



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
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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

29th October, 2023



Like last week's gospel, we again have an example of the Pharisees seeking to 'catch Jesus out' in his interpretation of scripture. The Pharisees were regarded as the great interpreters of the Torah – the Law. To them, ALL the commandments were vitally important, not just the Ten Commandments given to Moses with which we are perhaps most familiar, but the 613 mitzvot (commandments) contained within the Torah – the first five books of the Bible. These 613 mitzvot governed all aspects of Jewish life. For the Pharisees to ask Jesus about the 'greatest' commandment was a blatant challenge to him. Perhaps they expected Jesus to name one commandment and then they could challenge him with a whole series of 'What about ...?' questions.

Jesus' answer to the Pharisees highlights their preoccupation with the particulars of the Law contained within scripture. In their over-emphasis on the details of religious observance, they have forgotten about the most basic element of faith: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. Jesus reminds them that being faithful to God isn't about following precise rules but rather it is simply about loving God. With this one sentence, Jesus undermines the power position of the Pharisees. If the Law is as simple as 'Love God', what need is there of Pharisees to interpret the details of the Law? Having pulled the rug out from under them, Jesus follows up with his reminder that the second most important commandment is to love your neighbour as yourself. This is a call to compassion and justice that Jesus practised freely but was sadly lacking in the religious authorities of his time.

LIVING THE GOSPEL – COMPASSION

Jesus' words call us to love our neighbour as ourselves. We are called to treat others as we would like to be treated ourselves. To be able to do this, we need to picture ourselves in their place – experiencing all that they are experiencing; not imposing our own values and circumstances. To see ourselves in the place of another is the key to responding with compassion. The origin of the word 'compassion' means experiencing with. If we are able to truly 'experience with' another person perhaps then we can genuinely recognise and respond to their needs.

Greg Sunter www.liturgyhelp.com

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER -

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

FIRST READING: Exodus 22 : 20-26
If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.

RESPONSE: I love you, Lord, my strength.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1 : 5-10
You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Matthew 22 : 34-40
You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

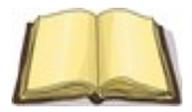


Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Peter McMahon, Teresita Ortiga, Elaine Mizzi, William Howard, (Anniversaries of Sam Bugeja, Carmen and Carmelo Grima, Maria and David Cafine) as well as Jessie Hursey, John Mifsud, Nicola and Antonia Ripa, Bonnie Farrugia, Jesse Ripa, Philip and Mary Mifsud, Carmelo and Elizabeth Vella, Maria Saliba, Josephine and Joric Jumao-as, Juan and Jose Jumao-as, Marianita and Romulo Jumao-as Chris, John and Maryanne Sultana.

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 whole of November, Masses will be offered for deceased family and friends.



FEAST OF ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

Next Wednesday, 1st November. Is All Saints Day and Thursday, 2nd November is All Souls Day. Masses will be held at 9am and 7pm on both days. Please note that the primary school children will be attending the 9am Masses on both days.

BEREAVEMENT MASS

Next Thursday, 2nd November the 7pm Mass will be a special Bereavement Mass to remember family and friends who have gone before us. All parishioners are welcome and there will be a light supper in the hall after the Mass, Please bring a plate to share if you will be attending the supper.



COUNTING TEAMS

We will be restarting the counting roster as soon as we can, however, we are 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 Raning or contact the Parish office.

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.



DONATE TO CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S GAZA APPEAL

The efforts of Caritas through partner agencies are expected to support 17,000 displaced families, representing around 100,000 of the 1 million people displaced. To support Caritas Australia's Gaza Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/gaza-crisis/ or call toll free 1800 024 413. Your support will be appreciated.

ROSTERS 4TH/5TH NOVEMBER, 2023		31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: J. Dimech.		Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.		
MASSES	6PM	7.30AM	9AM	5PM
Commentator	M. Said	S. Mackenzie	I. Willingham	A. Pennings
Reader	M. Williams	M. Allen	C. Conolly	S. Naylor
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	J. Rapa	G. Claravall