



The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner
 Archdiocese of Melbourne, 95 William Street, North Fawkner, 3060
 Tel. 9359 2369 e-mail: stmatthewschurch@bigpond.com



1st Sunday Lent Yr A. March 1, 2020

Parish Administrator: Fr. Florentino Galdo Tel: 9359 2369 School Principal: Bob Brown Tel: 9359 5423
 Parish Secretary: Krys Herrmann Tel: 9359 2369

Parish Mass Times SUNDAY

Vigil (Sat) 5:30 pm
 9:00 am English
 11:00 am Italian

KNANAYA COMMUNITY

Sundays 4:30pm

WEEKDAY ROSARY
 20 mins prior to Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES
 Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday 9.30 am

Wednesday 10.30am

CONFESSION

Sat, evening 5 pm or by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

1ST THURS OF THE MONTH @ 7 PM
 1st Fri of the month @ 8.30 am

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

By appointment

Parish Ministries
St Matthew's Prayer Group Tues 10.30 am

Perpetual Novena Our Lady of Perpetual Help Every Wednesday @ 7pm

Every Friday during Lent Mass & Stations of the Cross @ 7.00 pm

Ash Wednesday messages: We are invited to produce a real conversion and renewal of life during the period of Lent by fasting, penance, reconciliation and generous sharing.

We are to spend time in prayer, talking to God and listening to Him. Prayer helps us to turn our attention to God and turn away from what keeps us from God. When we pray, we listen to the Good News God whispers to us in mental prayer or through meditation on the Bible or in the Rosary. By increasing the quality and the quantity of our prayer, we get strength to fight against our temptations and grow in intimacy or relationship with God. Our prayer life can be enhanced during Lent by participating in the daily Mass, by making the Stations of the Cross, and by reading the Holy Bible every day, applying the message to our lives.

Advantages of fasting: It reduces the excessive accumulation of "fat" in our soul in the form of evil tendencies and evil habits (=spiritual obesity). It gives us additional moral and spiritual strength. It offers us more time to be with God in prayer.

It encourages us to share our food and goods with the needy. "There is joy in the salutary fasting and abstinence of Christians who eat and drink less in order that their minds may be clearer and more receptive to receive the sacred nourishment of God's word, which the whole Church announces and meditates upon in each day's liturgy throughout Lent" (Thomas Merton).

We are to lead a life of penance because: It is the model given by Jesus. It was his teaching: "If any one wishes to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me" and "Try to enter through the narrow gate."

Theological reasons: It removes the weakness left by sin in our souls, It pays the temporary debt caused by sin, and It makes our prayers more fruitful.

We are to enlarge our hearts for reconciliation. By receiving the ashes, we confess that we are sinners in need of the mercy of God, and we ask forgiveness for the various ways in which we have hurt our brothers and sisters. In the very recent past, our Catholic community has again experienced acute suffering caused by the scandalous behavior of a few of our spiritual leaders. Lent is a time for forgiveness and reconciliation. "Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation!" Let us allow the spirit of forgiveness to work its healing influence in our parishes and families.

We must share our blessings generously and sacrificially with others by alms giving: Jesus, who gave everything down to his last drop of blood, tells us to follow him, by giving of ourselves, our time, our talents, and our money generously. By Almsgiving, we highlight others as being more important than ourselves and give ourselves to them as Jesus gave Himself to others. Pope Leo XIII said, "Once the demands of necessity and propriety have been met, the rest of your money belongs to the poor." St. John Chrysostom said—and St. Ambrose echoed him—"For the man who has two shirts in his closet, one belongs to him; and the other to the man with no shirt."

Recently Deceased: Aime Obers, Pasquale Treglia, Jonas Montealegre, Angela Lorenzi,
Anniversaries: Arturo Ruggiero, Carolina Cristini, Grazia Conditorio, Francesco, Antonio, Teresa & Sarafina Schipano, Pasquale & Angela Tramontana, Domenico Lumbaca, Peter Rayner, Dino Mengato, Francesca Buccheri, Eustachio & Giannina Quattrocelli, Nino Di Guglielmo, Sherine & Shirley Adolphus Blossom & Aaron Weerasinghe, Luba, Margarita Tangcay & Fe Cabarrubias Turner

Please pray for the Sick : Maura, Robert, Joe, Adam, Rosa, Diana, Gina, Nola, Tony, Emma, Teresa, Steve, Michael, Paul, Giuseppe, Emmanuel, Mary, Michelle, Lucia, Leanne, Raemond, Muriel, Peter, Raphaela Natalina, Daniella, Christian, John, Anthony, Jessie, Con, Teresa, Rita, Gabriella Gino, Jason & Giovanni

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

ANOINTING MASS
 Wed April 1 @ 10.30 am

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CONFESSIONS
 Thurs April 2 @ 7.00 pm
 English & Italian

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PALM SUN April 6
 Sat Vigil @ 5:30 pm
 Sun 9.00am & 11.00 am

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HOLY THURS Last Supper
 April 9 @ 7pm

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GOOD FRI April 10

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Stations of the Cross 9.30am
Solemn Service 3.00 pm

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EASTER SUN April 12

Sat Vigil 7.00 pm
Sun 9.00am & 11.00 am

Parish—Tea & Coffee

Dates:
Sun March 8
After 9.00am Mass
Please feel free to donate, cakes or biscuits.

Youth Group Meetings

YR 7 & 8
FRIDAY MARCH 13
6-8 PM
FAMILY ROOM

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION FOR CHILDREN AT NON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN APRIL 2020

If you would like your child to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation please contact the office on 9359 2369

POPE FRANCIS ~ TWITTER

I wish you may all learn to look at life from above, from the perspective of heaven, to see things with God's eyes, through the prism of the Gospel.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Feb 23, 2020
 Thanksgiving: \$633.80
 Presbytery: \$587.15
Thank you for your support

ROSTER
March 7 & 8

Lectors:
5.30 pm J.Capparelli
9.00 am A.Proud
11.00 am C.Di Giulio
 M.Costa

Special Ministers:
5.30 pm J.Butera
9.00 am C.Iuele
11.00 am M.Bovezza

POWERPOINT

Church Cleaning
 M.Bovezza & J.Butera

Altar & Sanctuary
 E.Taranto & F.Calvi

Bus Drivers
 F.Falvo & C. Di Giulio

Altar Servers
 T.Siegafo & Z.Proud

Humour: A Priest was walking alone down a dark street when a young man approached him and poked a knife against his back. "Give me your money," the man said. The priest opened his jacket and reaching into his pocket to get his wallet, thus exposing his clerical collar. "Oh, I'm sorry, Father," said the young man, "I didn't see your collar. I don't want YOUR money." Trembling with fear, the priest removed a cigar from his shirt pocket and offered it to the young man. "Here," he said. "Have a cigar." "Oh, no, I can't do that," the young man replied, "I gave them up for Lent."

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.