



Share the

GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

11 OCTOBER 2026

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

Liturgy schedule in our parish

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL

36 Harbour Street, Wollongong

Monday: Mass: 7am
Tuesday: Mass: 7am
Wednesday: Mass: 7am
Confessions: 11:30am
Mass: 12:10pm
Thursday: Mass: 7am
Friday: Mass: 7am
Adoration: 11:30am
Confessions: 11:30am
Mass: 12:10pm
Saturday: Confessions: 11am—12pm
Sunday: Mass: 7am, 10.30am & 5pm

ST JOHN VIANNEY, CO-CATHEDRAL

1 Cabbage Tree Lane, Fairy Meadow

Tuesday: Mass: 9.30am
Sunday: Mass: 8.30am, 4.30pm (Vietnamese)

MATER DOLOROSA CHURCH,

47 Balmoral Road, Balgownie

Sunday: Mass: 10am
Children's Liturgy (3rd Sunday)

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH

119 Gipps Road, Gwynneville

Saturday: Mass: 5.30pm
Thursday: Mass: 9.30am
Sunday: Mass: 9am



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

Parish Centre

PARISH OFFICE

36 Harbour St, (P.O. Box 874)
Wollongong NSW 2500

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 8.30am — 2.00pm
(Closed for Lunch 12pm—12.30pm)

CONTACT US

02 4211 0500

wollongong@dow.org.au

lumenchristi.org.au

linktr.ee/lumenchristiparish



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE...

Ilija Kovacevic, Paulina Chomicz, Fr Harry Kennedy,
Mary Formosa.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Margaret Mascord, Maria Hubbard, Daniel Caruana,
Mario Saverimuttu, Duc Trong Nguyen, Maureen
Harrison, Lorraine Cook, Jacek McLaurin, Angela
Mosley, Brian Mattock, Jim Lyon, Teresa
George, Chiara Sirianni, Joyce Milan, Noel
Meddows, Dianne Hukins, Matthew
Johnson, Pat Carr, John Gauci,
Joseph Scalia, Liesl Caibal,
Vince, Jess, Maria Barradas,
Michelle Barradas Brusic,
John Wise.

"Everything is
ready. Come to
the **wedding**
banquet."

— Matthew 22:4

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We show our respect and acknowledge
the Traditional Custodians of the Dharawal
Country, Elders past, present, and emerging,
and extend that respect to all other
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.



OUR

Sacraments

SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEB PORTAL



Parish Information

BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,
Diocesan Bishop

PARISH STAFF

Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,
Vicar General, Dean of the Cathedral
& Parish Priest

Reverend Cang Tran,
Assistant Priest

Kevin Galea,
General Manager

Leanne Burlin,
Parish Office Coordinator

Patricia Di Leva,
Administration Assistant

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Emergency Calls: 0475 815 506
(Wollongong Public/Private)

PARISH COUNCILS

Kathy Uroda,
Chair of the Pastoral Council

Vicky Davidson,
Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

Amy Sammut, Principal
St Brigid's Gwynneville

Pauline Chrostowski, Principal
Good Samaritan Fairy Meadow

PARISH EFT BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

CHURCH ACCOUNT:
DONATIONS & PLANNED GIVING
BSB: 066 711 Account: 008056
Account Name: LC Parish

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT:
FOR THE CLERGY
BSB: 066 711 Account: 002286
Account Name: LC Presbytery

A Message from the Parish Priest

Over the next few weeks, we will be including a series of reflections in our parish bulletin exploring the different parts of the Mass, why we celebrate them, and what they mean for us as Catholics.

The celebration of the Eucharist is at the very heart of the life of the Church. Each time we gather for Mass, we do much more than simply attend a service. We gather as the People of God, listen to His Word, offer our prayers, and are drawn into the saving mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection. Most especially, we encounter Jesus Christ, truly present in the Holy Eucharist.

Many of the words, gestures and actions of the Mass are so familiar to us that we can sometimes perform them without considering their rich meaning. Why do we begin with the Sign of the Cross? Why do we stand, sit and kneel at particular moments? Why does the priest kiss the altar? What is happening during the Eucharistic Prayer? Why do we respond "Amen" when receiving Holy Communion?

From the Introductory Rites and Liturgy of the Word, through to the Liturgy of the Eucharist and Concluding Rites, every part of the Mass has meaning and draws us more deeply into prayer and communion with Christ and with one another.

Through this series, we hope to rediscover the beauty of the Mass and better understand what we say, hear and do each time we gather around the altar.

May a deeper understanding of the Holy Eucharist help us to pray more attentively, participate more fully, and grow in our love for Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

Fr Bernard



Understanding the Mass

Part 1 The Entrance Procession

Why do we stand when Mass begins?

The Entrance Procession is more than simply the priest and ministers walking into the church. It marks the beginning of our sacred celebration and reminds us that we are a pilgrim people journeying together towards God.

As the priest, deacon and ministers process towards the sanctuary, we stand and normally join in the Entrance Hymn. The procession leads towards the altar, which represents Christ and is the centre of the Eucharistic celebration.

