



St. Matt's Matters Newsletter

12 Tebbutt Street
PO BOX 406
WINDSOR NSW 2756

Telephone (02) 4560 2300

Email: stmatthews@parra.catholic.edu.au

Web address: www.stmatthewswindsor.catholic.edu.au

Dear Parents and Carers

What an amazing year! As 2017 comes to a close, we reflect on what an amazing year of faith, fun and learning we have had. We have been blessed in 'Glorifying our God' in so many ways throughout the 2017 journey.

Thank you to the children. They are the reason we are here. Their enthusiasm for life and learning is a wonderful example to us all.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the teachers for their dedication and commitment to Catholic Education over the past year. Together they facilitate learning so that the children work towards reaching academic and human excellence in a faith filled community. Their generosity in terms of time, themselves and sharing of skills is often outside the normal hours of the day but it is in their giving so much that they receive.

Our sincere thanks to our support staff and office staff. Their smiles greet so many and their support for the children, parents and staff is uncompromising.

To Mr Munsey our grounds and maintenance man who keeps our school looking so good and functioning as a learning environment, we say thank you.

I would like to also sincerely thank St Matthew's Assistant Principal, Mrs Digwood for her outstanding support to myself, the teachers, the children and school community. Her expertise, dedication and leadership are very much appreciated. As she moves to her new role at Our Lady of The Rosary Kellyville, we thank her for her contribution to our community and wish her every success.

We are blessed to have had Father Robert guiding our parish community in its spiritual journey and relationship with Christ. We thank him for his faith, love and care.

To you, our parents, the primary educators of your children, I give thanks for your support and partnership in providing so much for the children. No matter what your contribution over the year, big or small, it is appreciated and has benefited the children.

We wish all those venturing on from St Matthew's the best that life has to offer and welcome new families to our community for next year. THANK YOU to each of you, whether you have been with us a little or a long while, we will miss you. Your contribution to St Matthew's has been very much appreciated. We wish you God's blessings for the journey that lies ahead.

I look forward to another year of faith, fun and learning in 2018. May God's blessings be with you and your families during this special festive season. Merry Christmas to one and all.

In partnership let us continue to work to develop in the children strong minds and gentle hearts.

Tim Vane-Tempest

Principal

PROMOTIONS DAY TO 2018 CLASSES

The time set aside for meeting the teachers for 2018 will be next Tuesday 12th December from 1:15-1:45pm.

During this visits the students will have the chance to become familiar with their new learning spaces, meet their teachers and the students they will be working with during the year.

These visits are an important part of easing the worries that some students experience when changing classes and teachers from year to year.

**Target -
90% average
across the school**

Every Learner, Every Day

**Attendance in the past
fortnight**

86.88%

LOST PROPERTY

Please check lost property cupboard near canteen. Any items of clothing not claimed will be handed to the clothing pool.

PREPARATIONS FOR 2018

Along with this newsletter is a separate note that outlines major events and dates for Term 1, 2018. I encourage you all to note the dates for events and celebrations.

Dec 8 Fri	Last trading day for Uniform Shop
Dec 11 Mon	K-6 end of year awards Assembly 2:15 pm
Dec 12 Tue	Year 6 Farewell Mass & Awards 9:45 am Year 6 celebration evening 6 pm - 9 pm
Dec 13 Wed	Swimming Carnival K-5
Dec 15 Fri	Last Day of Term
Jan 29 Mon	MAI Assessment day
Jan 30 Tue	MAI Assessment day
Jan 31 Wed	First day of Term 1 2018
Feb 7 Wed	Parent info evening
Feb 9 Fri	Welcome Bbq
Feb 16 Fri	Opening School Mass

STAFFING UPDATE

Earlier this term I shared that our Music/Drama teacher would be Mrs Vanessa Buchardt. Mrs Buchardt has informed that she is unable to take up her position in 2018.

Last week we were able to appoint Miss Abbey Pollack to this position for next year.

Also Mrs Lauren Athanasiou has been appointed as our Japanese teacher for 2018. We look forward to welcoming Miss Pollack and Mrs Athanasiou to the St Matthew's community at the start of the 2018 school year.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT TONIGHT

Our Christmas Concert is tonight. We look forward to seeing all families and students present at this whole school celebration. There is a gold coin donation and BBQ is open from 5-6pm with the concert starting at 6:00 pm and finishing around 7pm. All children are asked to come dressed in the Christmas colours outlined in an earlier note.



