



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*
Sacramental Coordinator: *Ms Cita Adams*
Parish Secretary: *Ms Judy Rigg*
Parish email: windsor@parracatholic.org
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-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A *17th September, 2023*

This gospel passage follows directly from last week's passage. It concludes the whole of Matthew Chapter 18 that deals with sin, forgiveness and reconciliation. Peter's question to Jesus and suggested answer is a reflection of the view that there is a limit to the number of times we should forgive someone. Seven is a significant number in scripture and implies a 'perfect' amount. Even though by his use of seven, Peter is suggesting that he should forgive someone many, many times, Jesus quickly corrects Peter and says not seven, but seventy-seven times (or seventy times seven). Jesus plays on the use of the number seven and multiplies it to indicate that one should forgive as many times as is required – without keeping count; without keeping score.



The story of the unforgiving servant is a familiar one of forgiveness and mercy being shown but not passed on. The sting in the tail of this parable is Jesus' final warning that, 'So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives his brother from his heart.' This is an unsettling statement, as we believe God's forgiveness to be without measure and without end. Jesus warns that unless we seek to imitate God's forgiveness and forgive others 'from our heart' (with compassion) then we are not going to recognise the forgiveness of God and will cut ourselves off from it.

The whole idea of forgiving from the heart is a powerful contradiction of a popular concept: 'I can forgive, but not forget.' Is it really possible to forgive but refuse to forget? Surely holding on to a memory of hurt is holding on to the hurt itself and does not display that any forgiveness has occurred at all. To forgive but not forget is to keep count. How many times should I forgive the one who has hurt me? As many times as it takes!

Greg Sunter www.liturgyhelp.com

REST IN THE LOVE OF GOD

When you are at rest, consider a relationship where you know you are withholding love from a person, not being forgiving. Held in God's mercy, ask God what you can do that is best for that person. Imagine different ways that you can do this. If you balk, ask God to be merciful to you and give you strength and wisdom.

Sr Kym Harris osb www.prayasyoucan.com.au

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

FIRST READING: Ecclesiasticus 27 : 30 - 28 : 7
Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

RESPONSE: The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

SECOND READING: Romans 14 : 7-9
Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 18 : 21-35
I tell you that you forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Deceased:

Please pray for the recently deceased Scott O'Connor, Valerie White, (Anniversary; Sam Attard) as well as Paul Gauci, Francis and Carmela Buhagiar, Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana.

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

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

Thank you for caring for our retired priests who have always cared for us. Because of your compassion, our Bishop's Father's Day Appeal raised \$2535- to care for our retired priests and clergy in ill-health. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Confirmation

Over the last two weeks during special ceremonies, the children who were preparing have received their Confirmation. We would like to congratulate them on this wonderful occasion and would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway to make the celebrations such wonderful experiences for the child and their families.

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 book your attendance by contacting the Parish Office or Cita.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION TALK

We have had to move the date for this months Baptismal Talk. It will now be held at 7.30pm in the hall, this Thursday, 21st September. Baptisms are held on the first, second and third Sundays of each month and are booked at the talk. To book for the talk, contact the Parish Office.



AROUND THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

Season of Creation Mass

Bishop Vincent invites everyone to join him celebrate Season of Creation with a Diocesan Mass next Saturday 23rd September at 9am in St Andrew the Apostle Parish, Marayong, followed by a simple eco-friendly morning tea and talk. For more information, please email met@parracatholic.org.au.

St Padre Pio Parish Glenmore Park

Will be celebrating their feast day on Sunday 24th September. It will start at 10am with a Solemn Procession with the Relic of St. Padre Pio, Solemn Feast Day Mass, Veneration and Blessing by the Relic of St. Padre Pio. There will also be other festivities. Please see the flyer at the back of the Church. Enquiries: (02) 4789 2232

ROSTERS 23RD/24TH SEPTEMBER, 2023		25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: J. Dimech		Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.		
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	T. Ripa	S. Mackenzie	J. Steward	C. Chalker
Reader	H. Sobiesiak	J. Wein	L. Buchanan	S. Tyler
				M. Claravall
Acolyte/Adult Server	T. Jordan	J. Coco	T. McMahon	G. Claravall