



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

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

Friday 6.30pm

Saturday 9.30am

Stations of the Cross

Friday 7.00pm

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 Lent Year C 9th March, 2025



The wilderness, or desert, is used repeatedly throughout the Bible as a place of special encounter with God and preparation for a new direction or a new ministry. The 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness immediately followed his baptism in the Jordan where his status as the beloved of God was confirmed. He is led by the Spirit to go out into the wilderness for a period of fasting, prayer and preparation before entering into his public ministry. In fact, the event that immediately follows this passage is the episode in Nazareth where Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah and declares the intent of his ministry. It is presented as if, having spent his time in preparation and overcoming the temptations before him, Jesus strode out of the wilderness and laid out what he had decided.

The episode of the temptations is a clear indicator of the humanity of Jesus – he experienced doubt, uncertainty and fear just as we do. If the gospel intended to emphasise the divinity of Jesus, none of these temptations would have been an issue. We are told that Jesus was indeed tempted, not just pestered by the devil. The opportunities laid before Jesus were actually tempting to him. They challenged his resolve. They made Jesus question the sort of Messiah that he was to be: the all-conquering, powerful Messiah that the people expected; or the servant to the poor who will be tortured and put to death. Jesus is tempted to use his power to make his task easier or to display his authority to others. Had he chosen to do this, surely it would have been easier to get people's attention – and that was the temptation: to take the easier path or stick to the more subtle, more personal, more difficult path.

LIVING THE GOSPEL – LENT

The 40 days that Jesus spent praying and preparing in the wilderness is reflected in the season of Lent that lasts 40 days from Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays in the season). It has been traditional that during the time of Lent Christian people renew their efforts in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these practices are actions of preparation. Just as Jesus prepared for his ministry in the wilderness, so too is Lent an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our reflection on what we are called to do in this world.

Greg Sunter www.liturgyhelp.com
Graphics: youngcatholics.com

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26 : 4 - 10

The confession of faith of the elect.

RESPONSE: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

SECOND READING: Romans 10 : 8-13

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

ACCLAMATION: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL: Luke 4 : 1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased as well as Nicola Ripa, Antonia Ripa, John Ripa, Jesse Ripa, Bonnie Farrugia, John Mifsud, Kevin Lamond, John & Rosy Attard, Tony and Mary Colombo, Emmanuel Attard, Karen Bartolo, Chris, John, Maryanne Sultana and family.

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

RECONCILIATION AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent reconciliation will be available at 6.30pm and then again after the 7pm Stations of the Cross. All parishioners are welcome to both reconciliation and Stations of the Cross.



ST MATTHEW'S LENTEN PROGRAM

The Lenten program will start this Tuesday, 11th March. The groups will be held at 9.30am and 7pm in the Parish House. Books will be distributed at the first session. If you would like to join a group and have not put your name down, please feel free to attend either group.

THE MONDAY CLUB OUTING

For those who are going to the Premiers' Gala Concert next Thursday 13th April, please meet at Windsor train station at 8.15am

PROJECT COMPASSION

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes, online, or by calling 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.



CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK LITURGIES SEMINAR

Acolytes, Ministers at the Altar, Senior Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion are invited to attend this day seminar which will focus on the different Holy Week and Easter Triduum liturgies presented by Mr Chris Ohlsen. Saturday 22nd March from 9:30am-3pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Liturgies covered: Palm Sunday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. Morning tea and lunch provided. Please register for catering purposes by 17th March via parracatholic.org/events/celebrating-holy-week-seminar

ROSTERS: 15TH/16TH MARCH, 2025		2ND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C		
Church Cleaning: C. Touma and T. May.		Sacristy: D. Marshall and M. Hutchison.		
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	T. Ripa	S. Mackenzie	N. McMahon	A. Pennings
Reader/s:	A. Dimech	E. El Hindy	I. Willingham	R. Xerri
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	T. McMahon	D. Edgar