YR 6 FAREWELL & END OF YEAR MASS / HELPERS MORNING TEA

The Farewell and End of School Mass will be at **9:45 am on Tuesday 12th December**.

The mass will incorporate the awards ceremony for the Yr. 6 students. The mass will be followed by a morning tea in the Hall for all family and friends of the Year 6 students, as well as a thank you morning tea for our many highly valued parent helpers as we celebrate the work of many committed, tireless volunteers who contribute significantly to the opportunities provided to the students.

We are looking forward to a great celebration to conclude both the Primary schooling of our Year 6 students and the academic year at St Matthew's.

NEW LEARNING SPACES

Last week I was informed by Mr Mark Holyoake that the School Provisioning Committee of the Parramatta Diocese, which approves all school building projects at the Catholic Education Office, has reviewed the proposed learning spaces planned for St Matthew's. The committee has decided to reduce the scope of the project to one learning space rather than the two spaces originally planned. There are a number of reasons for the reduction in the scope of the works including the need to develop a holistic plan for all

Hawkesbury Catholic schools with an eye to the impacts and demands that future development will have, the total number of enrolments projected for 2018 at St Matthew's, as well as the individual group sizes in each grade. Whilst this late decision is disappointing the provision of the additional space will allow for some future expansion whilst the holistic plan is in development. As this decision has been delayed the flow on will mean a delay in the completion of the project. It is now expected to be completed by the end of February. Year 3 will continue to share their learning with COSHC until the installation of the new space is completed. The new learning space will be used by Year 3 once completed. All other Year and Stage groups will continue to be in their current spaces.

LIBRARY

Please make sure you have a good look at home and return all library books to school before the end of this term,

Thank you,

Mrs Alyssa Bennett,

Library Teacher





St Matthew's Catholic Primary School

12 Tebbutt Street
PO Box 406
Windsor 2756

Telephone: (02) 4560 2300
email: stmatthews@parra.catholic.edu.au
web: www.stmatthewswindsor.catholic.edu.au

7th December 2017

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

In preparation for the 2018 school year, I would like to inform you of some important information, key events and initiatives that have been planned for 2018.

Mathematics Assessment Interviews MAI Screening

MAIs will be conducted on Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th January. The information that will be gathered from these interviews is extremely valuable to teachers in knowing where to begin the teaching process to maximize learning for all students. There have been questions about the timing of these assessments from some parents. The Growth Point Framework is based on each child's mathematical understanding at the **beginning** of each school year. To conduct these assessments at any other time during the school year would mean that we do not gather accurate assessment information. Also by completing the MAIs before formal lessons begin the interruption to learning and classroom routines at the beginning of the year is minimised.

First Day For All Students

All students will begin the new school year on Wednesday 31st January. Students in Yrs 1-6 will begin with a whole school assembly under the COLA at 9am. All beginning Kinders will meet with their parents and teachers in the Hall from 9:15 for a Welcome Prayer. After the children leave for the first day there will be a Tissues, Tears and Tea for the parents.

New Learning Spaces

Last week I was informed by Mr Mark Holyoake that the School Provisioning Committee of the Parramatta Diocese, which approves all school building projects at the Catholic Education Office, has reviewed the proposed learning spaces planned for St Matthew's. The committee has decided to reduce the scope of the project to one learning space rather than the two spaces originally planned. There are a number of reasons for the reduction in the scope of the works including the need to develop a holistic plan for all Hawkesbury Catholic schools with an eye to the impacts and demands that future development will have, the total number of enrolments projected for 2018 at St Matthew's, as well as the individual group sizes in each grade. Whilst this late decision is disappointing the provision of the additional space will allow for some future expansion whilst the holistic plan is in development. As this decision, has been delayed the flow on will mean a delay in the completion of the project. It is now expected to be completed by the end of February. Year 3 will continue to share their learning with COSHC until the installation of the new space is completed. The new learning space will be used by Year 3 once completed. All other Year and Stage groups will continue to be in their current spaces.

