



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
Monday, Wednesday, 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:

Tuesday to Friday 9.00am

Adoration:

Tuesday 8.30am

Reconciliation this week:

Saturday 5pm - 5.45pm

Pilgrim Rosary (in hall):

Every Tuesday 7pm

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (in hall):

Every second Saturday 10am

Baptisms:

1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays each month.

Marriages:

By appointment

Second Sunday of Easter Year A
16th April, 2023



FROM DISBELIEF TO ABSOLUTE FAITH

Today when faith is becoming more difficult and mystery is on the way out, the church puts before us the deep moving encounter between Christ and Thomas, his doubting disciple. We will be mistaken if we dismiss Thomas as a man of little faith. After what happened on Good Friday, he was disheartened, disillusioned and angry which made him hardhearted in his questioning and unwilling to accept the word of others.

This episode paints, in a dramatic fashion, the journey of many people from a position of total disbelief to one of absolute faith. Having doubts in our search for truth is nothing to be ashamed of and can turn out to be a growing point in the life of faith. Thomas with his intelligent questioning whether Jesus had risen from the dead and was actually alive is a good type of person to have in any community, and acts as a defense against the excesses of pious belief. In many ways he echoes moments of our own uncertainty when we question the religious values handed down to us.

During life, faith is an on-going struggle and there are moments of crisis when our minds are darkened and our vision of God is blurred by clouds of doubt. There is nothing comfortable about believing as it challenges us to change our lives as a result of our relationship with Jesus. The risen Christ is present in our midst as much as he was with the early Christians and we are called to live in his name. It is through believing that we enter into a relationship with Christ and enjoy the new life which he offers us.

Faith is our meeting with God and there will be moments in life when all else fails and we have nothing to fall back on except our faith. That is the time we need to pray 'Lord I believe, help my unbelief'. In times of difficulties if we know that our God will not let us down then as Jesus told Thomas, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" we too will be counted among such people.

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

**PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE CHURCH IF YOU
ARE FEELING UNWELL.
FACE MASKS ARE STILL RECOMMENDED.**



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 2 : 42-47
The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

RESPONSE: Give thanks, to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1 : 3-9
He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! You believed in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; Happy those who have not seen me, but still believed. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 20 : 19 - 31
After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased:

Please pray for the recently deceased Joan Forrester, Kenneth Scott, Benilda Castro as well as Brian Mahony, William and Maria van Vliet, David Moss, Keith Brown, Eileen Allen, Lindy Allen, Wendy Williams, Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana.

Sick: Please pray for Stella Azzopardi and Pam Everingham.

INVITATION TO PARISHIONERS

As many of you would know, the Good Samaritan Sisters have recently moved out of the Parish. We will be holding a special Thanksgiving Mass at 9am on Sunday, 30th April to remember the Sisters and the amazing work they have done in the Hawkesbury since before the Parish began in 1831. All parishioners are invited to attend the Mass which will be followed by morning tea in the hall. If you would like to attend, please bring a plate of food to share.



PARRAMATTA DIOCESAN SYNOD

A Synod is both an event and a process where clergy, religious, and the laity gather to discuss important matters relating to the life and mission of the Church. Synods are transformative events that lead to renewal in the Church's life. Our Diocesan Synod will be held from 12-15 October 2023. From May to July 2023, in the lead up to the Synod, all are invited to participate in deanery and parish listening consultations, organising time to discuss with family and friends, and engaging in opportunities to dialogue. Submissions from these consultations and conversations will be collected and can be provided online, in person, or via mail. The submissions will be reviewed and synthesised by a Synod working group, and will inform the development of agenda for the Synod. If you would like more information on how to get involved, visit <http://www.parracatholic.org/synod2023>

PROJECT COMPASSION

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities.



HOLY LAND COLLECTION

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land took place on Good Friday and our Parish raised \$785-. Thank you for your generosity.

ROSTERS 22ND/23RD APRIL, 2023		3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: T. Ripa and S. Mitchell.		Sacristy: I. Willingham and M. Hutchison.		
MASSSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	H. Sobiesiak	S. Mackenzie	C. Conolly	C. Chalker
Reader	M. Said	J. Wein	J. Micallef	M. Claravall
				S. Tyler
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	T. McMahon	G. Claravall
Altar Servers	Please volunteer when you are at Mass.			