



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:

Easter Weekend:

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

Weekday:

Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am
First Friday monthly 7.00pm

Reconciliation:

Saturday 8.15 - 8.45am and 9.30 - 10.30am

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):

Saturday fortnightly 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

Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A *26th April, 2026*



As far as intelligence is concerned, sheep do not have a good reputation. Slow, sluggish, conformist are characteristics usually applied to them but a recent scientific study shows that they are not quite as stupid as has been assumed. This study found that they have extraordinary memories, especially for those who look after them. Even after two years absence, they remembered the farmer who had fed and cared for them. Maybe this is the characteristic Jesus was drawing on when he used the imagery of the shepherd. In the story of the 'Man Born Blind', we see the religious authorities acting in a way that was solely concerned with their own good. In contrast, we see Jesus acting for the good of the man. The man himself, through the story, learns to sift through his own experience and ultimately, he not only recognises that Jesus is the one who truly cares for him, he 'sees' who Jesus truly is and worships him.

We, too, need to sift through the experiences of our lives to recognise where goodness has been at work. We live in a society where plenty of people tell us what to do. For example, we are constantly being told what we should or shouldn't eat. Many years ago a wise doctor told me to listen to my own body – it will tell me what is good for it – but that takes sensitivity, attentiveness and discipline. In some ways it is easier to 'cop out' and follow what others tell me even though I know that is not the way to health.

One of the challenges of life is to learn to discern what is good for us and to embrace it. So many voices come at us asserting what we 'should' do. Jesus refers to himself as the Good Shepherd as 'goodness' itself is the tool by which we judge a right. We have been created in goodness, each with a unique set of characteristics, gifts and talents. These we should recognise and embrace as it is upon these that our path to a rich life will be built. Throughout life, we have various experiences some resulting in good, some not. Being attentive to what happens and what effect it has on us, will attune us to the voice of God calling us to fullness of life.

REST IN THE LOVE OF YOUR GOD.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leads us in the various situations of our life. In this Sunday's Gospel he uses the image of pasture, the place where he feeds us, as a sign of his care. We usually don't recognise the presence and work of God until after the event has past.

Over this week mull over the recent situations and times in which you have been 'feed' with wisdom and strength: As you mull, consider how you can integrate this wisdom into your life.

Such wisdom is always strengthened by sharing with others. If the opportunity arise to share this with others, take it and be surprised by how this wisdom is developed.

Reflection: Sr Kym Harris osb www.prayasyoucan.com.au
Graphics: <https://www.catholicculture.org>

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 6 : 1-7
They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

RESPONSE: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2 : 4-9
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; No one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 14 : 1-12
I am the way, the truth and the life.

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.



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:



Deceased: Please pray for the recently deceased Joseph Sultana, Pam Everingham, (Anniversaries of Mary Grima, Marivick Valderrama, Marilyn Marinas) as well as Karen Bartolo, Jason Vella, Matilda Mifsud, Bernard Axiak, Christino and Rita Teuma, Frances Vella, Lela Vella, Chris, John, Maryann Sultana and family.

Sick: Please pray for Thelma Rays, Susitina Makasini, Lizella Sciberras, Sam Galea, Kevin and Julietta Hawkins, Joyce Rapa, Sandra Vaughan, Patricia Donohue, Joe Vella, Delina Galea, Bruno Franz, Gail Felice, Leo Stivala, Corinne Anderson, Alya and Riley Oyon-Oyon.

HELP DESPERATELY NEEDED

Our parish ministry of SRE teachers are in urgent need of more people who are willing to give thirty minutes per lesson to help children learn about God's love. Please seriously consider volunteering to help with weekly Scripture classes at our local state schools. We have 13 primary schools and 2 high schools in our Parish from Bligh Park to Wisemans Ferry. Cattai, Maroota and Wisemans Ferry primary schools are small, so we don't offer scripture classes there. Currently there are no scripture classes either at Ebenezer or Glossodia as we need more volunteers. We only have 12 SRE's and many are teaching more than one class. Bede Polding students are also helping by teaching at Windsor Park school. Full training is provided. If you can help or want more information, contact Dolores 0409 998 198 or Annie 0412 182 823. We are happy for any help you can give. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, relative or friend, please consider helping.



HOLY HOUR FOR CHILDREN AND FIRST FRIDAY MASS

The monthly Holy Hour for children will be held this Friday, 1st May at 6pm in the Church and all parishioners are invited to attend especially children. The Holy Hour will conclude with Mass at 7pm and again all parishioners are invited..

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION TALK

The Next Baptismal Preparation Talk will be held this Thursday, 30th April at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Baptisms are held on the first, second and third Sundays of each month and the Baptisms are booked at the talk. Bookings are also required for the talk and can be made by calling the Parish Office 4577 3073.