Canteen Operations in 2018

In our Week 7 Newsletter we advised that the canteen operator and the days of operation have changed. The new operator is Tuckshop 2 U which is a mobile canteen service. The operating days will be Monday & Friday. Tuckshop 2 U offers a full food service and can provide both lunch and afternoon recess. It is hoped that with an increase in demand we will be able to build the days back to the canteen being open for the full week.

Since this announcement we have looked at alternatives for how we can provide a limited service to the students on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Starting in Week 2 of Term 1 we will have a stand that will sell a limited range of items including drinks (juice and water), ice blocks and ice creams as well as a small range of snacks. There will be no lunches available from this stall and there will be no need to pre-order. We are also looking to have special lunch days during each term.

Opening School Mass - Our opening school mass will be at 9:30 a.m. on Friday 16th February. At this celebration, our Year 6 SRC and Sports Captains will receive their leadership badges and our new Kindergartens will be formally welcomed to our school community. All parents are warmly invited.

Welcome BBQ- will be held on Friday 9th February from 5:00-8:00 pm. More information will follow in the first week of 2018.

Sports Uniform - All students will wear their sports uniform on two days in the week. **All students will wear their sports uniform on Wednesday** and one other day in the week which will be the day for their PE lesson. The days for each Learning Group is listed in the table below:

Stage Group	Days for Sport Uniforms
Kinder	Wednesday/Friday
Year 1	Wednesday/Thursday
Year 2	Wednesday/Thursday
Year 3	Wednesday/Thursday
Year 4	Wednesday/Friday
Stage 3	Wednesday/Thursday

Staffing News

Along with many new families and students, this week we welcome several new members of staff to our school community. A full staff list is included below.

Principal	Mr. Tim Vane-Tempest
Assistant Principal	TBC
Kindergarten	Mrs. Annette Larnach Miss Sarah Chiroop
Year 1	Miss Noreen Keane
Year 2	Miss Stephanie Viviani Mrs Jessica Moussa (Miss Grima)
Year 3	Miss Rosemary Sant Mrs. Ann Climpson
Year 4	Mrs. Fiona Baldock Mrs. Ann Burke
Stage 3	Mrs. Sharon Williams Miss Jacqui Mortimer Miss Lauren Schembri
Support Programs	
Learning Support	Mrs. Janine Whiteman (Numeracy Leader) Mrs Mary Thornton (Mon, Tues, Wed) Mrs Rhona Hughes (Thurs, Fri)
Teacher Assistants	Mrs. Kathy Richards (Mon-Wed) Mrs. Joanne Liso (Thurs, Fri)
Japanese	Mrs Lauren Athanasiou (Tues)
Teacher Release	
Coordinator	Mrs. Sarah Thompson (Wed) & Mrs Alyssa Bennett (Wed)
Music/Drama	Miss Abbey Pollack (Thurs, Fri)
PE	Mrs. Karen Brund (Thurs, Fri)
Library	Mrs. Alyssa Bennett (Thurs)
Administration Staff	Mrs. Stacey Roberts (Mon-Fri) Mrs. Sophia Babazogli (Tues, Wed, Thurs)
Grounds/Maintenance	Mr. Terry Munsey (Tues/Thurs mornings)

Monday Morning Assembly – Each Monday we will continue to gather as a school to begin our week with a short assembly. At this assembly, our Year 6 SRC lead the school in prayer and share the important events of the week ahead. We invite parents to join us at the morning gathering.

School Assembly - In 2018 school assemblies will continue in the same way as 2017. Primary assemblies will be in even weeks, Infants in the odd weeks. The first school assembly will be held in Term 1 Week 4 with a Primary assembly. Please note there will be no school assembly on the first Monday of each term.

Parent Information Evening - will be held on Wednesday 7th February starting at 7pm. We will gather in the hall to begin the evening and then move to learning spaces for specific grade information. There will be two sessions held on this evening, the second being a repeat of the first, this is to allow parents with children in multiple stages to attend. Teachers will have an information sheet to share with you at these meetings, if you are unable to attend please ensure that your child picks up this information.

Ash Wednesday/Lent/Holy Week/ Easter Celebrations. - Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, 14th February. As part of our preparations for the Lenten season we will celebrate Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Tuesday) as well as have a ceremony for preparing the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

Catholic Schools Week - this annual celebration of Catholic Schooling will be from the **4th-10th March**. There will be a variety of activities during the week.

Easter - 30th March - 2 April, inclusive of these days.

