



# St Matthew's Catholic Parish



(Established 1831)

12 Tebbutt Street, Windsor, NSW 2756

Telephone: (02) 4577 3073

## 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:**

Parish Priest: *Fr Ranillo Creta*  
Assistant Priest: *Fr Galbert Albino*  
Sacramental Coordinator: *Ms Cita Adams*  
Parish Secretary: *Ms Judy Rigg*  
Parish email: [windsor@parracatholic.org](mailto:windsor@parracatholic.org)  
[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 Stockey  
*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 Saturday 9.00am

#### Adoration:

Tuesday 8.30am

#### Reconciliation this week:

Saturday 9.30am

#### Hospital Chapel Mass:

First Tuesday of each month at 11am

#### Solidarity for Children (in hall):

Every Monday 3.30pm to 4.30pm

#### Pilgrim Rosary (in hall):

Every Tuesday 7pm

#### Legion of Mary (in hall):

Every Wednesday 6.30pm (youth)

Every Thursday 7pm (adult)

#### Divine Mercy Prayer Group (in hall):

Every second Saturday 10am

#### Baptisms:

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

#### Marriages:

By appointment

## *Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A*

*3rd September, 2023*

*(Father's Day)*



It is certainly true that we have domesticated the scandal of the cross, even to the point that, these days, it dangles from various parts of people's anatomies. I often wonder, had Jesus been electrocuted to death, whether we would have little golden chairs around our necks? But while we have tried to tame the reality of Jesus' tortured hours in Jerusalem, the reality of the cross in each of our lives cannot be so commercially soothed.

Christians are not meant to be smiling masochists. We are not meant to be lovers of pain – just bearers of it.

We are invited, by Jesus, to see the burden of suffering in our lives as an opportunity to be faithful to his example. It also gives us an opportunity to be in solidarity with all those who suffer in our world. This is easier said than done. When we suffer in our daily lives, thoughts of others rarely come to mind easily, but it can be consoling to keep our suffering in context and know that we are not facing it alone.

We are encouraged to see that suffering can be an opportunity to grow in love. If we understand our crosses as our particular schools of love, then we learn more about ourselves and God and are able to help others carry their crosses as well.

Carrying our cross, however, is not just about bearing physical, personal, sexual, spiritual or emotional pain; it can also be in the sharing of our gifts and talents, our love and compassion. In every gift there is a burden. Following Christ's example, we are called to share our gifts heroically with anyone in need, even to the end.

Some people complain these days that God is often presented as a big marshmallow, all sweet and soft. Today's Gospel shows the 'edge' involved in being a follower of Christ. I don't know of a more demanding vocation in our world than that of taking up the cross of being faithful, loving and selfless.

And while we are invited to take up our cross and follow Jesus, we never do it alone. If we have the eyes to see it and the humility to accept it, Christ, literally, hangs in there with us every step of the way.

So let's recall the first cross from which we take comfort as we bear our own crosses.

Richard Leonard SJ [www.prayasyoucan.com.au](http://www.prayasyoucan.com.au)

**PLEASE DO NOT ENTER THE CHURCH IF YOU ARE FEELING UNWELL.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.



**FIRST READING:** Jeremiah 20 : 7-9  
*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

**RESPONSE:** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**SECOND READING:** Romans 12 : 1-2  
*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

**ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia! Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ lighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 16 : 21-27  
*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**



**Deceased:**

Please pray for the recently deceased Valerie White, Helen Rebel, (Anniversary of Paul Gauci) as well as Presentacion Perez, Mary and Sam Grech, Pedro and Florencia Balmaceda, Julie Hayes, Josephine Galea, Margaret and John Muscat, Francis and Carmela Buhagiar, Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana.

**Sick:** Please pray for Jimmy Marinas, Thelma Rayes, Kevin Thompson and Roza Galea.

**FAREWELL FR GALBERT**

Fr Galbert is leaving the Parish this Monday, 4th September to go to Lawson. We will be having his farewell morning tea in the hall following the 9am Mass next Sunday, 10th September and there will be a going away collection after all Masses that weekend. All parishioners are invited to the morning tea and are requested to please bring a plate to share.

**BISHOP'S FATHER'S DAY APPEAL - Caring for those who have cared for us**

Our priests never stop giving their lives in service to our community. They dedicate themselves to carrying out God's ministry for as long as they are able. This Father's Day, let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. Please give generously to the Bishop's Father's Day Appeal this weekend.



**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME - Reconciliation**

If you have a child in Year 3, is at least 8 years old and been Baptised Catholic, they are now eligible to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There will be a Parent Information session at 7pm on Tuesday, 19th September and Wednesday, 20th September. Only one parent will need to attend one meeting. Please spread the word to anyone you think would have an eligible child. Enrolment forms for the program are available at the back of the Church. Please take a form and return it completed to the Parent meeting.

**MONDAY CLUB SOCIAL**

The next Monday Club lunch will be this Monday, 4th September in the hall. Cost is \$15- which covers morning tea and a barbeque lunch. For catering purposes, please RSVP to Celine or Antoinette.

**MORNING TEA**

To celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will be having a morning tea in the hall following the 9am Mass next Friday, 8th September.



**NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK STARTS THIS MONDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER AND CONCLUDES ON SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY, 10TH SEPTEMBER. LET US PRAY THAT WE CONTINUE TO FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT OF SAFETY AND PROTECTION WHERE CHILDREN FLOURISH.**

<b>ROSTERS 9TH/10TH SEPTEMBER, 2023</b>		<b>23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A</b>		
Church Cleaning: K. Moffitt and C. Conolly.		Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.		
<b>MASSES</b>	<b>6PM</b>	<b>7.30AM</b>	<b>9AM</b>	<b>5PM</b>
<b>Commentator</b>	M. Grosvenor	J. Wein	N. McMahon	M. Claravall
<b>Reader</b>	A. Dimech	M. Allen	S. Kavanagh	C. Chalker
<b>Acolyte/Adult Server</b>	J. Dimech	J. Coco	J. Rapa	G. Claravall