

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year A

4TH DECEMBER 2022

PARISH VISION

We are called to reveal the Light of Christ to the world

MASS TIMETABLE

St Francis Xavier Cathedral, 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 Brigid's, Gwynneville

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

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow

Tuesday	Mass: 9.30am
Thursday	Mass: 9.30am (Italian)
Sunday	Mass: 8.30am
	Mass: 10am (Italian)
	Mass: 4.30pm (Vietnamese)

Mater Dolorosa, Balgownie

Sunday	Mass: 10am
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LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISH

MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE ...

Deceased members of our parish, Rocco Di Milia, Anna & Flavio Fiori, Elia Arone, Madeliene Smith.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

John Parkinson, Mick Davies, Isobel Joseph, Gerard Gray, Ross Abbott, Jan Coulson, Noel & Therese Rouse, Nikiesha Thorton, Tony Moriarty, Veronica Bowman, Angela Mosley, Angela Sirc, Dianne Hukins, Sue McAlary, Margaret Gray, Christine Bulters, Matthew Johnson, Suzy May Gellel, Lordna Omiping, Dr Madeleine Cincotta, Elenka Egan, Dr John Frey, Johnny Dimise, Francisco Santos, Ada Raynor, Denise Mastro, Jadon Kalp, Amanda Dennis, Tara Conklin, Jamie Chitwood, Karl Llorin, Sue Freestone, Ardell Sharpe, Joseph Scalia, Lilia Pelino, Don Alanis.

PARISH OFFICE

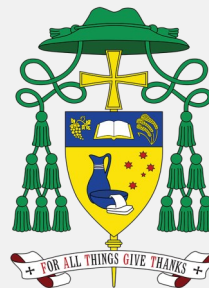
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am—1.00pm
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CONTACT US

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PARISH STAFF

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,
Diocesan Bishop & Parish Priest
Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,
Vicar General & Administrator
Reverend James Arblaster,
Deacon
Kevin Galea,
General Manager
Leanne Burlin,
Parish Secretary
Patricia Di Leva,
Administration Assistant



HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Wollongong Hospital: 0475 815 506

PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNCILS

Lisa de Paiva, Chair of the Pastoral Council
Gabi Tobin, Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

Kathy Uroda, Principal, St Brigid's Gwynneville
Toni Sillis, Principal, Good Samaritan Fairy Meadow

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 People.

In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: DEC 2022—FEB 2023

Fri, 9 Dec: Christmas Carols, Good Samaritan School 5.30pm
Sat, 10 Dec: No Confessions at SFX due to Ordination at SJV
Sat, 10 Dec: Ordination to Priesthood, Dn James Arblaster, SJV, 10am followed by refreshments at Fraternity Club
Sun, 11 Dec: First Mass, Fr James Arblaster, SFX, 10.30am followed by Morning Tea at Xavier Centre
Tue, 13 Dec: Reconciliation, SJV after 9.30am Mass
Wed, 14 Dec: 2nd Rite Reconciliation, SFX 11am
Thu, 15 Dec: Reconciliation, SBG after 9.30am Mass
Sun, 18 Dec: Reconciliation, MDB after 10am Mass
Sat, 24 Dec/Sun 25 Dec: Christmas Masses (see page 3)
Fri, 30 Dec: Feast of the Holy Family, SFX 7am & 12.10pm
Sun, 1 Jan: Mary Mother of God, Normal Masses
Thu, 26 Jan: Australia Day Mass, SFX 7am (No Mass at SBG)
Fri, 27 Jan: Catechists Meeting, Rigney Room 10am
Sun, 5 Feb: Hospitality Weekend Resumes
Tue, 7 Feb: Mass of Anointing, SJV 9.30am
Tue, 28 Feb: Finance Council Mtg, Rigney Room, 5pm

SACRAMENTS

- **Baptisms:** By appointment only (contact the parish office during office hours for details)
- **Marriages:** A preliminary appointment needs to be made at least 6 months prior to Wedding Date (**No Sunday weddings**)
- For Pastoral and Sacramental needs, please contact the parish office during office hours

HELPFUL LINKS

- **Mass for you at Home:** youtube.com/massforyouathome
- **Mass/Prayer Intentions:** lumenchristi.org.au/intentions
- **Light a Votive Candle:** lumenchristi.org.au/votive
- **Census Form:** lumenchristi.org.au/census
- **Online Donations:** lumenchristi.org.au/donate
- **Online Payments:** lumenchristi.org.au/payment
- **Join Planned Giving:** lumenchristi.org.au/support
- **Columbarium:** lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium
- **Sacramental Programme:** lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental
- **Privacy Policy:** privacy.lumenchristi.org.au
- **St Brigid's School:** sbgdow.catholic.edu.au
- **Good Samaritan School:** gsfmdow.catholic.edu.au

PARISH EFT BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

CHURCH ACCOUNT

(Donations & Planned Giving)

BSB: 066 711 **Account:** 008056

Account Name: Lumen Christi Parish

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT

(For the Clergy)

BSB: 066 711 **Account:** 002286

Account Name: Lumen Christi Parish Presbytery

THANK YOU FOR OUR PARISH DINNER!

A very big thank you to Lynne Hudson who did such a great job coordinating our first Lumen Christi parish dinner on Thursday 1st December. The event was well attended and a great success. It was a wonderful opportunity for us all to have fun together and get to know each other a little better.

Thank you also to our guest MC, Barry Sandry, speaker Josephine Barratt and our wonderful Togan choir.

