



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::

Monday 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:

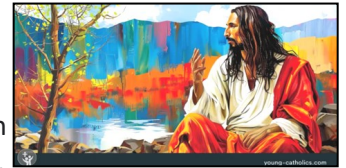
1st, 2nd and 3rd Sundays each month.

Marriages:

By appointment

Third Sunday of Advent Year C

15th December, 2024



'And just what were you expecting?'

Expectations play a significant role in the emotional landscape of our lives.

They can be a force in determining what we do. And delight or disappointment can follow from whether they are fulfilled or not.

Central to John the Baptist's call to repentance is a recalibration of the people's expectation regarding salvation. In the text immediately preceding this Sunday's Gospel he has been aggressively attacking the presumptuous expectation of the people that their descent from Abraham would be the source of salvation for those who could claim such. Shock and disappointment must have reverberated through his hearers and we hear their response three times in this Sunday's Gospel – "What must we do?"

His responses would have challenged them yet again. Having come out into the wilderness to hear this firebrand preacher they must have expected a vigorous program of ascetic endeavour and prayer. They probably shook their heads and wondered if they had heard him right when he told them, essentially, to be generous and just in the ordinary course of their lives. No fasting, no praying and what, no deprivation! 'Give from your excess when there is a person in need.' 'Even if your job is a despised one like tax-collecting or soldiering for the occupying force, do it justly and be content with the right income.' No wonder the people thought John might be the Christ – these views were so radical.

Having heard John's challenges to the people, it is a good idea this Advent to hear and apply them to ourselves. We need to ask some serious questions: just what do we expect from our faith and what do we think we have to do to live out our faith? Applying John's criteria to our lives might not be what we expected but fulfilling them may well challenge us more than we could know.

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD.


The people coming to John had a feeling of expectancy and John by his preaching, challenges them to align their expectation with God's desire for them.

As you rest in God's love, ask yourself what are the expectations you place on yourself? In relation to God? In relation to your family and friends.


Then ask yourself what expectations you believe God has on you? On your relationships with family and friends? With regards to your work? Is there a discrepancy between your expectations and God's?

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

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.	
FIRST READING:	Zephaniah 3 : 14-18 <i>With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.</i>	
RESPONSE:	Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.	
SECOND READING:	Philippians 4 : 4-7 <i>The Lord is near.</i>	
ACCLAMATION:	Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia.	
GOSPEL:	Luke 3 : 10-18 <i>What, then, must we do?</i>	
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.	

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

 **Deceased:** Please pray for the recently deceased as well as (Anniversaries of Antonio Martello, Bernard Axiak, Bill and Rosemary Cordina), George Seguna, Carla Lewis, Jason Vella, Anton and Pavlina Skraban, Mateo and Andriano Scarpin, John Ripa, Nicola Ripa, Antonia Ripa, Jesse Ripa, Bonnie Farrugia, John Mifsud, Philip & Mary Mifsud, Carmelo & Elizabeth Vella, 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, Riley Oyon-Oyon and Hank Eggers.

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

We would like to thank parishioners for their generosity at the last Appeal. We raised approximately \$3,100- for the Bishops Christmas Appeal for Catholic Care's Houses to Homes. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MASS VOLUNTEERS - WE NEED YOU

For Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, we are in need of volunteers for all of the different ministries. Please consider helping during one (or more) of the Masses. Any help you can give will be greatly appreciated. If you are willing to volunteer, please place your name in the appropriate spot on the sheet at the back of the Church.



CHRISTMAS MASSES 2024

Tuesday, 24th December: (Christmas Vigil)

6.30pm Open Air Family Mass
(in St Matthew's School Grounds.
Please bring your own chair/rug)

8.30pm Mass (Church)

Wednesday, 25th December: (Christmas)

Midnight Mass (Church)

7.30am Mass (Church)

9.00am Mass (Church)



PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY.


CALENDARS FOR SALE

We still have Columban and Sisters of St Joseph 2025 calendars for sale in the Parish Office. Only \$10- each. They make a great Christmas gift or stocking filler. Please contact the office 45773073 if you would like to buy one.

RECONCILIATION

2nd Rite St Monica's Richmond
Wednesday, 18th December 7.00pm

1st Rite St. Matthew's Windsor NSW
Every Saturday in December
at 8.15am and 9.30am.



HELPERS NEEDED

We are still looking for people who are willing and able to help sand and paint the pews. No heavy lifting is required. If you can help with this task, please contact Tony 0488 110 111.

ROSTERS: 21ST/22ND DECEMBER, 2024		FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B		
Church Cleaning: C. Teuma and T. May.		Sacristy: I. Willingham and M. Hutchison.		
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	M. Said	S. Mackenzie	L. Buchanan	M. Claravall
Reader/s:	A. Dimech	E. El Hindy	S. Touma	S. Tyler / C. Chalker
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	T. McMahon	G. Claravall