Other Important Matters

Regular Attendance - Every Learner Every Day

Once again in 2018 student attendance at school will be a major focus. Daily attendance at school is the most certain way to ensure that children achieve to the best of their ability. In 2017 we were able to increase average daily attendance to 87%. In 2018 the Every Learner Every Day campaign aims to have a minimum average of 90% daily attendance for all children. To achieve this the single most important factor is continued parent commitment to have your children at school each day before school starts. There will be regular reminders about attendance as well as the level of attendance for the previous fortnight in our newsletters, follow up on unexplained absences and extended periods of absence which have not been approved as well as recognising students who have achieved high levels of regular attendance. To start this initiative included with this letter are some simple statistics regarding the impact of regularly missing small periods of time. We look forward to working with all families in achieving this goal.

Library – Our school Library will be open each Thursday for borrowing and to provide our Stage 1 and Stage 3 teachers with part of their release for planning. The library will be open for borrowing in Week 3 on Thursday 8th February. Times for borrowing will be organized early in Term 1 and will be shared at the parent information evening. The Library will also be open each lunch for those children who wish to have an alternative to the playground.

Newsletters - In 2018 the Newsletter day will continue to be shared on **Thursday** of the odd weeks of the term. Most notes will also be sent home on this day. This is to ensure that all communications, as far as possible, go home on the day of publication and are not missed. There will be, on occasion, the need to send home notes on other days, however, Thursday will be the main day for notes to go home.

School Fees

There will be a change to the way that school fees are billed in 2018. Presently school fees are billed by term but from 2018 fees will be billed by instalments. There will continue to be 3 billing instalments in the year those dates will be 29th January to 17th May 2018, 18th May to 3rd September 2018 and the final instalment is 4th September to 21st December. All current payment options will be available in 2018. If you wish to discuss any matter related to school fees, please make a time to speak with Mrs Roberts and myself.

School Banking

In 2018 school banking, will be on Wednesday of each week.

Extra Curricula Partnerships

Our extra-curricular partnerships with Music Corp and Destiny Martial Arts will continue in 2018. More information will be shared early in the new year.

If you have any questions in regards to these matters, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Regards,



Tim Vane-Tempest
Principal

MUSIC



Private 1/2 hour Piano or Singing lessons:

Professional private piano or singing tuition that will encourage and support your child's love of music.

\$33 for half hour lesson.

This is available during school hours.

Lessons will be negotiated with teachers to create a timetable that supports your child's school timetable.

Visit our website to see what musical experiences we can also offer at our

Riverstone Music School.

Spots available for 2018.

email or call Mrs. Kaylie Neave on 0418 692 589 or m.musicians1@gmail.com

Greetings St Matthew's School Community! It is hard to believe that this Sunday will be the Second Sunday of Advent. Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for the coming of Jesus, we also prepare ourselves through our thoughts, words and actions. Thank you to all our students and their families who gave generously last Friday at the Christmas Hamper Mufti day. Many families in our community and beyond will be having a very joyful Christmas this year.

Social Justice at St Matthew's is alive and strong.

Year 6 Reflection Day

Two weeks ago, Year Six had a reflection day to prepare for their Graduation Mass. They started their day with Mass at 9am and then participated in activities and prayer throughout the day. The students demonstrated maturity, initiative and thoughtfulness in their creation of prayers, drawings and their reading of Scripture.

Their chapter of Primary School is ending, but they begin a journey of new learning, friendships, challenges and successes in High School.

We congratulate all our Year Six students and pray for them as they take with them the values and learning from St Matthew's and make a positive difference in the world. Good luck and God Bless.

The Feast of The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary.

This Friday 8th December, is the feast of The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary. The title of The Immaculate Conception recognises the privilege of Mary being born without sin- from the very first moment of life.

We honour Our Lady, our mother, and thank Her for saying "Yes " to God to become the Mother of God.

We ask Mary Our Mother to protect us as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus at Christmas and always.

St Nicholas Of Myra.

On Wednesday the 6th December it is the Feast of St Nicholas. He has many names: Kris Kringle, Pere Noel, Father Christmas and of course Santa Claus.

St Nicholas loved God very much and showed his love for others and God by giving to the poor. We give gifts to our loved ones because we are thankful. Thankful for their friendship, their love and care they show us. We are thankful to God for giving us life. St Nicholas gave to the poor to give them hope and joy.