When the priest reaches the sanctuary, he reverences the altar by kissing it. From the very beginning, our attention is being directed towards Christ, who has gathered us together as His Church.

The Entrance Hymn helps people arriving from different homes and experiences become one worshipping community. We bring the concerns of our week, but we also turn our attention towards the celebration we share. Singing together is one way of expressing that unity.

We can prepare by arriving a little early and spending a few moments in quiet prayer. As the procession begins, we might ask: Lord, help me to be present to You and to the people gathered here. Our participation begins with this willingness to pray together.



Good Samaritan School Fete

Please join me at the Good Samaritan Catholic Primary School fete in Fairy Meadow next Saturday, **17 October 2026, from 10:00am to 3:00pm.**

The Fete is a lovely opportunity for our parish and school communities to come together. Bring your family and friends, enjoy the day, meet the families and staff who make up our school community, and show your support for Good Samaritan.

I hope to see many of you there!

Fr Bernard



November Masses – Book of Remembrance

The November Masses Book is now open for intentions for the Holy Souls.

Throughout November, we remember and pray in a special way for our deceased family members, friends and loved ones, entrusting them to the loving mercy of God.

November Mass envelopes are available from our churches. Please write the names of those you wish to have remembered and return your envelope on the collection plate, parish office or drop into the collection boxes at the doors of the churches.

You can also submit your November Mass intentions online at: lumenchristi.org.au/novembermass

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

Presence: Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections

Presence Advent and Christmas books are available from the parish centre for just **\$3** each.

Become an RCIA Sponsor

This year, we are blessed to have 10 candidates journeying through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) as they prepare to be received into the Catholic Church. We are inviting parishioners who may be interested in becoming an RCIA Sponsor to attend an information session on **Saturday, 31 October at 3:00pm** in the Monsignor John Rigney Meeting Room.

A sponsor accompanies an RCIA candidate on their journey of faith through prayer, encouragement and friendship. You do not need to have all the answers—simply a willingness to walk alongside someone as they grow in their relationship with Christ and the Church.

To register: lumenchristi.org.au/rsvp
Enquiries: Lisa de Paiva – 4211 0506 or email lisa.depaiva@dow.org.au



Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 33:11

The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Wedding Garments at Baptisms!

The servants of the king went out and gathered in 'all whom they found, good and evil alike'. They respond, drawn by the attractive prospect of sharing in the life of the Lord of the Feast, and they are welcomed, whether good or evil.

What about the king's (God's) question to the wedding guest? 'My friend, how come you are here without a wedding garment?' The guest might have replied: 'Because of dire poverty', or 'Lack of time', but the story goes on, 'But the guest was silent'. The guest was tongue-tied because he was caught out having decided not to enter into the spirit of the occasion.

That is why, at every baptism, we look for a signal of commitment to respond to the spirit of the occasion, by the wearing of a white garment. This anticipates the later receiving of Holy Communion which is a foretaste of the Feast of Heaven. We could pause for a moment at this Mass to enter into the Spirit of the occasion wearing the garment of our baptismal commitment.

Children Preparing for the Sacraments

Commitment Masses will be celebrated across our parish next weekend of 17–18 October 2026:

- **Saturday 5:30pm St Brigid's Church**
- **Sunday 8:30am – St John Vianney Co-Cathedral**
- **Sunday 10:30am – St Francis Xavier Cathedral**

At these Masses, our candidates and their families will make an important commitment as they continue their sacramental journey.

Preparing for the Eucharistic Congress 2028

Last week, I met with our parish leadership to begin discussing how Lumen Christi Parish can prepare for the Eucharistic Congress in 2028. This is an exciting opportunity for us to deepen our love for Jesus in the Eucharist and to consider how we can encourage greater participation in the life and mission of our parish.

Together, let us make this journey towards 2028 a time of renewal, encounter and deeper faith in Jesus Christ, truly present in the Eucharist.

Fr Bernard

Cathedral Update

The restoration of St Francis Xavier Cathedral is continuing, and we need your support to help preserve our Cathedral for future generations.

Donations can be made by EFT:

Account: Lumen Christi Parish

BSB: 066 711 Account: 008056

Reference: Your Name – Cathedral

Donate online: sfx.org.au/give

Every contribution makes a difference.

Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK'S *Calendar Readings & Commentary*

The Parish Calendar

- Mon, 12 Oct:** Term 4 resumes
Fairy Meadow CWL Meeting, MDB 2pm
- Tue, 13 Oct:** GSFM Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance
- Wed, 14 Oct:** Baptism Class, SFX 7pm
Wollongong CWL Meeting, Xavier Ctr 10am
- Thu, 15 Oct:** SBG Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance
- Sat, 17 Oct:** GSFM School Fete 10am-3pm (All Welcome)
Commitment Mass, SBG 5.30pm
- Sun, 18 Oct:** Commitment Mass, SJV 8.30am & SFX 10.30am
Children's Liturgy 10am, MDB

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 129:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

First Reading

Isaiah 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 22. R. v.6

(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

See Ephesians 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Community Life

"And over all these put on love" - Colossians 3:14

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