



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 to 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
Principal: Mr Greg Maloney

Masses:

Next Weekend:

Sat. Vigil 6.00pm
Sun. 7.30am, 9.00am and 5.00pm

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am

Reconciliation:

Saturday 9.30am

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:

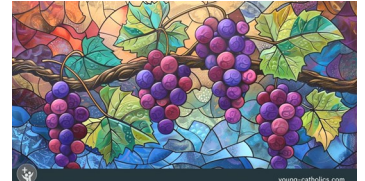
1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays each month.

Marriages:

By appointment

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year B

28th April, 2024



The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the 'classic' gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many 'famous' or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt – we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don't need to pay it much attention.

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action; it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It is an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to 'prune' our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

I am reminded of the old Karate Kid movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.


Greg Sunter www.liturgyhelp.com


REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD

When you are at rest, reflect on some of your close relationships – how your lives are woven together. As you reflect on these see how the different relationships give you images that can deepen your relationship with Jesus. Then consider a relationship that you feel needs strengthening. Ask Jesus to show you ways that you could strengthen it.

Sr Kym Harris osb www.prayasyoucan.com.au
Graphics.young-catholics.com


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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.	
FIRST READING:	Acts 9 : 26-31 <i>He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to him on his journey.</i>	
RESPONSE:	I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.	
SECOND READING:	1 John 3 : 18-24 <i>His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.</i>	
ACCLAMATION:	Alleluia, alleluia! Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; my branches bear much fruit. Alleluia.	
GOSPEL:	John 15 : 1-8 All who live in me, and I in them, bear much fruit.	
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord; Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.	




PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:
Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Patricia Vaughan as well as Jason Vella, Keith Schembri, John Mifsud, Charles & Mary Stella Bonanno, Frances Bonanno, Frank Debono, Kayley McGavin, Shirley Said, Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut.
Sick: Please pray for Jimmy Marinas, Thelma Rayes, Joan Dodd, Roza Galea, Roslyn Wright, Lydia Evans and Grant Leslie.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - First Eucharist
 At special Masses this weekend and next weekend, the children who have been preparing will receive their First Eucharist. Parishioners are asked to please keep the children and their families in your prayers at this special time




PROJECT COMPASSION
 Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2024. Our Parish raised just over \$1600. Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

BISHOP'S GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL FOR OUR HOLY SPIRIT SEMINARIANS
 Will you support our seminarians to "go out into the deep" and serve? Your compassionate generosity and prayers will help our future priests cast their nets wide to nurture faith and meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of our community. If you haven't had an opportunity to donate, there are envelopes available at the back of the Church or you can donate via yourcatholicfoundation.org.au/appeal Thank you.



VOLUNTARY ASSISTED DYING HEALTHCARE WORKSHOP
 The Diocese of Parramatta is organising a free healthcare workshop to explore the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Voluntary Assisted Dying statement: "To Witness and to Accompany with Christian Hope" on Saturday 4 May at the St Patrick's Cathedral Hall, Parramatta, from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Lunch will be provided. To register, please contact met@parracatholic.org. For enquires, please contact Deacon Michael Tan on michael.tan@parracatholic.org

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL NSW CELEBRATING PENTECOST EVE " ANOINTING "
 Please join the Catholic Charismatic Renewal NSW in celebrating Pentecost Eve "Anointing" on Saturday 18th May at Servants of Jesus Centre 15 Park Road Seven Hills for an afternoon of Praise & Worship, Testimonies and Prayer Ministry from 4-7pm hosted by youth from different streams. Booking is essential, register with link. <https://www.trybooking.com/CPMXQ?qr=true> . Any inquires email: email@ccnsw.org.au



ROSTERS 4TH/5TH MAY, 2024			SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B	
Church Cleaning: T. Ripa and S. Mitchell.			Sacristy: I. Willingham and M. Hutchison.	
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	M. Grosvenor	J. Wein	I. Willingham	S. Naylor
Reader:	H. Sobiesiak	C. Attard	F. Watkins	A. Pennings
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	Volunteer	T, Victorino	G. Claravall