul VI has described this feast as a "joint celebration of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, of the basic preparation for the coming of the Saviour and of the happy beginning of the Church without spot or wrinkle." Through the centuries, the Church has grown in awareness that Mary, full of grace through God, was redeemed from the first moment of her conception (cf *Catechism of the Catholic Church, 491*)

"Eternal God, it is right that on this feast of the conception of blessed Mary, ever virgin, we should praise, bless and proclaim You with joyful hearts. By the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit she conceived Your only begotten Son and, with the glory of her maidenhood still intact, poured forth upon this world the Light of Eternal, Jesus Christ our Lord." (*Pope Urban II, 1096*)

"Of long standing is that devotion of the faithful of Christ towards His most Blessed Mother, who consider that her soul, at the first instant of creation and infusion into her body was, by a special grace and privilege of God, and in view of the merits of her Son, the Redeemer of the human race, preserved completely from the stain of original sin." (*Pope Alexander VII, December 8th 1661*)

"The splendour of an entirely unique holiness by which Mary is enriched from the first moment of her conception comes wholly from Christ; she is redeemed in a more exalted fashion, by reason of the merits of her Son. The Father blessed Mary more than any other person in Christ, before the foundations of the world, to be holy and blameless before Him in love." (*Catechism of Catholic Church, 492*)

Pope Pius IX defines the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception as an article of faith on December 8th 1854. The dogma centres upon the victory of God's grace freely given in Christ. Because of sins universality, the entire race is offered salvation through God's, mercy in the life, death and resurrection of our Saviour before any merits or deserving works on our part.

In 1947, Pope Pius XII canonized Catherine Laboure, a French Sister of Charity whose feast is December 30th. From November 27th 1830, she received visions of Our Lady who asked her to have struck the Miraculous Medal which depicts Mary standing on the globe with shafts of light coming from her hands and around her the petition 'O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.'

Taken from JB Midgley Companion to The Feasts of Mary

PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE CHURCH IF YOU:

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

ADVENT WREATH RESPONSE: Come, Lord Jesus

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35 : 1-6, 10
God himself will come and save us.

RESPONSE: Lord, come and save us.

SECOND READING: James 6 : 7-10
You also must be patient; do not lose heart, the Lord's coming will be seen.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 11 : 2-11

Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?

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 deceased Melissa Randall, Alma Victorino, Godeliva Sapino, George Seguna, Sr Philippina Borg, Ronald Steward, Daniel Micallef, Eucharia and Augustina Obah Patricia Ohanuka, Vince Surace, Diana Pereira, Antonio Surace, Bianca Cam, Desmond Donoghue, Maynardo Eugenio, Keith Schembri, Alfred Terzo, Nicola Ripa, Jason Vella, George Arce, Mick and Ben Gough, Rudolf Zuber, Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana.

Sick: Please pray for Valencia Warrell and Carmello Vella.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL for Catholic Care's Assistance with Care and Housing Service

Bishop Vincent, Parramatta Catholic Foundation and Catholic Care thank you for generously supporting their Assistance with Care and Housing service. Our Parish's Bishop's Christmas Appeal raised just under \$3,000-. Thank you

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Each Christmas season, the St Vincent de Paul conduct a Christmas Appeal to assist those in need to celebrate Christmas. Your financial donation will assist them reach out to the needy in the Hawkesbury. Your generosity will be appreciated.. The collection will take place at all Masses this weekend.



CHRISTMAS MASS VOLUNTEERS - WE NEED YOU

For Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas 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.



CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION

2nd Rite St Monica's Richmond:
Wednesday, 14th December 7pm

1st Rite St Matthew's Windsor:
Saturday, 17th December 5pm
Friday, 23rd December 9.30am



CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLES

Raffle tickets for a number of Christmas hampers are now on sale. Ticket \$2- each or 3 for \$5-. You need to be in it to win it so buy tickets today. Proceeds are for The Street Children Home in Mumbai India. Winners drawn next Sunday.



ROSTERS 17TH/18TH DECEMBER, 2022		FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: T. Ripa and S. Mitchell.		Sacristy: I. Willingham and M. Hutchison.		
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	T. Ripa	C. Teuma	C. Conolly	C. Chalker
Reader	J. Newland	C. Attard	J. Micallef	M. Claravall
Acolyte/Adult Server	T. Jordan	J. Coco	T. McMahon	G. Claravall
Altar Servers	O. Thompson		E. El Hindy	C. Adam
			A. El Hindy	