

# 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, Year A

11TH DECEMBER 2022

## ROSE SUNDAY

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.” (Philippians 4.4)

### 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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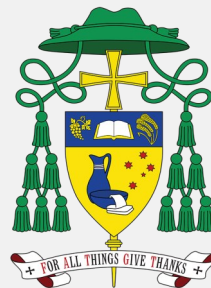
## LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISH

### MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE ...

Deceased members of our parish, Harry Hayes and Ally Behan.

### 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  
36 Harbour St, Wollongong NSW 2500

### CONTACT US

**Phone:** 02 4211 0500  
wollongong@dow.org.au  
lumenchristi.org.au

### PARISH STAFF

**Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,**  
Diocesan Bishop & Parish Priest  
**Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,**  
Vicar General & Administrator  
**Reverend James Arblaster,**  
Assistant Priest  
**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

**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)  
**Mon, 26 Dec—Tue 3 Jan:** Parish Office closed  
**Fri, 30 Dec:** Feast of the Holy Family, SFX 7am & 12.10pm  
**Sun, 1 Jan:** Mary Mother of God, Normal Sunday Timetable  
**Fri, 13 Jan:** Music Coordinators Meeting, Rigney Room 10am  
**Thu, 26 Jan:** Australia Day Mass, SFX 7am (No Mass at SBG)  
**Fri, 27 Jan:** Catechists Meeting, Rigney Room 10am  
**Fri, 20 Jan:** Schools resume back to school  
**Wed, 1 Feb:** Feast of St Brigid, Patroness of Gwynneville  
**Thur, 2 Feb:** Presentation of the Lord, SFX 7am, SBG 9:30am  
**Sun, 5 Feb:** Hospitality Weekend Resumes  
**Tue, 7 Feb:** Mass of Anointing, SJV 9.30am  
**Mon, 20 Feb:** Confirmation Parent Evening, SBG 6.30pm  
**Tue, 21 Feb:** Confirmation Parent Evening, GSFM 6.30pm

## 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](https://youtube.com/massforyouathome)
- **Mass/Prayer Intentions:** [lumenchristi.org.au/intentions](https://lumenchristi.org.au/intentions)
- **Light a Votive Candle:** [lumenchristi.org.au/votive](https://lumenchristi.org.au/votive)
- **Census Form:** [lumenchristi.org.au/census](https://lumenchristi.org.au/census)
- **Online Donations:** [lumenchristi.org.au/donate](https://lumenchristi.org.au/donate)
- **Online Payments:** [lumenchristi.org.au/payment](https://lumenchristi.org.au/payment)
- **Join Planned Giving:** [lumenchristi.org.au/support](https://lumenchristi.org.au/support)
- **Columbarium:** [lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium](https://lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium)
- **Sacramental Programme:** [lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental](https://lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental)
- **Privacy Policy:** [privacy.lumenchristi.org.au](https://privacy.lumenchristi.org.au)
- **St Brigid's School:** [sbgdow.catholic.edu.au](https://sbgdow.catholic.edu.au)
- **Good Samaritan School:** [gsfmdow.catholic.edu.au](https://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 TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

*Pope Francis encourages and thanks volunteers for their service to the Church and urges them to accept it as a grace of God that they should accept with strength.*

A very special thank you to the parishioners who assisted with the Cathedral working bee last Saturday 3rd December. We are truly blessed with great volunteers in our parish.

On Monday, Pope Francis sent a message to the volunteers for the upcoming World Youth Day on the occasion of International Volunteer Day, commemorated annually on 5 December.

Pope Francis said that he has been most impressed by the “*strength of volunteers*” whenever he visits churches.

Thanks to all our Lumen Christi parishioners who assist in various ways in our parish. Without the help of our volunteers our parish churches could not live and grow.

God has uniquely equipped each person in the Church with specific skills and gifts. As Catholics, we are tasked with utilizing these gifts in our community and within our parish and beyond. Using your God-given skills as a volunteer is a fantastic way to serve the parish while simultaneously lightening the load of our parish office staff.

Volunteering has a spiritual benefit as well. By volunteering an individual will often want to dive deeper into the life of the church. At the same time, they serve not only as a helping hand, but also as a witness of the Gospel message within the community. Everyone has unique God-given gifts. So it's critical for our parish to be inclusive and provide a variety of opportunities to volunteer.

I wish to thank our well over seventy volunteers assisting in various ministries in our parish. You are the face of our parish and I can not thank you enough for your time, talent and treasure.

May God bless you all,

Fr Bernard

## ROSE SUNDAY

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday from the first word of the Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice!

