



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 only.*

Schools:

St Matthew's Primary Phone: 4560 2300
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 6pm (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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

18th August, 2024



In Shakespeare's play, *The Merchant of Venice*, as Shylock moves to cut the pound of flesh from Antonio, Portia states that he should "shed no blood, nor cut off less nor more but just the pound of flesh." Of course, Shylock stops. It is impossible to cut flesh without shedding blood. Jesus' listeners in this Sunday's reading knew that and are justifiably horrified at the implied violence in eating flesh and drinking blood - just as we should be. Well, we know now that we eat his flesh and drink his blood under the signs of bread and wine. But they still represent to us his act of self-sacrifice that took place in his violent Death and subsequent Resurrection

There is a change of verb in this part of the Gospel. John stops using a nice polite word for eating - a word one could use of the oyster slipping down the throat- and shifts to a word that implies that the eater has to chew and munch this food to consume it. If we are to consume the Word, the flesh and blood of Jesus, we are going to have to work at swallowing it. If we think we can live by God's Word without having to struggle to understand what it means in our lives, we are deluded. If we think we can live out Jesus' Law of Love without experiencing sacrifice we are being deluded. Living by Jesus' life, after consuming his flesh and blood, will entail us entering into his self-sacrificing love. Maybe those Jews who complained, argued and eventually rejected Jesus had some instinct concerning the enormity of the challenge Jesus was offering.

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD

Each of us at times can be like the crowd in this Sunday's Gospel - unhappy with something that Jesus has said, ill at ease with some aspect of our faith, challenged by his standards of loving. Instead of discussing this with others, or arguing it over in your own mind, bring it before Jesus. Allow yourself to fully disclose to him all your misgivings and negative views. Then sit and listen with the heart to what he may have to say.

Sr Kym Harris osb www.prayasyoucan.com.au
Graphics: youngcatholics.com

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

BISHOP VINCENT LONG VISIT

Bishop Vincent will be visiting the Parish next Sunday, 24th August. He will celebrate the 9am Mass which will be followed by morning tea. All parishioners are invited to attend.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9 : 1-6
Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared.

RESPONSE: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5 : 15-20
Be watchful that you may know the will of God.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 6 : 51-58
My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Frances Bugeja, Phillip Harris (Anniversaries of Josephine Galea, Frances Cassar, Presentacion Perez, Margaret and John Muscat) as well as Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana & Family.

Sick: Please pray for Jimmy Marinas, Thelma Rays, Joan Dodd, Roza Galea, Roslyn Wright, Lydia Evans, Grant Leslie, Fely Watkins, Christopher Sales, Maggie Abraham & Kevin Hawkins

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL RICHMOND CONFERENCE THANK YOU

Thank you to the parishioners of St Matthew's Windsor who so generously supported our recent Winter Appeal. Your donations totalled \$3438- which will aid our work in the Hawkesbury area - supporting those most in need

NATURAL FERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK 2024 (AUGUST 19 – 25)

Promotes an alternative, healthy option to family planning compared with chemical and other contraceptive devices. You are invited to join the Billings LIFE free webinar on Monday 19th August 2024 at 7:30pm AEST where you can listen to the conversation about the basics of the Billings Ovulation Method® and its application, including during times of breastfeeding. <https://events.humanitix.com/trust-your-body-s-natural-signals-of-fertility-free-webinar> For further info 1800 335 860 or website: www.billings.life/en/



DARK TO LIGHT - AN EXPLORATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Parishioners are invited to a presentation on Domestic Violence on Sunday, 8th September at 1.30 pm in the Holy Name of Mary Church Hall, Hunters Hill. This event features Ms. Livia La Rocca, a trained psychologist and Ms. Nicole Yade, CEO of the Women and Girls Emergency Centre, a specialist homelessness service for women and families. Visit www.maristlaityaustralia.com/dark-to-light to RSVP by 1st Sept.

THE NEXT READER, ADULT SERVER AND ACOLYTE ROSTER IS AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. PLEASE TAKE YOUR COPY HOME WITH YOU AFTER MASS.

ACBC 2024-2025 SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT LAUNCH

All are warmly invited to attend the official launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's 2024-2025 Social Justice Statement, 'Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World' on Tuesday 20th August from 10am to 12pm in St Paul's Catholic College Sports Hall, Greystanes, adjoining Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes. Please RSVP your attendance via this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/1Wd96tbps0>



AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Is seeking applications for a full time, Benefactor Support Coordinator based at the national office in Penrith. Experience in customer service and/or the processing of donations is ideal. For information visit, www.aidto-church.org/jobs. Applications close 23rd August.

ST PHOEBE WEBINAR 2024

Australian Catholics Exploring the Diaconate, supported by Catholic Religious Australia invite you to the 2024 St Phoebe webinar "Where are St Phoebe's successors today?" on Tuesday 3rd September at 7.30pm AEST. Join Geraldine Doogue AO, Fr Frank Brennan SJ AO and Dr Sandie Cornish to reflect on synodality and access for women to the diaconate. To register, please visit www.liturgyonthemargins.org/events



ROSTERS 24TH/25TH AUGUST, 2024		21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B		
Church Cleaning: J. Dimech		Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.		
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	H. Sobiesiak	C. Attard	M. Grosvenor	C. Chalker
Reader/s:	M. Williams	S. Mackenzie	S. Kavanagh	S. Tylere
Acolyte/Adult Server	T. Jordan	J. Coco	T. Victorino	D. Edgar