I wish everyone a very Safe, Happy and Holy Christmas. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones.

Thank you for your continual support.

God Bless.

Ann Climpson

Jesus in our hearts – Forever!

Mary Our Mother- Protect us.

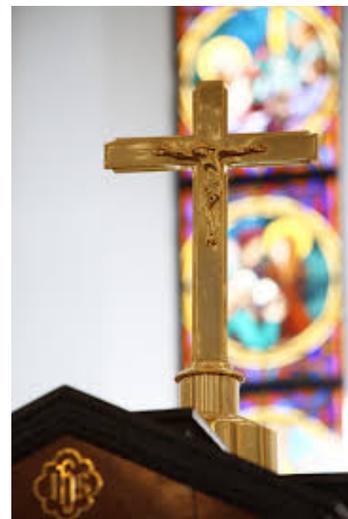
St Matthew- Pray for us.

Dates to remember-

Thursday, 7th December:

BBQ at 5pm.

Christmas Concert at 6.15pm





2017 CHRISTMAS MASSES

St Matthew's Catholic Church, Windsor NSW

Sunday, 24th December: (Christmas Vigil)

6.30pm Open Air Family Mass
 (in St Matthew's School Grounds
 Children can come dressed as shepherds,
 angels and wise men and
 join in the procession.
 Please arrive by 6.15pm
 and don't forget to bring
 your own chair/rug)



8.30pm Mass (Church)

Monday, 25th December: (Christmas)

Midnight Mass (Church)

7.30am Mass (Church)

9.00am Mass (Church)

PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE **NO** EVENING MASS
 ON CHRISTMAS DAY

RECONCILIATION

Communal Rite

Monday, 18th December 7.00pm St Monica's Richmond

First Rite

St. Matthew's Windsor NSW

Saturday, 23rd December: 9.30am



RELIGION

As the HYPA year draws to a close, we are celebrating the new liturgical year with a special HYPA ADVENT MASS.

You are cordially invited to attend the HYPA Mass, together with your families and friends of course, as follows:

Time: 6:30pm

Date: Saturday, 16 December 2017

Venue: St Monica's, Richmond

RSVP: Cathy Richmond, 0412 916 788 or email at therichmonds@iinet.net.au

Afterwards, there will be a sausage sizzle and the youth will gather together for the final time in 2017 and then disperse into their various age groups to learn more about Advent.



SPORT

St Matthew's Swimming Carnival Wednesday December 13 2017

The swimming carnival is only 1 week away!! A few reminders for the day:

- Students need to wear their swimming costumes under their sports school uniform. Students may wear their sports shirt or a colour house t-shirt.
- Please ensure your child has a healthy lunch and refillable drink bottle. There is a canteen on site for snacks.
- Students will need to bring along a hat, a rash vest, sunscreen, a towel and thongs for poolside activities. Students MUST wear RUNNERS to and from the pool.
- A swimming cap and goggles are highly recommended for students competing in the 50 m and 25 m races.
- The first bus leaves St Matthew's at 9:00 am so please ensure your children are at school on time.
- The carnival will finish up around 2:00 pm. Students are not to be signed out from the Oasis until after dismissal has been announced. Please sign your students out from Mrs Brand and Mrs Whiteman who will be located at the end of the 50-m pool.



Thank you to all the parents who have helped with sporting carnivals, gala days and the fun run throughout the year. These days would not be what they are without your time, support and dedication.

BOOT CAMP

Today was the last session of boot camp for 2017. Thank you to all the students for their hard work and commitment each week. It has been a lot of fun watching all the students challenge themselves and push themselves to better their overall fitness. We will be running it again next year each Thursday morning from 8:00-8:30 am.



