



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 6.30pm, 8.30pm
Sun. Midnight, 7.30am and 9.00am

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am

Adoration:

Tuesday 8.30am

Reconciliation this week:

Friday 9.30am

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A
18th December 2022



POPE: VOLUNTEERS ARE THE STRENGTH OF THE CHURCH - INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY 2022

International Volunteer Day 2022 celebrates the theme of "Solidarity through volunteering". It highlights the capacity of collective humanity to stimulate positive change through volunteer efforts.

Pope Francis sent a message to the volunteers on the occasion of International Volunteer Day, commemorated annually on 5 December. Pope Francis said that he has been most impressed by the "strength of volunteers" whenever he visits churches.

Volunteering, said the Pope, is a "shocking force" that departs from patterns to "carry out something" as it has the "perseverance to carry something forward."

He went on to give the example of those who volunteer to care for the sick, pointing at the example of the men and women who "are there all day long" using their free time to work with the sick.

"Volunteering is a grace from God," the Pope affirmed, urging volunteers to "please accept it with strength."

"Do not be afraid", Pope Francis urged.

The Pope further added that "volunteers are the strength of the Church" as they are "a dimension of the Church's mission because you go there with your volunteering and maintain so many actions of the Church."

The Pope expressed his gratitude to the volunteers for their generosity – the generosity that every volunteer has. (*Reported by The Vatican Media*)

Resonating the sentiments expressed by Pope Francis, I too take this opportunity to thank each volunteer and their families particularly when the parish experienced vulnerable and difficult times during this year.

Peace in God's mission. Fr. Clifford msfs

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

PARISHIONERS PLEASE NOTE

The Parish office will be closed from Monday, 26th December until Monday, 16th January 2023. If you have an urgent matter, please leave a message on the answering machine or see Fr Clifford.

ADVENT WREATH RESPONSE: Come, Lord Jesus

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 7 : 10-14
The virgin will conceive.

RESPONSE: Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

SECOND READING: Romans 1 : 1-7
Jesus Christ, a descendant of David, is the Son of God.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! A virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 1 : 18-24
Jesus was born of mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased:

Please pray for the deceased Melissa Randall, Alma Victorino, Godeliva Sapino, Olga Eiber, George Seguna, Sr Philippina Borg, Ronald Steward, Daniel Micallef, Patricia Ohanuka, Eucharua and Augustina Obah, Jason Vella, Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana.

Sick: Please pray for Valencia Warrell and all sick parishioners.

CHRISTMAS MASS VOLUNTEERS - WE NEED YOU

For Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we still need volunteers for 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.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND THANK YOU



We would like to thank everyone who has helped in the Parish in one way or another over the past very difficult year. A special thank you to those who will be contributing to our Christmas liturgies, helping to make them such wonderful celebrations. We hope everyone has a lovely Christmas with family and friends and we pray that next year you will experience peace, joy and many happy blessings. God bless you. The Parish team

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We would like to thank parishioners for their generosity at the Appeal last weekend. We raised just over \$2,000- which will assist St Vincent de Paul reach out to the needy in the Hawkesbury.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Saturday, 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)

Sunday, 25th December: (Christmas Day)

Midnight Mass (Church)

7.30am Mass (Church)

9.00am Mass (Church)

There will be NO evening Mass
Christmas Day



RECONCILIATION

Friday, 23rd December at 9.30am.

ROSTERS 24TH/25TH DECEMBER, 2022

Church Cleaning: A. Tabone

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Sacristy: B and N Duff.

SPECIAL VOLUNTEER ROSTER FOR ALL CHRISTMAS MASSES