



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

Holy Hour for Children

First Friday each month 6.00pm

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C

6th April, 2025



This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up' to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupation had forbidden the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. By bringing the woman to Jesus they sought to place him in a no-win situation. If he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the death penalty, then he was flaunting Roman law. If he did not uphold the law then he could be branded as a false teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap!

But where is the man with whom the woman was committing adultery? When he is not also brought forward for judgment as any legitimate accusation would demand, Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He realises that those accusing the woman must have somehow been involved in setting her up so that she could be 'caught committing adultery'. In Jewish law, accessories to a crime were equally guilty and subject to the same penalty. When Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned ...,' he's letting them know that he's aware of their part in this crime and what judgment is due them also! If they persist with their accusation, they'll also be tried as accessories! So they quietly walk away.

Jesus' words to the woman sum up his message throughout the gospel: 'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin any more.' As with others in the gospels, Jesus recognises that the woman has indeed sinned, but he does not condemn her for it. By telling her not to sin any more he is calling her to conversion. He is saying, yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do better and I'm challenging you to try.

LIVING THE GOSPEL – FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN

The words Jesus speaks to the accused woman could as easily be addressed to each of us. We all feel at times that we've done the wrong thing – something we don't deserve to be forgiven for. However, Jesus says to us, I know you've done the wrong thing, and you are already forgiven, but you need to make a commitment to change and not repeat the error. It is Jesus' promise not to give up on us – not to forget about us – that we can draw strength from as we try to respond to his challenge to change.

Greg Sunter www.liturgyhelp.com

Graphics: youngcatholics.com

THESE RESPONSES AND READINGS ARE NOT FOR THE SUNDAY 9AM MASS.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43 : 16-21
I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.

RESPONSE: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3 : 8-14
Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

ACCLAMATION: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL: John 8 : 1-11
Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Has no one condemned you, woman? No One, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Michael Yiamkiati, (Anniversary Sam Spiteri), as well as Joseph Dao, Jane Vassallo, John Mifsud, John Ripa, Stella and Charlie Bonanno. Frances Bonanno, Frank Debono, Chris, John, Maryanne Sultana and family.

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

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: First Eucharist

We would like to remind parents of children in the program, that there is a workshop at 7pm on Tuesday, 8th April and Wednesday, 9th April in the Church. Children are required to be accompanied by a parent and only need to attend one of the workshops. If you have any questions, please contact Cita in the Parish Office.



HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Holy week will soon be here and we are still looking for volunteers to help with the various ministries at all services and Masses. If you are able to help in any way, please put your name in the appropriate spot on the sheets at the back of the Church.

POTTED PLANTS REQUIRED:

Following the 7pm Mass of the Lords Supper on Thursday, 17th April, we will be having the Altar of Repose in the Parish Hall. To make it resemble being in the garden with Jesus, we are hoping to borrow some potted plants from parishioners. If you are able to help with plants, they can be dropped off at the Hall on that Thursday morning.

PROJECT COMPASSION

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground. Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities. Unite Against Poverty and donate today. Donations can be made through the donation boxes, envelopes, online, or by calling 1800 024 413. There are still boxes and envelopes available at the back of the Church.



BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL FOR CATHOLIC CARE'S CHAPLAINCY SERVICES

This Lent, will you be a pilgrim of hope to people who may break in the face of suffering? Your kind-hearted gift and prayers will help our chaplains at Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains offer pastoral care, comfort and Christian companionship that can bring healing and transformation. If you haven't had a chance to donate, there are envelopes available at the back of the Church. Please give generously to the Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal. Envelopes can be placed in either collection or in the box at the back of the Church or you can donate at parracatholic.org/appeal

LAUNCH OF NEW WEBSITE - www.CathEvents.org.au

Looking to grow in your faith and become closer to God? More than one hundred opportunities to participate in prayer gatherings, formation days, parish renewal training, caminos, retreats and more are now available on Australia's Catholic events hub, [cathevents.org.au]CathEvents. Find online and in-person events to help connect with God and your fellow Catholics!



DONATING TO ST MATTHEW'S USING RETURN AND EARN

Do you have soft drink cans, plastic water bottles or other recyclable drink containers piling up at home? Now when you take these for recycling at Return and Earn machines you can donate the payment to "St Matthew's Catholic Church Restoration". The parish has registered with the scheme to help raise funds for church restoration projects, starting with work on some of the stained glass windows in the church.



To take part, download the Return and Earn App from the App Store and register yourself. Then you will have a personal barcode appear on your phone. Browse the list of charities to find "St Matthew's Catholic Church Restoration" and press on its tile, scroll down and select "Set as payout" to make it your donation payout option. When you go to one of the collection machines, scan your barcode and deposit your containers. The 10c per container will be directed to the parish restoration fund. Alternatively, if you don't have the app. You can return your containers to a local machine, press donate on the screen and find "St Matthew's Catholic Church Restoration" and press confirm. Your support with this is appreciated.

PILGRIMAGES

⇒ **Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Adult 35 years+ Jubilee Pilgrimage**

Join a life-changing 19-day pilgrimage from 7 to 25 September 2025, exploring sacred sites in Greece, Turkey, and Rome. Open to adults aged 35 and over, this journey follows St. Paul's path and the early Church, culminating in the Jubilee Year of Hope in Rome. Bookings close on 2 May 2025, with a deposit of \$800 required at the time of booking. The final payment is due by 7 July 2025. Don't miss this incredible faith experience. For more information and to register, visit parracatholic.org/jubileepilgrimage2025/.