Mrs Brand,
Sports Teacher.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

KINDY	<p>Olivia Macpherson - For her improvement in writing Hamish McDonald - For his commitment to learning Chloe Baffo - For her enthusiasm to learn new things Caelen Zambrano-Chung - For his fantastic effort in reading and writing.</p>
YEAR 1	<p>Addison Jordan - For always practising his reading homework, well done! Tyler Rowley - For excellent progress in reading, well done! Natanja Zambrano-Chung - For always responding to constructive comments to improve her work, well done! Bridgette Murray - For her positive attitude towards all school work, well done!</p>
YEAR 2	<p>Noah McCabe - His enthusiasm towards his learning especially in Mathematics. Alexander Grayson - Always trying his best in his learning and being a caring and thoughtful class member. Allegra Portelli - Her excellent effort in writing and presenting a diamante poem about the earth. Mikaella Ladesma - For her consistent effort in all areas of her learning and being a considerate and caring class member.</p>
YEAR 3	<p>Emily Su - For working diligently in every subject. Abby Caldwell- For a well researched HSIE PBL. Bailey Bloor- For contributing insightful answers in class discussions. Montana Charles- For building a well constructed house for Science and Technology.</p>
YEAR 4	<p>Sophie Howard - For writing an imaginative and engaging script. Elkha Sevilla - For excellent contributions in discussion during her shared reading. Jonathon Sheehy - For excellent choreography in our dance unit this term. Nikolai Xerri - For his hard work and effort in our dance unit.</p>
STAGE 3 WHITE	<p>Liam Henson - For his dedication towards learning his spelling words and achieving great results. James O'Neil - For displaying a more focused approach towards all learning tasks. Natalia Tabone - For displaying a more focused approach towards all learning tasks.</p>
STAGE 3 GOLD	<p>Kiera Gaul - Her mature work ethic and growth mindset to challenging tasks. Noah Krix - His change to a positive mindset when approaching challenging tasks. Kate Mitchell - Her efforts to improve the neatness of her writing and presentation of her work.</p>
STAGE 3 BLUE	<p>Bronte Naylor - For confidently performing an informative and creative song about the indigenous people of Hawaii. Mitchell Cwojdzinski - for always setting a great example and being a mature role model for his peers. Lola Layton - for working cooperatively with her peers during Project Based Learning.</p>

Happy Birthday

DECEMBER

KINDY	ELI LEIGHTON	ALANNAH DAGHER	
	ELI FALKENMIRE		
YEAR 1	JORJA EATHER		
YEAR 2	EMILY RIJKE	JETT KIRK	CHARLOTTE GALEA
	XAVIER BRUNKER	ZACHERY THOMPSON	TAYLAH CAUKILL
	KATE XIE		
YEAR 3	RUBY LAMB		
YEAR 4	WILLIAM CLARKE	MOLLY MCCLYMONT	TEIGAN KURZ
	EMERSON FINCH		
YEAR 5	LIAM HENSON	LOLA LAYTON	
YEAR 6	JON-PIERRE DAGHER		

Special edition of Catholic Outlook

At the request of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Catholic Outlook will be back in print for a special, one-off December 2017 Christmas edition. This special edition will be a beautifully bound, 40-page, A4 magazine and will showcase the work of the parishes, ministries and agencies of the Diocese of Parramatta. Look out for copies in your parishes and schools from Monday 4 December.

Positions Vacant

Director, Catholic Earthcare Australia: Caritas is seeking an experienced Senior Manager to advocate for environmental and ecological sustainability and deliver educational programs to schools, parishes and related forums. To apply for the role, please visit www.caritas.org.au/jobs/positions-vacant and view the full Position Description. To enquire about this role, please contact David Armstrong on (02) 8306 3439. Please send your application to jobs@caritas.org.au by COB on Monday 04 December 2017.

Volunteers for the homeless needed

The Order of Malta requires volunteers to visit 'homeless hotspots' around Parramatta. Volunteer drivers, nurses and paramedics are needed to provide this service to Parramatta's homeless. If you would like to learn more, please email info@smom.org.au

Arrupe House Christmas Appeal

Don't wait for the Epiphany to bring your gifts to a family in need. St Patrick's Cathedral Parish is teaming up with Arrupe House this month to find gifts for 113 refugee families. Help us reach our target: 350 gift vouchers for adults and 120 gift vouchers for children. Gifts can be placed in the stable in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Gift cards to be dropped in the safe in the Cathedral narthex or brought to the Cathedral Office.

Grief to Grace

Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org

International Day of People with Disability: 3 December

The International Day of People with Disability is observed annually on 3 December. In Australia, over many years, the Church has sought to take this day as an opportunity to encourage a truly pastoral view that embraces our total community as the living Body of Christ. We especially pray that we, the Church, can strive to be a people of compassion and relationship, and a sacred place where our gifts are acknowledged, received and celebrated; for then we can truly proclaim that we are 'one Body in Christ'.