Photographs of the dinner are available on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/lccpwill

LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2023

AN INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS AND CHILDREN

After receiving suggestions and comments from parents in a review conducted earlier this year, we have renewed the Lumen Christi Parish sacramental programme. Parents and caregivers are now invited to enrol their child into the 2023 programme for Reconciliation (Year 3), Holy Communion (Year 3) and Confirmation (Year 6).

Parents and caregivers will need to attend a compulsory information session with the Parish Administrator, the School Principal and the Religious Education Coordinator of the Catholic Parish Primary Schools at the commencement of the program. Parents and caregivers of children in the State School System will also need to attend this information session. To enrol your child in the Sacramental program visit the Lumen Christi Parish Online Portal:

lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental

Looking forward to meeting you,

Fr Bernard Gordon (Administrator), Kathy Uroda (Principal St Brigid's) & Toni Sillis (Principal Good Samaritan)

ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OF REV JAMES ARBLASTER



Bishop Brian will ordain Deacon James to the priesthood on Sat 10 December, at 10am at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral. You are most welcome to attend. The ordination will also be livestreamed on the Diocesan YouTube channel. For more Go to: <https://dow.sh/Ordination2022>.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Deacon James will celebrate the 10:30am Sunday Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral on Sunday 11 December.

All are very welcome to attend this Mass.

Please keep James in your prayers as he moves towards this important day and into his life as priest in the service of God's people.

For more information on bequests please visit: lumenchristi.org.au/bequest

In our parish & around the diocese

ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMETABLE

Advent, a time of preparation for the joy of Christmas, is a wonderful time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow

Tuesday 13th December 2022, after 9.30am Mass

St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong

Second Rite of Reconciliation

Wednesday 14th December 2022, 11am to 12pm

St Brigid's Church, Gwynneville

Thursday 16th December 2022, after 9.30am Mass

Mater Dolorosa Church, Balgownie

Sunday 18th December 2022, after 10am Mass

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

Christmas Eve, Saturday 24th December

Gwynneville: Mass 5.30pm

Fairy Meadow: Mass 6pm

Wollongong: Mass 7pm & Midnight

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th December

Wollongong: Mass 7am, 10.30am & 5pm

Gwynneville: Mass 9am

Fairy Meadow Mass 8.30am

Balgownie: Mass 10am

Monday 26th December, St Stephen

Wollongong: Mass 7am

Tuesday 27th December

Wollongong: Mass 7am

Wednesday 28th December

Wollongong: Mass 7am, Rec 11.30am, Mass 12.10pm

Thursday 29th December

Wollongong: 7am

Friday 30th December, The Holy Family

Wollongong: Mass 7am, Rec 11.30am, Mass 12.10pm

Saturday 31st December

Gwynneville: Mass 5.30pm

Sunday 1st January 2023, Mary Mother of God

Wollongong: Mass 7am, 10.30am & 5pm

Gwynneville: Mass 9am

Fairy Meadow Mass 8.30am

Balgownie: Mass 10am

Normal Mass times resume from Monday 2nd January 2023

Go to: lumenchristi.org.au/masstimes for details

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.'

Communion Antiphon

Bar 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Inaugurating a New Humanity

John proclaimed that the reign of God was 'at hand' as he immersed and plunged followers into the waters of the Jordan River. (His nickname was John the Immerser, or 'baptiser' in the Greek.) He used flowing water to symbolise the washing away of the past for those who repented so that they could be totally focused on the 'at hand' person who would inaugurate God's kingdom.

In this passage, John does not identify the 'Someone!' But he realised that this 'Someone' would have divine power to affect the future by immersing, baptising, his followers with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

At this stage of Advent, we should be like John's disciples, filled with a sense of anticipation, looking forward to the *coming towards us* ('Advent' in Latin) of the One who can flood our minds and bodies with the Holy Spirit and can immerse our hearts in Divine Fire.

We could pause for a moment to thank God that, even though we are unworthy to carry His sandals, there is One who is coming towards us wanting to transform us with Divine Power.

WOLLONGONG CONFERENCE, ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS

SVDP Christmas Cards & 2023 Columban Calendars (50 only) will be available for purchase after Sunday Masses at St Francis Xavier Cathedral on December 11 & 18. Also, gift tags for toys & hamper items for SVDP Christmas Hampers will be available to collect. Please return any donations by Sunday 11th December.



LUMEN CHRISTI CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Our parish and our parish schools of St Brigid's and Good Samaritan will be hosting Christmas Carols in the **Good Samaritan School Grounds on Friday 9th December 2022 at 5.30pm**. The concert will be completed by 6:30pm and food vans will be available in the grounds if you wish to purchase food for dinner. Parishioners and visitors are very welcome to attend. CWL branches will be selling raffle tickets for \$2.00 each. **The Mega Christmas Raffle will be drawn at 7:30pm!!!**

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Please join us for Mass this Thursday (8 December) at St Francis Xavier Cathedral (7am), or St Brigid's Gwynneville (9:30am) to pray that like Mary we will live according to God's gracious blessing and love others with generous hearts.

For more information on our Columbarium please visit: lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 30:19,30

O people of Sion, behold,

the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

First Reading

Is 11:1-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.
His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,
his sentences bring death to the wicked.
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.
The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together
with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends,
their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox.
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair
the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm,
on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.
That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17. R. cf. v.7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. *(R.)*
2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds. *(R.)*
3. For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. *(R.)*

4. May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. *(R.)*

Second Reading

Rom 15:4-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:

all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 3:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

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.

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