



# 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](mailto:stmcc@tpg.com.au)  
[www.stmatthewswindsor.org.au](http://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: 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

#### Adoration:

Tuesday 8.30am

#### Reconciliation this week:

Saturday 5.00pm to 5.45pm

#### Stations of the Cross:

Friday 9.30am and 7pm

#### 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

*First Sunday of Lent Year A*  
*26th February, 2023*

### **A GRACE FILLED SEASON**



Lent strikes a chord and touches something deep down in our hearts, as it presents us with the challenge to reject sin and to be faithful to the God of love. Fasting, prayer and almsgiving have been the central elements of our Christian teaching. Lent means giving up on certain foods and habits, for others it is a time of giving to famine-relief and for going to church more often than usual. Whatever we undertake, our motive is all important. If we fast and deprive ourselves to have a slimmer figure, or we give alms to feel that we are a do-gooder in the community, our efforts are of little credit. We have received our reward and are no closer to God.

At the start of his public ministry, Jesus went into the desert for forty days. We relive our experience to have a deeper bond with God. The journey we make is an inward one, into the wilderness of our innermost self, to stand before God in all sincerity of truth. It helps us to take stock of how we spend our time and talents and become more aware of our sinfulness. The need to change and to renew our struggle against evil by prayer, fasting and penance becomes painfully obvious.

If we happen to be one of those people who see faults in everyone, perhaps it's time to take a hard look at our gossiping, backbiting, and scandalmongering. A simple vow to hold our tongue might prove a useful medicine, to be pleasant to the person with whom we often clash or can't see eye to eye, can be a good resolution. Giving up alcohol or gambling but be a cause of friction and unhappiness in the home, would make no sense.

Our invitation to a personal relationship with Christ through daily prayer will strengthen our faith and trust and bring us closer to him. Lent is a time for soul searching, a season where we are challenged to take practical steps to face evil and selfishness within us, for a change of behaviour in growth towards the love of God. Lent is a season of grace, towards holiness.

With Peace in God's Mission. Fr. Clifford msfs



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 2 : 7-9; 3 : 1-7  
*Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

**RESPONSE:** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**SECOND READING:** Romans 5 : 12-19  
*Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

**ACCLAMATION:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 4 : 1-11  
*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Deceased:** Please pray for the recently deceased Susan Melinz, Jongkyu Lim, Wayne Wombec, Bernie Munzenberger, Matthew Mulhall, Paul Bugeja, Angelita Santiago, Stephen Newsome, (Anniversaries of Dahlia Claravall and Jeanine Dimech) as well as John and Rosy Attard, Emmanuel Attard, Mary Grech, John Mifsud, Charles Bonanno, 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 Tom Allen.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES**

There are still some planned giving envelopes to be collected from the back of the Church. Please take yours home with you after Mass. We have allocated all parishioners new envelope numbers, so please throw out all old unused envelopes starting from next Sunday, 5th March. 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.



**CATECHIST/SRE COMMISSIONING MASS**

At the 6pm Mass next Saturday, 4th March, we will be commissioning our Catechists. All Catechists are asked to please attend this Mass.

**CARITAS - PROJECT COMPASSION**

After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, she joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village. 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/ envelopes available at the back of the Church or by calling 1800 024 413.



**24 HOUR FOR THE LORD EVENT AT SCHOENSTATT, MULGOA**

Come and spend some time with Our Lord and Our Lady in the Schoenstatt Shrine: Friday 17th March 6pm Mass, then Reconciliation 7:15 - 10.00pm. On Saturday Reconciliation 10am-12pm, and 3-4.45pm with a Vigil Mass at 5pm. The Shrine will be welcoming people for prayer for the full 24 Hours. Groups to lead prayer are welcome. Contact paulandramani@gmail.com

ROSTERS 4TH/5TH MARCH, 2023		SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: M. Quattromani and J. Mooney.		Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.		
MASSSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	K. Apap	S. Mackenzie	L. Buchanan	M. Claravall
Reader	A. Dimech	C. Attard	T. Victorino	C. Chalker
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	F. Watkins	G. Claravall
Altar Servers	E. Rijke		A. Bradford	C. Adam
			M. Portelli	