



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
 Principal: Rachael Spooner: 9359 5423

December 17th – 3rd Sunday of Advent (Year B)

III Domenica di Avvento (ANNO B)

Il messaggero, annunciato nel vangelo di domenica scorsa, è descritto in modo più dettagliato dall'evangelista Giovanni. Egli ci ricorda, infatti, i dialoghi che Giovanni Battista ebbe con sacerdoti e leviti, venuti da Gerusalemme per interrogarlo. Era forse il Messia? No, rispose Giovanni Battista: "Io sono voce di uno che grida nel deserto: Preparate la via del Signore, come disse il profeta Isaia" (Gv 1,23).
 Sant'Agostino commenta: "Giovanni Battista era una voce, ma in principio il Signore era il Verbo. Giovanni fu una voce per un certo tempo, ma Cristo, che in principio era il Verbo, è il Verbo per l'eternità" (Serm 293)
 "Egli - dice l'evangelista Giovanni - venne come testimone per rendere testimonianza alla luce, perché tutti credessero per mezzo di lui". Vi sentiamo un'eco del prologo: "Veniva nel mondo la luce vera, quella che illumina ogni uomo" (Gv 1,9).
 Anche noi dobbiamo essere suoi testimoni (Gv 15,27) e ciò, prima di tutto, nella santità delle nostre vite perché "mi ha rivestito delle vesti di salvezza, mi ha avvolto con il manto della giustizia" (Is 61,10).
(lachiesa.it)

Support For Ukraine

In response to the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli is launching a special Advent appeal on the first Sunday of Advent (3 December). Funds raised will go towards providing aid and practical assistance to those who have been displaced and who are without basic supplies, especially the sick and the elderly. Christmas cards and envelopes are available this weekend for offerings to the appeal.

Please support this appeal.

Catholic Mission

Catholic Mission thanks the parish of St Matthew's for your support of this year's World Mission Day Appeal. Your contribution of \$436.90 has been most gratefully received. Your gift not only transforms individual lives but also fuels mission programs globally, reaching out to those in dire need.

Thank you for supporting this appeal

Joke of the week

A London widow decided to prepare her will and make her final requests. She told her solicitor that she wanted to be cremated and her ashes to be scattered all over Selfidges.

'Why Selfridges?' asked the solicitor.

'Because,' she replied, 'that way I can be sure my daughters will visit me twice a week'.

(The book of senior jokes)

The sick in our parish: Teresa Lamonaca, Nola, John & Miriam Markis, Elda Taranto, Panfilo Ambrosini, Carmela Renda, Angela Barto, Sonia Taranto, Evelyn McDonough, Laurence, Floriano Pivetta, Joe and Monica Zahra, Cathy Taviane, Josie, George, Tony and Maria Mallozzi, Aiden Agius, Maryanne, Adam Peric, Meldon Richardson, Susanna, Luise, Andrew, Patrick, May Galea, Helmet Kolb, Margaret Bartolo.

Recently deceased: Nenita Po Sy, Laura Galdo Galceran, Constantino Lamonaca, Rita Paladino, Concetta Ioffrida, Peter Bebbere, Sabato Giannella, Domenica Faba, Anna Maria Mustica, Peter Proud.

Anniversaries: George Abdallah, Immacolata Cesare, Giovanni Cilia, Vincenza and Giuseppe Cavalli, Conchita Culas, Maria and Ivan Sankovic.

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

O Lord, who art ever merciful and bounteous with Thy gifts, look down upon the suffering souls in purgatory. Remember not their offenses and negligences, but be mindful of Thy loving mercy, which is from all eternity. Cleanse them of their sins and fulfill their ardent desires that they may be made worthy to behold Thee face to face in Thy glory.

Confessions

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held December 21st at 6:30 pm.

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)

Reconciliation: Saturday: 5.00 pm. Bookings are essential.
 Contact the Parish Office

Mass times

St. Marks, Fawkner (Leo Street, Fawkner)

Weekday: Monday-Saturday: 9.00 am

Weekend: Saturday: 6.00 pm ; Sunday: 10.00 am ; 6.00 pm
 Hope Café: Thursday: 5.30 pm (free dinner for the needy)

Reconciliation: Saturday: 9.30 am and 5.30 pm or
 phone Fr. Colin (9359 3111)

Rosters for weekend masses (Dec. 23/24)

Lectors:
 Saturday 5.30 pm.: B.Proud
 Sunday 9.00 am: L. Iaria
 10.30 am: tba

Bus driver: B. Tajhano

Christmas Masses

Christmas **Vigil** Mass: Sunday 24th December: 7pm

Christmas **Night** Mass: Sunday 24th December 12pm
 (Carols at 11.30pm),
 St Mary Kanaya mass: 9 pm.

Christmas **Day** Masses: Monday 25th December 9am
 & 10.30am

Preghiera di San Matteo Dio nostro

Padre, ti ringraziamo per tutti i doni che hai conferito sulla nostra famiglia parrocchiale. Concedici la Sapienza per cercare la tua volontà in ogni cosa. Circonda le nostre famiglie con la tua protezione amorosa.

Dona salute e gioia ai nostri genitori, sapienza e coraggio ai nostri giovani e fede ed allegria ai nostri figli.

Per intercessione di San Matteo, benedici perché diventiamo una famiglia più fedele ed amorosa e di cuore e mente unici.

St. Matthew's Prayer

God Our Father, we thank you for all the blessings you have bestowed upon our Parish Family. Give us the wisdom to seek Your Will in everything. Encircle our families with Your loving care.

Give good health and happiness to our parents; wisdom and courage to our youth; faith and cheerfulness to our children.

Bless us, through the intercession of St. Matthew, to grow stronger in faith and love, as a family of one heart and one mind.
 Amen

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 at
<http://stmatthewsparish.org.au/bulletins/>