



The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner
 Archdiocese of Melbourne, 95 William Street, North Fawkner, 3060
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Parish Priest: Fr. Florentino (Boy) Y Galdo: 9359 2369

School Principal: Bob Brown: 9359 5423

Deputy Principal: Rachael Spooner: 9359 5423

December 4 – 2nd Sunday of Advent (Year A)



In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

*A voice cries in the wilderness
 Prepare a way for the Lord,
 make his paths straight.*

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees

and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'
 (Matthew 3:1-12) (the summit)

2 Domenica di Avvento (ANNO A)

In san Matteo e san Marco, la predicazione di Giovanni Battista è il segnale dell'inizio dell'azione pubblica di Gesù. Con il suo discorso che chiama alla conversione, la presenza vicina diventa il messaggio di Gesù: "Il regno dei cieli è vicino!", e la differenza con questo si fa chiara: i battesimi di Giovanni non permettono di rimettere i peccati. San Matteo con le sue parole ci dà un'idea della grande importanza di Giovanni Battista, della sua influenza e della sua azione. Nelle parole di san Matteo si legge la convinzione che Israele si trovi in una situazione senza uscita. Non vi è più la sicurezza collettiva che derivava dall'appartenenza alla discendenza di Abramo. L'avvenire di ognuno dipende dalle proprie azioni: "Fate frutti degni di conversione!". Tuttavia l'avvenire è anche nelle mani di Dio, cioè nelle mani di colui che verrà dopo Giovanni: la mano che separa il buon grano dalla zizzania compirà presto la sua opera. Il giudizio che verrà è anche la ragione per cui Giovanni invita alla conversione. Israele è alla fine della sua sapienza. Anche se Giovanni Battista non ha ancora un'idea chiara di colui che verrà dopo di lui, sa una cosa: egli è il più forte. Giudicare è fare una scelta. Così, prepararsi al giudizio è prendere una decisione. (lachsia.it)

Vinnies Vic Flood Appeal 2022

Vinnies is working to urgently help support families and businesses impacted by the Victorian floods. Any donations will help provide people with groceries and essential items including the supply of fresh sets of clothing to people who've fled their home; re-equip a home with appliances and bedding; and pay for a family's rent while their home is being repaired.

To make an urgent donation please call 131 812 or visit
<https://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/vinnies-vic-flood-appeal-2022>

The sick in our parish: Teresa & Con Lamonaca, Nola, John Markis, Miriam Markis, Elda Taranto, Panfilo Ambrosini, Carmela Renda, Krys Herrmann, Bob Brown, Angela Barto, Patrick Brennan, Sonia Taranto, Norm McDonough, Evelyn McDonough, Laurence, Amelia Testa, Floriano Pivetta, Margherita Costa, Bruna Zando, Rita Paladino, Joe and Monica Zahra, Cathy Taviane, John Privitera, Emma and Tony Mallozzi, Nina Garoffolo, Giovanna Gamberale, Gin, Georgia and Igghy, Tony B., Bill Gauci

Upcoming funerals: *Vlatko Kozul, Monday, 5th December @ 11.30 am.*
Rosario Ciccirelli, Thursday, 8th December @ 11.30 am.
Amelia Massimi, Friday, 11th December @ 11.00 am. Rosary followed by mass.

Recently deceased: Vlatko Kozul, Rosario Ciccirelli, Amelia Massimi, Jim McCabe, George Camilleri, Concetta De Luca, Maria Pizzo, Biagio Parisi, Sebastiano Tuccitto, Stella Raphael, Denise Psaila, Iole Martino.

We especially pray for all the deceased St. Matthews parishioners, those whose names are on the Church pews & the Resurrection Chapel.

Rosters for weekend masses (Dec 10/11)

Lectors:

Saturday 5.30 pm: J. George

Sunday 9.00 am: L. Iaria

Sunday 10.30 am: M. Costa

Bus driver: J. Butera

Mass times

Weekday:

Tuesday-Friday 9.30 am

Wednesday: Novena mass: 6.00 pm

Weekend:

Saturday Vigil mass 5.30 pm

Sunday 9.00 am ; Sunday 10.30 (Italian mass)

Confessions are available on Saturday 5.00 pm—bookings are essential.
 Contact the Parish Office.

Thanksgiving envelopes 2023

Thanksgiving envelopes for next year will be available before or after masses.

Parish staff will distribute staff in the foyer. Please remember that envelope numbers will not be the same as per 2022.

Parishioners will be asked to provide address details for record keeping purposes.

Christmas mass times

Thursday 22nd December:

6.00 pm: Penitential Service and Sacrament of Reconciliation (English and Italian)

Saturday 24th December:

7.00 pm: Christmas Eve Family mass
 9.00 pm: Syro-Malabar Mass
 11.30: Carols followed by Midnight Mass

Sunday 25th December:

9.00 am: Mass
 10.30 am: Italian mass

St. Matthew's Parish raffle

The Parish is holding a Christmas raffle in 2022. Tickets are \$2.00 each (or \$20.00 for a book of 10). Raffle tickets will be available for purchase before or after weekend masses. **First prize** is a wheelbarrow full of gardening tools and implements. **Second prize** is a basket of linen. **Third prize** is a canteen of cutlery.

The raffle will be drawn on Sunday the 18th of December.

St. Matthew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

The electronic version of the Parish bulletin is available on the Parish website @ <http://stmatthewsparish.org.au/>