



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 4.00pm
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday*

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:

Easter Weekend:

Sat. Vigil 6.00pm

Sun. 7.30am, 9.00am and 5.00pm

Weekday Communion Services:

Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am

Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30am

Holy Hour for Children (Except June)

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 Thursday 6pm (youth)

Every Thursday 7.15pm (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 Easter Year C 18th May, 2025



Amongst my family and friends, there are a number of couples who have very good marriages. Every person amongst them will affirm, and affirm vigorously, that making their marriage has been hard work. Not hard work in the sense of drudgery. Rather this hard work is more like that of an artist or an engineer bringing into being a new creation. It takes skill, imagination, the commitment of hours, attention to detail, faithfulness in the boring patches, but especially devotion from the depths of the self. In short, it takes true love. Yet the commitment of marriage is even greater than that of the artist or engineer. They can walk away from their creation, or take a holiday. True love in marriage and in families doesn't have that luxury. And it is not just in marriage that such love occurs. The story of Sr Rachel Fassera, an Italian nun working in Uganda, is overwhelming. When students in her care were kidnapped by the Lord's Resistance Army, she tracked through the jungle and begged, prayed and nagged until most of them were released. The account of this incident shows the complexity and difficulty that love must sometime negotiate in this real and messy world.

When Jesus tells us to love as he has loved us, he is not speaking of a sweet and gentle love that makes life easy. No, he is talking of bringing us, weak and broken as we are to the fullness of life in our real and messy world. When I seriously consider the love that Jesus has shown to me, I must admit that he does embrace me as I am....but he doesn't let me stay that way. From tender suggestions to vigorous and sometimes unpleasant rebukes, he works on me, trying to induce and encourage me into a richer and fuller life. And he asks me in turn to show that love. Why am I fearful to do so? Perhaps because I am nervous of receiving such an overwhelming love. But I need not fear. Jesus is still working on me.

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD.

Jesus commands us to love each other as he has loved us. Ponder on the differing ways Jesus has shown his love to you. Enter into these, using your memory and imagination to recall how you felt and how you responded to that love in different situations.

When you have pondered this love for some time, ask yourself how you could act in a similar manner towards the people with whom you live and work.

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 14 : 21-27
They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

RESPONSE: I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

SECOND READING: Apocalypse 21 : 1-5
He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, Alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 13 : 31-35
I give you a new commandment: love one another.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

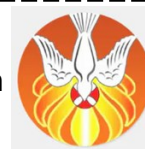
Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Joan Dodd, Elizabeth Wheeler, Pope Francis, Marivic Valderrama, Marilyn Marinas, (Anniversary of John Sultana) as well as William van Vliet, Agapito Perez, Josephine Galea, Josephine Fenech, Karen Bartolo, Leticia Esguerra, Aronne and Francis Cassar, Carmen and Carmelo Grima, Chris, John, Maryanne Sultana and family.

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



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - Confirmation

If you have a child in Year 5 who has received their First Eucharist, they are now eligible to make their Confirmation. The program will start with a Parent Information Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday, 27th May and Wednesday, 28th May in the Church. Only one parent is required to attend one meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Cita at the Parish Office.



COMMUNION TO THE HOUSEBOUND

If you have a family member or friend who lives in the Parish, is housebound and would like to receive communion, please contact the Parish office. When Father returns from his pilgrimage, he is hoping to take communion to those unable to attend Mass.

RETURN AND EARN

We would like to remind parishioners that we have teamed with return and earn to raise much needed funds to help with the cost of restoring the Church. You can either download the app and donate through there or apparently you can donate through any of the local drop off points. Your support with this endeavour will be greatly appreciated.



REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN FOR DIOCESAN RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

The diocese is hosting three retreat opportunities for adults of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope. Take the step away from your usual routine to experience a diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection, renewal and encounter with God. Registrations are now open. For more details and to register, see the three options of retreats below:

May 24: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-24-may/>
 August 16: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/>
 November 15: <https://parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/>



LOW COST COUNSELLING SERVICES

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains provides low cost and affordable counselling services for individuals seeking support. Whether you're looking for general guidance or assistance with specific challenges like grief, loss, or family matters, call Catholic Care on 8843 2500 for a friendly chat.

ROSTERS: 24TH/25TH MAY, 2025			6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C	
Church Cleaning: A. Tabone.			Sacristy: B. and N. Duff..	
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	T. Ripa	S. Mackenzie	C. Conolly	M. Claravall
Reader/s:	H. Sobiesiak	C. Attard	S. Kavanagh	S. Tyler / C. Chalker
Acolyte/Adult Server	T. Jordan	J. Coco	T. McMahon	G. Claravall