



# 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](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*  
Acting Principal: Mr Ben Ticehurst  
*Chisholm Catholic Primary Phone: 4573 3200*  
Principal: Mr Michael Mifsud  
*Bede Polding College Phone: 4560 2900*  
Acting Principal: Mr David Sullivan

### **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

#### Sodality of Our Lady (in hall):

Every Monday 3.30pm to 4.30pm (children)

#### 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

## *Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A* *5th November, 2023*



This week's gospel is a lesson on leadership. The gospel writer has Jesus offering a very strong criticism of the religious leadership of his day as exemplified by the scribes and Pharisees. He accuses them of not practising what they preach – a rather familiar criticism often levelled at politicians, teachers and church leaders in our own society today. When the criticism is used today it often implies that if the person fails to practise what they preach then what they have to say carries little weight. But rather than totally rejecting the scribes and Pharisees, Jesus cautions his listeners to take notice of what they have to say – as their teachings were always grounded in scripture and tradition – but not to follow their example of behaviour.

Throughout Matthew's gospel we encounter criticisms of the scribes and Pharisees. This example is of the same nature: they were too caught up with rules and obligations and did not approach life with compassion and concern for the individual. The community for whom Matthew's gospel was intended was struggling with being both Jewish and Christian. They were coming to realise that to be followers of Jesus' way they needed to cast aside some of the attitudes and behaviours of their Jewish tradition. That applied particularly to the model of leadership that they had inherited from Jesus: a model of leadership through service, not power and authority. This gospel passage makes it very clear for that original community as well as ourselves that true leadership is provided through service to others and through humble action. Unlike the Pharisees of Jesus' time, Christian leaders are called to do away with the trappings of power and prestige and, instead, be of service to those whom they would lead.

### **CONTRASTS**

Jesus' description of the Pharisees' behaviour offers a stark contrast to his own way of bringing about the Kingdom of God. By their actions, the Pharisees place burdens on the shoulders of others – burdens of guilt, shame, duty and punishment. Throughout his ministry, Jesus acted to lift such burdens from the shoulders of the downtrodden and marginalised. He accuses the Pharisees of being motivated by drawing attention to themselves – the way they dress, the way they like to be addressed, even where they sit in the synagogues. In contrast, Jesus' ministry was typified by his humility and focus on others.

Greg Sunter [www.liturgyhelp.com](http://www.liturgyhelp.com)

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

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

**FIRST READING:** Malachi 1 : 14 - 2 : 2, 8-10  
*You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.*

**RESPONSE:** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

**SECOND READING:** 1 Thessalonians 2 : 7-9, 135-10  
*We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives as well.*

**ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia! Alleluia! You have one Father, your Father in heaven; and you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 23 : 1-12  
*They do not practise what they preach.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.



**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**Deceased:** Please pray for the recently deceased John Allen, Sam Farrugia, Peter McMahon, Teresita Ortiga, Elaine Mizzi and William Howard,

**Sick:** Please pray for Jimmy Marinas, Thelma Rayes, Joan Dodd, Roza Galea and Annelise Stockey.



**NOVEMBER MASSES**

November is the month of Holy Souls and the 'Book of Life' as well as envelopes, will be available in the foyer of the Church. During the month of November, Masses will be offered for all deceased family and friends.



**FUNERAL DETAILS**

Sadly John Allen passed away last week. His funeral will be held here at St Matthew's at 11am on Monday, 13th November.

**MONDAY CLUB SOCIAL**

A special Melbourne Cup Lunch will be held on Monday, 6th November in the hall. There will be prizes for the best hat and best dressed. They will also have a sweep. Cost is \$15 per head. For catering purposes, please see Celine or Antoinette if you are attending.



**COUNTING TEAMS**

We are still looking for more volunteers to help count our weekend collections. If possible we would like a minimum of five teams of three people, so are looking for at least five more people, if possible, to help. If you would like to assist or would like more information, please speak to Fr Raining or contact the Parish office.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - Reconciliation**

At special ceremonies next Tuesday and Wednesday night, the children who have been preparing will receive their First Reconciliation. Please keep them and their families in your prayers as they take this next step in their faith journey.



**DIOCESAN NEWS**

**Table Talk with People Seeking Asylum**  
St Patrick Cathedral Parish, Parramatta, Jesuit Refugees Service and the Diocese of Parramatta are organising a Table Talk event with people seeking asylum on Wednesday 8th November from 7pm to 9pm at the Cathedral Hall. To register, visit <https://events.humanitix.com/talk-talk-with-people-seeking-asylum>

**Parramatta Street Feast**  
You are invited to the Parramatta Street Feast, Saturday 11th November. Come and share a meal, company and entertainment with members of our community who are on the margins of society. This free event will be held in a spirit of solidarity and friendship at the Cloister Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta, 10:30am to 1:30pm. The Street Feast is a collaboration between the Diocese and other entities.

ROSTERS 11TH/12TH NOVEMBER, 2023		32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: M. Quattromani and J. Mooney.		Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.		
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	H. Sobiesiak	J. Wein	M. Grosvenor	C. Chalker
Reader	J. Newland	C. Attard	J. Rapa	M. Claravall
Acolyte/Adult Server	Volunteer	J. Coco	F. Watkins	G. Claravall