



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 9.30am to 4.30pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
9.30am to 4pm Wednesday

Masses:

Weekend:

Sat. Vigil 6.00pm
Sun. 7.30am, 9.00am and 5.00pm

Weekday:

Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am
Ash Wednesday 9am and 7pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday 9.30am

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday during the 9am Mass

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 Thursday 6pm (youth)
Every Saturday 3.30pm (adult)

Divine Mercy Prayer Group (in hall):

Every second Saturday 10am

Baptisms:

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

Marriages:

By appointment

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A *15th February, 2026*

Today's First Reading, Psalm and Gospel all relate to the way in which we are called to live in right relationship with God and with one another. What is referred to as the 'Law' is generally used as shorthand for the Torah – the first five books of the Bible – which first of all establishes the history of relationship between God and humanity through the books of Genesis and Exodus and then provides detailed instructions about how that relationship should be honoured and observed. When Jesus speaks about the Law and the Prophets, he is deliberately including the extensive collection of prophetic writings that interpret the Law in terms of justice and right relationships with others as being a reflection of the right relationship with God.



By declaring that he has come not to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to complete – or fulfil – them, Jesus is making it perfectly clear that his ministry and teaching is in alignment with and in accordance with the historical tradition and he is not setting out to overthrow the Jewish tradition. Rather, throughout his ministry, Jesus repeatedly calls the people to be true to the teachings of old and to live them with integrity and dedication. His constant complaint is against those who live by the letter of the Law and ignore what we would call the spirit or intention of the Law. This is the root of his swipe at the shallow virtue of the scribes and Pharisees in today's gospel. The criticism that Jesus levelled at these two groups was that their adherence to the Law made no room for the compassionate heart that the writings of the Prophets demanded.

LIVING THE GOSPEL – INTERPRETATION

Jesus demonstrates the crucial nature of interpretation. It is easy for us today to look at something like the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes and dismiss them as irrelevant. Taken literally, they may seem to have fairly limited application to our modern lives. However, interpreted in a broader context and within the context of our own lives, such ancient codes of behaviour can take on new significance. Jesus points us towards the importance of looking beyond the surface and searching out the truth of such statements. Interpretation of scripture for our modern lives and modern world is vital to living life to the fullest.

Reflections: Greg Sunter www.liturgyhelp.com
Graphics: <https://www.acatholic.org/>

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

RESPONSE: Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Francisco Eugenio, Antoinette Vella and Anna Noot as well as Antoine Bazouni, Paul Farrugia, Jeanine Dimech, Norberto Go, Joseph Aquilera, James Swainston, Charlie and Joanne Vassallo, Angelo and Paula Vella, Pio Vella, Charlie and Grace Vella, Felix and Maree Sammut, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana and family.

Sick: Please pray for Thelma Rays, Susitina Makasini, Lizella Sciberras, Sam Galea, Kevin Hawkins, Julieta Hawkins, Joyce Rapa, Sandra Vaughan, Joe Vella, Delina Galea, Bruno Franz Antoinette Vella, Gail Felice, Pam Everingham, Patricia Donohue, Alya Oyon-Oyon and Riley Oyon-Oyon.

ASH WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and Masses will be held at 9am and 7pm. Please note that the year 3 to year 6 children from St Matthew's school will be attending the 9am Mass.

LENTEN GROUPS

The Lenten Groups will start this week. As Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the first meetings will be held this Thursday, 19th February at 9.30am and 7pm in the Parish House. All meetings after that will be held on a Wednesday. The reflection books are available to collect from the Parish Office or you can collect it at the first meeting.



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL BE HELD EVERY FRIDAY OF LENT AT 7PM IN THE CHURCH.
ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.**

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT

The Pastoral Council which was established late last year has been meeting monthly, gradually finding our feet and discerning our mission. We are currently developing a revised parish directory, outlining the various roles, ministries, groups and activities within the parish. In our role to advise Fr Ranillo on meeting the pastoral needs of parishioners we have been reflecting on the existing strengths of the parish, which are many and encouraging, as well as on steps which might be taken to enhance the welcoming nature of the parish. The Diocesan Pastoral Plan is helping to guide our reflections.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

The next set of planned Giving Envelopes are available for collection from the trolley at the back of the Church. Please take your set home with you after Mass.



BE A STRONGER YOU – FREE EMPOWERMENT COURSE FOR WOMEN

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains has partnered with Survivor Voice Australia to run a free six-week empowerment program for women who have experienced domestic violence and abuse. The program will start in February 2026 in the Blue Mountains. To express your interest, contact Catholic Care on (02) 8843 2500 or Survivor Voice Australia on 0422 876 700.

HOLY SPIRIT MISSION 2026

Last chance to register for the Holy Spirit Mission event on Saturday 21st February from 12pm to 5pm at Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes. Join us for prayer and praise, testimonies, talks and prayer ministry as you seek a deeper understanding and connection with the Holy Spirit. Register for this free event via www.trybooking.com/DIENC or scan the QR code on the flyer at the back of the Church to register.



INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028

This Congress will be hosted in Sydney in 2028 and is an exciting time for the Church in Australia as we welcome pilgrims from across the globe including Pope Leo XIV. To prepare for this important event, each of us are invited to enter into a time of personal and communal reflection and prayer. To mark the official commencement of the three year preparation phase, there will be a nationwide Holy Hour on Sunday, 1st March. Each Parish will be holding Eucharistic Adoration and St Matthew's will be holding ours here on Sunday 1st March at 3.30pm. All parishioners are invited to attend and to also take a prayer card from the back of the Church to help you prepare.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year the World Day of Prayer service will be focusing on Nigeria. It will be held at 10am on Friday, 6th March in Ebenezer Uniting Church and will be followed by morning tea. It is a lovely opportunity for our district churches across denominations to come together as one and pray for the country of Nigeria. All are welcome.

DIG DEEP FOR DEPRESSION

St John of God Hospital Richmond will be holding a fundraising event at North Richmond Panthers on Sunday, 15th March . Doors open at 1.30pm to start at 2pm. Tickets are only \$35- each. To find out more details, please see the flyer at the back of the Church.

WHEN SHOULD I COMPLETE MY SAFEGUARDING TRAINING?

All Clergy, employees and volunteers in parish ministry are required by the NSW Children's Guardian Act 2019 to be current and complete with Safeguarding Training. If you are new to ministry, you must complete the Introductory Modules 1-3 (Cycle 1). If you completed Cycle 1 modules two years ago, you must complete Renewal Modules 4 and 5 (Cycle 2). If you renewed your Cycle 2 two years ago, you must complete a Refresher Module 6 (Cycle 3) Safeguarding Training Modules can always be completed online at <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au/>. Face-to-face training opportunities can be found at <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>.



BE RECONCILED BEFORE YOU OFFER YOUR GIFT TO GOD.

Find your way through the maze

START



ROSTERS: 21ST/22ND FEBRUARY, 2026		FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: J Dimech.		Sacristy: B. and N. Duff.		
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	T. Ripa	S. Mackenzie	C. Conolly	C. Chalker
Reader/s:	M. Williams	E. El Hindy	R. Bigeni	S. Tyler
Acolyte/Adult Server:	T. Jordan	M. Hutchison	J. Rapa	P. Tran



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For the most up-to-date menu and information, it is recommended to check our Facebook page.

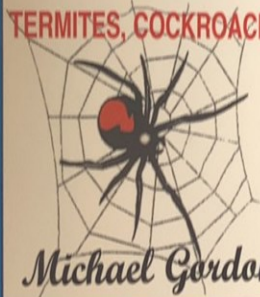
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