⇒ **Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee Youth Pilgrimage**

Young people (18-35 years) across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to embark on an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from 19 July – 5 August 2025. The journey includes a visit to Greece, tracing the footsteps of Saint Paul, before heading to Rome for the celebration. To book your spot or for more information visit parracatholic.org/jubileeyouth2025

⇒ **Fr. Clifford D'Souza**

Is inviting you to join him on a pilgrimage to the saints of Portugal, Spain, France and Italy- Fatima, Avila, Loyola, Lourdes, Nevers, Lisieux, Paris, Padova, Assisi and Rome. 31st August- 19th September 2025. For more details please contact Fr. Clifford on cliff_dsouza03@yahoo.com.au or atitours@atitours.com.au/

⇒ **Sri Lankan Tour**

Join Fr Michael Kelly OSB on a unique tour of Sri Lanka, exploring its cultural and historical sites, stunning natural landscapes, and Benedictine monasteries. The itinerary includes visits to key landmarks, a wildlife park, and a scenic rail journey. Departure: 22nd September 2025. Duration: 13 Nights/ 14 Days. Cost: AU\$5,945.00 per person, twin share. Upgrades: Airfares, land-only options, and single supplements available. To secure your spot, a non-refundable deposit of AU\$500 per person is required. For more information and booking: johanne@etra-vel.com.au; (02)9232 1711 or for information, Fr Michael Kelly: mkelly@silvestrini.org; 0455 329 607.

SAFEGUARDING THE ELDERLY PROJECT

Are you interested in sharing and listening to ideas about how we can meet the needs of older people in our Parish communities? You are invited to host a morning tea with your parish or ministry team. Those involved in ministries such as Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Pastoral Care Groups, are invited to share their experiences and reflections. Please contact Maria Kervin (Manager, Prevention, Healing & Support) at: mariakervin@parracatholic.org for more information.



OFFICE OF TENEBRAE, ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

All are welcome to attend the annual Office of Tenebrae at St Patrick's Cathedral on Monday 14th April at 7:30pm. The Office of Tenebrae is a Holy Week reflection liturgy including Scripture, psalm chanting and motets and will feature the Cathedral Choir. As the Diocese and the global Church prepares for Holy Week, the Tenebrae service is a reminder of the eternal light and hope brought into the world through Christ's Resurrection. All Catholics are invited to attend.



ROSTERS: 12TH/13TH APRIL, 2025		PALM SUNDAY YEAR C		
Church Cleaning: A. Tabone.		Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.		
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	T. Ripa	C. Attard	N. McMahon	C. Chalker
Reader/s:	A. Dimech	J. Wein	S. Touma	M. Claravall / R. Xerri
Acolyte/Adult Server	J. Dimech	J. Coco	T. McMahon	G. Claravall

LENT AND EASTER MASSES AND SERVICES 2025

Palm Saturday, 12th April and Palm Sunday, 13th April

Usual weekend Masses

Tuesday, 15th April

9.00am Mass

Wednesday, 16th April

9.00am Mass

7.30pm *Chrism Mass (St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta)*

Thursday, 17th April

No Morning Mass

7.00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (in the Church) followed by

"Reflecting with Jesus in the Garden"- until 10.00pm [Altar of Repose in the hall]

Good Friday, 18th April

No Morning Mass

10.00am Family Stations of the Cross

3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Death

Holy Saturday, 19th April

No Morning Mass

10.00am Individual Reconciliation

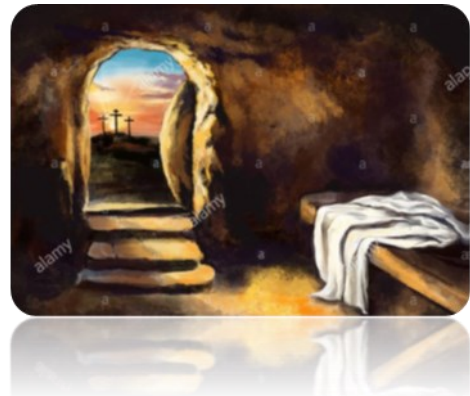
6.00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday, 20th April

7.30am Mass

9.00am Mass

NO 5PM EVENING MASS



POINTING FINGERS AND THROWING STONES WORDSEARCH

J	I	K	Z	S	Y	H	A	T	A	J	P	P	A	D
X	O	B	Y	D	T	X	I	S	E	F	O	I	C	F
P	D	S	W	U	X	O	N	K	I	M	T	R	C	G
S	K	O	T	L	J	I	N	W	E	N	P	Z	U	N
L	R	P	I	M	S	T	E	E	A	P	E	L	S	D
C	M	I	E	O	S	H	Q	M	G	U	H	C	E	W
C	H	Q	S	R	T	N	O	C	O	N	D	E	M	N
H	A	P	T	N	A	W	S	E	B	Q	O	F	P	M
Z	K	B	H	I	U	E	Z	K	J	D	W	E	K	V
A	C	L	R	N	G	M	Y	F	E	A	I	B	Y	Q
G	G	Z	O	G	H	B	P	Q	S	W	L	M	E	X
V	G	E	W	A	T	B	D	J	U	J	O	D	U	S
A	D	U	L	T	E	R	Y	W	S	M	K	I	X	T
O	C	Y	V	A	C	U	N	R	F	I	R	S	T	F
P	Q	R	D	E	W	L	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	S

TRY TO FIND THESE WORDS:

JESUS	TAUGHT
STONE	MORNING
ADULTERY	CONDEMN
ACCUSE	FIRST
TEACHERS	THROW
SIN	CROWD
WOMAN	TEMPLE
LAW	

