



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*
Assistant Priest: *Fr Galbert Albino*
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
Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Schools:

St Matthew's Primary Phone: 4560 2300
Principal: Ms Annelise Stokey
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
Ash Wednesday 9.00am and 7.00pm

Adoration:

Tuesday 8.30am

Reconciliation this week:

Saturday 5.00pm to 5.45pm

Pilgrim Rosary (in hall):

Every Tuesday 7pm

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (in hall):

Every second Saturday 10am

Baptisms:

1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays each month.

Marriages:

By appointment

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

19th February, 2023

TURNING THE OTHER CHEEK? WHAT'S THAT!



Today, just like before, hatred, revenge and violence are ever on the rise. The gospel message of love your enemies, reveals the ugly side of human nature and shows us up for what we are - a people who are full of petty jealousies, hatreds and spites. A personal remark or an unkind word from a neighbour automatically sparks off a row and revenge is sought instantly. We trade insults for injury and end up nursing hatred, harbouring grudges, and not speaking. Turning the other cheek seems as a sign of weakness or cowardice. Life is full of people with chips on their shoulders because they didn't get the job, were not invited to a wedding or were omitted from the 'thank you' speech. They carry the scars for years, refusing to let wounds heal until scores are settled.

Christ rejects this law of revenge and insists that his followers repay evil with kindness. Forgiving wrong doers and loving your enemies must rank high among the most demanding messages ever preached by Jesus. He warns against giving in to bitterness and being obsessed with revenge. Forgiving our enemies is not easy. Not to retaliate goes against the human nature and requires great strength and discipline of character.

When we grow to hate someone we give that person power and control over us which eats into our heart and destroys our peace of mind. Jesus tells us that such attitudes are not in line with his teachings. Christ's message is one of forgiveness, pardon and generosity urging us to love others irrespective of whether or not we are loved in return. Jesus teaches us to have a forgiving heart as a basic essential for loving our enemies. A good take-away thought is - do we pray for those responsible of causing suffering, inflicting hardship and bringing unhappiness into our lives? When we offer pardon and show forgiveness we rise to the level of Christ. Love of a neighbour is always the distinguishing mark of a Christian.

With 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
- ⇒ FACE MASKS ARE STILL RECOMMENDED

**ON ASH WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY
A DAY OF PRAYER, FASTING AND ABSTINANCE,
MASSES WILL BE HELD AT 9AM AND 7PM.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE CHILDREN FROM ST MATTHEW'S SCHOOL
(YEARS 3 - 6) WILL BE ATTENDING THE MORNING MASS.**



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation, I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

FIRST READING: Leviticus 19 : 1-2, 17-18
You must love your neighbour as yourself.

RESPONSE: The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3 : 16-23
All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! Whoever keeps the word of Christ grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5 : 38-48
Love your enemies.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased:

Please pray for the recently deceased Bernie Munzenberger, Matthew Mulhall, Paul Bugeja, Angelita Santiago, Stephen Newsome, (Anniversary of Charles Bonanno) as well as Jeanine Dimech, John and Rosy Attard, Emmanuel Attard, John Mifsud, Mary Stella Bonanno Francis Bonanno, Frank Debono, Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut, Gabrijel Jurenec, Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana.

Sick: Please pray for Stella Azzopardi, Carmen Teuma, Pam Everingham and all sick parishioners.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The next set of Planned Giving envelopes are available for collection at the back of the Church. We have allocated all parishioners new envelope numbers, so to ensure your donation is assigned to the correct number, after Sunday, 5th March 2023, please discard all of your old unused envelopes. If you would like to join the Planned Giving, we have a number of options. There are envelopes, monthly credit card donations or directly from your savings account. Forms can be downloaded from our website or contact the Parish Office for more information.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AFTER THE 9AM MASS AND AT 7PM .

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION TALK

The next talk will be held at 7.30pm this Thursday, 23rd February in the Parish Hall. Baptisms are usually held on the first, second and third Sunday's of each month, but because of Easter, they will also be held on the last Sunday in March and April. 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.



LENTEN GROUP

There will only be the one Lenten Group which will held on Wednesday's at 9.45am in the hall starting Wednesday, 1st March. The books have arrived and are now available for collection from the Parish Office. Unfortunately due to lack of interest, there will be no Tuesday evening group.

ROSTER

The next Reader, Acolyte , Adult Server and Altar Server roster is ready for collection at the back of the Church. Please take your copy home after Mass. If you would like to read at ANY Mass, we could use your help. Please see Fr Clifford or contact the parish office if you are interested.



ROSTERS 25TH/26TH FEBRUARY, 2023		FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: J. Dimech.		Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.		
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	T. Ripa	J. Wein	C. Conolly	S. Naylor
Reader	J. Rapa	S. Mackenzie	J. Micallef	A. Pennings
				S. Tylere
Acolyte/Adult Server	T. Jordan	J. Coco	T. McMahon	G. Claravall
Altar Servers	I. Spiteri	S. Tierney	A. El Hindy	C. Naylor
	D. Spiteri		E. El Hindy	