Gaudete Sunday emphasises the joy we look forward to celebrating at the birth of Jesus, our Saviour. The grace of Christian joy in love and all that is good is symbolized in the third advent candle which is colored “rose” and rose coloured vestments are worn. The colour rose is a mixture of violet, which signifies a time of preparation calling us to change and open our hearts to God's grace, and the white of the Christmas festivities.

Thank you to our parishioners who are wearing something rose!

For more information on bequests please visit: [lumenchristi.org.au/bequest](https://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](https://lumenchristi.org.au/masstimes) for details

## CONGRATULATIONS—FR JAMES ARBLASTER

Congratulations to our newly ordained priest Fr James Arblaster. We wish Fr James every blessing in his life and ministry as a priest for the people of God in our Diocese.

happening on the ground in His healing ministry and orientation to the poor. Those are the signs that the reign of God has begun.

I admire John the Baptist because he was prepared to seek and accept the answer to the question which was crucial to him, even though the answer might upset his preconceptions. He was a true seeker after Truth.

All our activities as a parish in building community, forming faith, serving the poor, participating in the liturgy, should be undertaken so that a seeker after Truth might see and hear the evidence of the presence and mission of the risen Lord Jesus Christ amongst us.

We could pause for a moment to simply pray in the spirit of Advent: 'Come, Lord Jesus' to satisfy the restlessness of the questing heart.

## 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.



## MEETING ROOM & CHURCH BOOKINGS

Bookings for the Mgr John Rigney Room Wollongong, Mater Dolorosa Meeting Room Balgownie or churches need to be booked via the parish office. You can make your request via the online booking form or by contacting Leanne or Trish at the parish office. Go to: [lumenchristi.org.au/booking](https://lumenchristi.org.au/booking)

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Kevin, GM

## MUSIC MEETING

A big thank you to Paul Mason who has been coordinating our parish music rosters for many years. Paul will be taking a break and will continue to enhance our music at St Brigid's on Sundays at 9am. Thank you, Paul, for your wonderful gift of music.



Kathy Uroda, who has played for us at St Brigid's Vigil Mass for many years, has kindly accepted to coordinate the parish music rosters. Kathy invites all current and new church musicians, organists, and pianists from our Lumen Christi Parish to attend a meeting at 10am, Friday 13th January 2023 in the Mgr John Rigney Room.

Please RSVP to Leanne by email: [wollongong@dow.org.au](mailto:wollongong@dow.org.au)

Beautiful and uplifting sacred music is vital to our Sunday worship. Thank you to all our musicians and singers who have helped us worship God with joyful hearts!

Fr Bernard

For more information on our Columbarium please visit: [lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium](https://lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium)

### Entrance Antiphon

Phil 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

### First Reading

Is 35:1-6, 10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*God himself will come and save us.*

Let the wilderness and the dry-lands exult,  
let the wasteland rejoice and bloom,  
let it bring forth flowers like the jonquil,  
let it rejoice and sing for joy.

The glory of Lebanon is bestowed on it,  
the splendour of Carmel and Sharon;  
they shall see the glory of the Lord,  
the splendour of our God.

Strengthen all weary hands,  
steady all trembling knees  
and say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy,  
for those the Lord has ransomed shall return.

They will come to Zion shouting for joy,  
everlasting joy on their faces;  
joy and gladness will go with them  
and sorrow and lament be ended.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145:6-10. R. see Is 35:4

(R.) Lord, come and save us.

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger  
and upholds the widow and orphan. (R.)
3. It is the Lord who loves the just  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

### Second Reading

Jas 5:7-10

A reading from the letter of St James

Be patient, brothers, until the Lord's coming. Think of a farmer: how patiently he waits for the precious fruit of the ground until it has had the autumn rains and the spring rains! You too have to be patient; do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon. Do not make complaints against one another, brothers, so as not to be brought to judgement yourselves; the Judge is already to be seen waiting at the gates. For your example, brothers, in submitting with patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

Mt 11:2-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Are you the one who is to come, or must we wait for someone else?*

John in his prison had heard what Christ was doing and he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' Jesus answered, 'Go back and tell John what you hear and see; the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor; and happy is the man who does not lose faith in me.'

As the messengers were leaving, Jesus began to talk to the people about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swaying in the breeze? No? Then what did you go out to see? A man wearing fine clothes? Oh no, those who wear fine clothes are to be found in palaces. Then what did you go out for? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and much more than a prophet: he is the one of whom scripture says: Look, I am going to send my messenger before you; he will prepare your way before you. I tell you solemnly, of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he is.'

### Communion Antiphon

Cf. Is 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

### REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

#### The Right Question

John was languishing in prison, held captive by the local agent of the Roman Empire. Perhaps he was looking for evidence that Jesus was the One who would throw off Roman despotism. In answer to his questing, Jesus replied that John should rather look at what was

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