Mount St Benedict Centre: 3 December

Advent Festival of Readings and Songs - This festival of readings and songs gives expression to the Advent themes of watching and waiting, expectancy and hope, helping us to ponder the coming of Christ in history, in mystery and in glory. Date: Sunday 3 December at 3.30pm for Afternoon Tea and 4.30pm-5.30pm Advent Festival. Reserve your place by email mtstbenedict@goodsams.org.au or phone 9484 6208 by Monday 27 November. Where: 449D Pennant Hills Road. Entrance off Hull Road.

Statue of Our Lady of Fatima: 6 December

Fr Gerard Ryan will be bringing The Statue of Our Lady of Fatima which has been on a pilgrimage all around the world to St Anthony of Padua Parish on Wednesday 6th December from 9am to 12pm. 9.00am Rosary and Litany, 9.30am Mass, 10.45am Talks and Devotion.

ACYF – Mass in the Domain: 9 December

All parishioners in the Diocese of Parramatta are invited to attend the Mass in the Domain on Saturday 9 December for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The Mass starts at 6.30pm and will follow an afternoon of concerts and festivities beginning at 4pm, featuring Australian and international musicians and performers.

Nigerian Mass in Igbo: 10 December

Rev Fr Chukwunonyerem Akamadu, Chaplain to the Nigerian Catholic community, will celebrate Mass at 11.30am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, 198 Old Prospect Road, Greystanes. Contact Fr Akamadu tel 0451 174 438, Stella Nwosu 0405 478 472.

Ordination to Priesthood of Shinto Francis: 16 December

Deacon Shinto Francis will be ordained a Priest for the Diocese of Parramatta on Saturday 16 December at 10.30am in St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. The principal celebrant will be Most Rev Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta. Everyone is welcome. The Mass will also be livestreamed on YouTube. Details on parracatholic.org.

Christmas at St Finbar's: 17 December

St Finbar's traditional Christmas feast will be held this year on Sunday 17th December at 7.30pm. Massed Choir, Readings, Harp, Handbells, Soloists and Brass. Join the great organ in singing carols with the choir and congregation, and rejoice in the Hallelujah Chorus with trumpets and timpani. Donation: Families \$35, individuals \$15. Bring the family, friends and neighbours. Proceeds towards the upkeep and maintenance of the organ. St. Finbar's Catholic Church, 46 Levy Street, Glenbrook. Enquiries 4754 1780.

For more events please go to: <http://parracatholic.org/events/>

HANNA PARK CAROLS

Your family is invited to

FREE CAROLS, FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY 23RD DECEMBER 2017 4:30PM - 9:30PM

LOWLAND WANDERERS
BENSONS LANE, RICHMOND

Accepting NSW Office of Sport "Active Kids" vouchers in 2018

2018
Winter Season

PRE-REGISTER ONLINE NOW!

www.lowlandwanderers.com

Registration Nights
- January 29
- February 5
- February 12

6-8 PM
Bensons Lane, Richmond

More Information
www.lowlandwanderers.com
info@lowlandwanderers.com
0417 603 805

Registering male & female players in U5s to O35s teams & Premier League





BOAT RIDES

Tizzana MiniTugs

A Skipper will take up to 4 people for half hour or one hour cruises at Windsor Wharf



MILO

Book Milo the Mini Tug

0415 206 502

Sports Camps Australia
SERIOUS. FUN.

<p>SCA Junior Gymsports Camp</p> <p>Location: Vision Gymsports, South Windsor Director: Rylee Hardy Date: Camp 1: 8th-10th January 2018 Camp 2: 15th-17th January 2018 Camp 3: 22nd-24th January 2018 Time: 9:00am - 4:00pm Ages: 7-15 years Cost: \$245</p>	<p>SCA Free G Camp</p> <p>Location: Vision Gymsports, South Windsor Director: Rylee Hardy Date: Camp 1: 8th-10th January 2018 Camp 2: 15th-17th January 2018 Camp 3: 22nd-24th January 2018 Time: 9:00am - 4:00pm Ages: 7-15 years Cost: \$245</p>
---	---



Visit www.sportscampsaustralia.com.au | 1800 753 127