



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 4pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday*

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 Malone

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

First Sunday of Advent Year C

1st December, 2024



This Sunday's Gospel is a challenge to us in Western society. The drunkenness and debauchery about which Jesus speaks seems almost tame compared with the present day disease of substance abuse. And then the chronic overindulgence epitomised by shopping. Shopping, for the sake of shopping, is regarded as a serious pastime or hobby! No, this isn't going to be a rant about how terrible the world has become but an invitation to reflect on the root cause of these and similar things. What are people frightened of that the practice of numbing oneself to reality by demeaning oneself has become so common? Why do our youth suicide so often? When Jesus speaks of negative behaviour overtaking people it is in a world he sees as beset with horrors. In our affluent Western society, what are our horrors? Where are the causes of our fears?

I do not have the answers to these questions but I think a way towards such comes from pondering the instructions Jesus gives us. Firstly, we are to take courage from his presence in our world – even when things look bad. God is with us. Then, we are to pay attention to ourselves. So much of the worst of our society invites people to self-forgetfulness in drugs, drink, shopping etc. Jesus, however, invites us to study ourselves in order to be fully alive. This, then, entails being alert to the presence of God and praying in every season, in every situation. When we consider these actions and what effect they have within our lives, we can become conscious of the boredom that has overtaken our society. There seems to be a false belief that there is little one can do to change things and therefore one does nothing good but rather deadens the pain, the pain of not doing good. For we are made for good, we are made to be like God. In contrast, if one follows what Jesus tells us to do, the world opens out for us. With his courage, we face the challenges of our world...and we realise that every venture for good was begun by one or a few people responding to a need in a simple practical way. Be alert to what Christ can do through you!

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD.

We all have unfilled, hungry parts of ourselves where we desire something more. Where are you needy? What are you waiting to have happen in your life?

Imagine how you could be attentive to God in this need. Imagine how it could be a passage to God's transforming grace and that you would be able to turn your neediness into a gift for others.

Sr Kym Harris osb www.prayasoucan.com.au


Graphics: youngcatholics.com

PARISHIONERS PLEASE NOTE


There will be a 9am Mass on Monday, 9th December for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.	
FIRST READING:	Jeremiah 33 : 14-16 <i>I will cause a good seed to spring forth from David.</i>	
RESPONSE:	To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.	
SECOND READING:	1 Thessalonians 3 : 12 – 4:2 <i>When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness.</i>	
ACCLAMATION:	Alleluia, alleluia! When Christ comes may he strengthen your hearts in holiness. Alleluia.	
GOSPEL:	Luke 21 : 25-28. 34-36 <i>Your redemption is near at hand.</i>	
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.	


PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

 **Deceased:** Please pray for the recently deceased as well as (Anniversary of Carla Lewis), Jason Vella, Karen Bartolo, Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut, Anton and Pavlina Skraban, Mateo and Andriano Scarpin, Chris, John, Maryanne Sultana and family..

Sick: Please pray for Jimmy Marinas, Marilyn Marinas, Thelma Rays, Joan Dodd, Roza Galea, Roslyn Wright, Grant Leslie, Fely Watkins, Christopher Sales, Maggie Abraham, Kevin Hawkins, Julieta Hawkins, Susitina Makasini, Alya Oyon-Oyon and Riley Oyon-Oyon.

FORMATION SESSION

We would like to remind parishioners that the Formation Session for Voluntary Assisted Dying, Communion to the Sick and Aged Care, run by Deacon Dr Michael Tan, will be held this Monday, 2nd December from 7 - 8pm in the hall. All parishioners are welcome to attend.




SODALITY OF OUR LADY

All school aged children are invited to join the Sodality of Our Lady which is held every Monday from 3.30pm to 4.30pm in the hall. The children are taught how to pray the rosary and then have Gospel and other readings. If you would like your child to take part or would like more information, please speak of a Legion of Mary member.

MONDAY CLUB LUNCH

There will be NO Monday Club lunch this Monday as Suzanne is away. But, on Monday, 9th December you are welcome to join in a Christmas lunch at the Richmond Club. If you would like to be a part of the Kris Kringle gift giving, please bring a \$10- gift with you. No booking is required, just turn up on the day.




WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF READERS, IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR SPEAK TO CITA.

HOLY HOUR FOR CHILDREN

We will be holding the monthly Holy Hour for children on Friday, 6th December at 6pm in the Church. It will be followed by Mass at 7pm. All parishioners are invited to attend especially children.

BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE'S HOUSES TO HOMES

This Christmas, will you help homeless mothers and children find a safe place to call home and rebuild their lives? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provide homeless mothers and their children with practical and emotional support, and a safe haven to call home. Please give generously to the Bishop's Christmas Appeal which will be held at all Masses this weekend.



HELPERS NEEDED

We are looking for people who are willing and able to help sand and paint the pews. We are hoping to refurbish them 2 at a time and it will take place in the Presbytery garage. If you can help with this task, please contact Tony 0488 110 111.

ROSTERS: 7TH/8TH DECEMBER, 2024			SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B	
Church Cleaning: A. Tabone.			Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.	
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	M. Grosvenor	C. Attard	C. Conolly	C. Chalker
Reader/s:	M. Said	J. Wein	I. Willingham	M. Claravall
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	J. Rapa	G. Claravall