



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

Reconciliation:

Saturday 9.30am

Stations of the Cross

Friday 7.00pm

Children's Liturgy:

Every Sunday during the 9am Mass

Holy Hour For Children: (not March)

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

First Sunday of Lent Year A

22nd February, 2026



Sin and temptation are the dominant themes of the readings for this first week of Lent. Indeed, they are regular themes in the season of Lent. However, the scripture passages throughout this season allow us the opportunity to think again about these themes and perhaps reconsider some traditional understandings of them.

Today's first reading and gospel give us two different takes on the notion of temptation. In the passage from Genesis, humanity is tempted to ignore the will of God and, when they succumb, they lose their innocence and become embarrassed by their nakedness. The temptation they are offered is to believe themselves above and beyond the will of God; to believe that they can judge as well as God; and to rise to an equal level of power and authority with God. Their action breaks the trusting, loving relationship between themselves and God. In the Gospel, Jesus too is confronted with similar temptations. Ultimately, the temptation that faces Jesus relates to his purpose and ministry – will he trust to God's vision of the suffering servant who will bring about a change of heart in the people, or will he be the sort of Messiah that the people hoped for: a triumphant, glorious victor over all who stood in his way. He is tempted to break his self-imposed fasting, to test God's promise of nurture and security, and to seek glory and personal power. Whilst Adam and Eve surrender to temptation, Jesus holds fast to God's vision.

The second reading from Paul ties the Genesis and Gospel readings together and injects the notion of sin into the equation. However, Paul make it perfectly clear that the sin of Adam, though carrying great ramifications, pales in comparison to the extraordinary abundance of God's love that is expressed through Jesus Christ.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT? – AN INVITATION

Lent is a season of invitation. It is an invitation to step into the desert with Jesus; to confront our own purpose and ministry and to renew our trust in God's vision for the world and for us individually. Seen in this light, Lent is so much more than fasting from meat and giving up ice cream for a few weeks. The whole idea of fasting and sacrifice is an attempt to simplify our lives. Through simplifying our life and removing some of the daily distractions, we can share in the desert experience of Jesus and then truly celebrate the hope reborn in the Easter season.

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

BE THE WITNESS

They are holding more choir auditions for this musical in Blacktown on Monday, 23rd February from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Please see the flyer at the back of the Church for details.



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: Genesis 2 : 7-9 ; 3 : 1-7
Creation of our first parents, and sin.

RESPONSE: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

SECOND READING: Romans 5 : 12-19
Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

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: Matthew 4 : 1-11
Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

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 Francisco Eugenio and Antoinette Vella, (Anniversary of Jeanine Dimech) as well as Antoine Bazouni, Paul Farrugia, Felipe Mari Snr James Swainston, Charlie & Grace Vella, Felix & Maree Sammut, Ignatius & Diana Pereira, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana & 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 Gail Felice, Pam Everingham, Patricia Donohue, Alya and Riley Oyon-Oyon.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - First Eucharist

If you have a child in Year 4 who has been Baptised and made their First Reconciliation, they are eligible to join the First Eucharist Program. It will start with a Parent Information Night at 7pm on Tuesday, 24th February and Wednesday, 25th February. Only one parent is required to attend one of the meetings to enrol your child and obtain the program information. Once you have attended the meeting, the child will then be required to attend a Commitment Mass. The Commitment Masses will be the 6pm and 9am Masses on the weekend of 28th February/1st March and 7th/8th March. Any questions, please contact Cita at the Parish Office.



MONDAY CLUB

Will meet next at the Clarendon Tavern for lunch at 12pm on Monday the 2nd March. Everyone is welcome.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION TALK

The next Baptismal Preparation Talk will be held this Thursday, 26th February at 7.30pm in the hall. Baptisms are held on the first, second and third Sundays of each month and bookings for the Baptisms are made at the talk. Bookings are also required for the talk and can be made by contacting the Parish Office. 4577 3073.



PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

There are still some sets of Planned Giving Envelopes available for collection from the trolley at the back of the Church. Please take your set home with you after Mass.

PEW RESTORATION

We would like to invite any parishioners, either with a trade or without to volunteer to help sand and polish the pews once/twice a month. We would need a core volunteer group (of about 6 people or so), who will commit their time and effort on a Saturday morning after Mass. Some instruction will be provided as guidance. I would also like to invite the group to pray together first, so our work becomes prayer- interceding for the needs of the church. The mission will be to build up our church as we have such a privilege in our heritage at St Matthews, building up the church in Australia. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Parish Office.



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

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.

DIOCESE SEMINARS

Celebrating Holy Week seminar is for Acolytes and Adult Servers, It will be held on Saturday, 7th March from 9.30am to 3pm in Bede Heather Centre Blacktown. Please RSVP by Monday, 2nd March. Details are on the flyer at the back of the Church.



Music for Easter Triduum will be held on Tuesday, 10th March from 7pm to 8.30pm also in Bede Heather Centre Blacktown. Please RSVP by 5th March. details are also on the flyer at the back of the Church.



FRANCISCAN JUBILEE YEAR

In this special year, the faithful are invited to imitate St Francis's evangelical virtues of poverty, humility, compassion and service to the poor. Until 10th January 2027 you can obtain a plenary indulgence under the usual conditions by making a pilgrimage to any Franciscan Conventual Church or place of worship dedicated to St Francis anywhere in the world. In the Diocese, these are The Good Shepherd Church Plumpton, St Bernadette's Church Dundas Valley, Our Lady of the Rosary Church and Shrine of Holy Innocents Kellyville, Poor Clare Monastery North Richmond and Our Lady of Consolation Chapel Rooty Hill.

PROJECT COMPASSION

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need. Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes, online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate or by calling: 1800 024 413



ROSTERS: 28TH FEBRUARY/1ST MARCH, 2026		SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A		
Church Cleaning: M. Quattromani and J. Mooney.		Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.		
Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	H. Sobiesiak	J. Wein	L. Buchanan	A. Pennings
Reader/s:	M. Said	S. Mackenzie	S. Touma	E. Sultana
Acolyte/Adult Server:	J. Saliba	M. Hutchison	T. Victorino	D. Edgar



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(02) 9145 2863

www.boldaccounting.com.au



Location: Colonial Drive, Bligh Park.
Hours: Fridays, 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM.
Offerings: Authentic Filipino food, including pork and chicken dishes.

Phone or message orders to 0432 699 461.

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

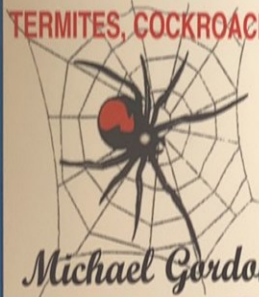
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FAX: 4577 3123



Michael Gordon

☎ 4577 4461

0418 244 355



KM Legal

7/374 High Street, Penrith NSW 2750

PO BOX 124, Penrith NSW 2751

www.kmlegal.com.au

hello@kmlegal.com.au

02 4712 8015