PROJECT COMPASSION

Caritas Australia would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to parishioners for your generous support of Project Compassion 2026. Together, we raised \$1,120-, to help bring clean water, education, nutritious food, healthcare and support for those living with disability - showing what's possible when we come together as a Church to live out the Gospel message of love and justice.

SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MAY 2026

The next session of face-to-face Mandatory Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on 2nd May at St Joseph's Parish, Kingswood. More training opportunities are available throughout May at different parishes. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org



ADULT CONFIRMATIONS 2026

The Office for Worship will host a Catechesis and Formation Day for those candidates (16+) interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. This will be on Saturday 29th August, 9.30am – 2.00pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. A light lunch will be provided on the day. It is recommended that all sponsors attend the catechesis day. A contribution of \$40 is suggested from the candidates to assist in covering the Catechesis Day.



The Confirmation will take place on Tuesday 1st September, 2026 at 7:30pm at the Cathedral. Please Note: Enrolment forms and a copy of Baptismal Certificates should be sent to OFW before Monday 18th August, 2026. For more information, please contact the Office for Worship ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

ENGAGED ENCOUNTER COURSES FOR 2026

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit our web site: www.engagedencounter.org.au Choose any of the coming Weekends: May 23-24, Aug 8-9, Nov 14-15

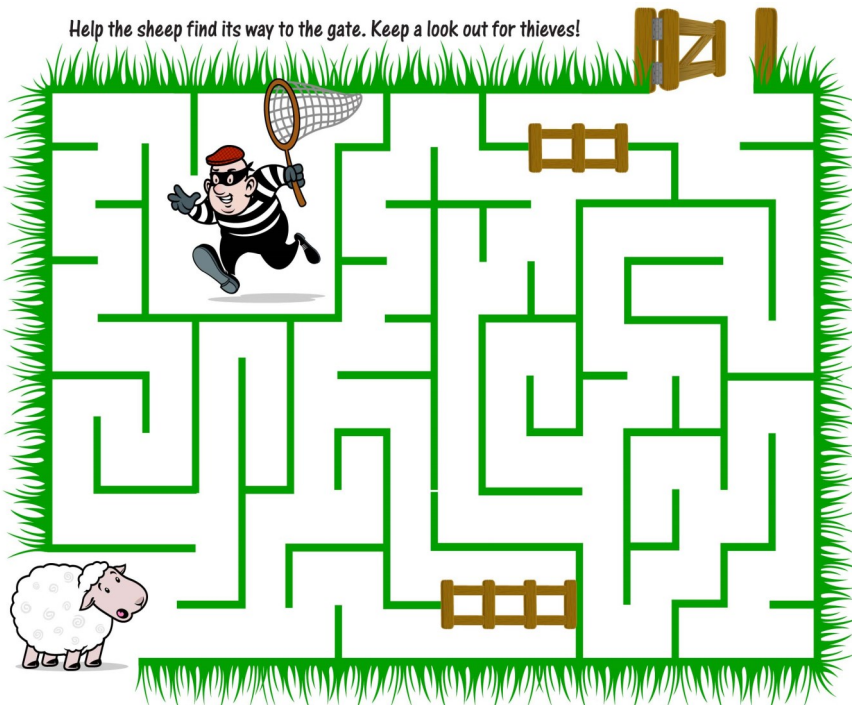
COMMISSIONING MASS OF LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All liturgical ministers – readers, servers, extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on 12th May 2026, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. Liturgical ministers are asked to please arrive by 7pm and be seated by 7:15pm. To register the number of guests and ministers attending please register by Thursday, 7th May. To register please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.



I AM THE GATE FOR THE SHEEP

Help the sheep find its way to the gate. Keep a look out for thieves!



PALMS

Join Palms International Volunteering for two special sessions where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications. In April meet past Palms volunteers and discover how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities, or join our May session for a live crossing to Timor Leste and see how lives are changing today. See palms.org.au/ events call 02 9560 5333 or email palms@palms.org.au
 April Session: Discover Palms Online! On Thursday 30th April from 7 pm – 8:30 pm.
 May Session: Live from Timor Leste! On Thursday 21st May from 4 pm – 5:30 pm.



ROSTERS: 2ND/3RD MAY, 2026

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

Church Cleaning: K. and G. Moffitt.

Sacristy: M. Roth and C. Vella.

Masses:	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	5.00pm
Commentator:	M. Said	S. Mackenzie	L. Buchanan	A. Pennings
Reader:	A. Sciberras	E. El Hindy	S. Touma	E. Sultana
Acolyte/Adult Server:	J. Saliba	M. Hutchison	P. Tran	D. Edgar



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

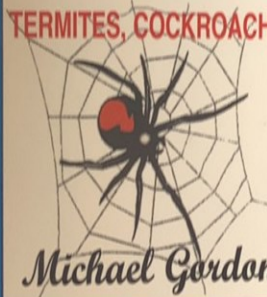
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