

# EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, Year A

8 JANUARY 2023

## 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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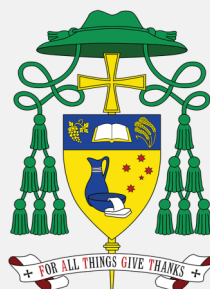
## LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Dr John Frey, John Borg, Antonia Borg, Emmanuel Galea, Carmen Galea & Lisa Galea, Maria Demaria.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

Bishop Peter Ingham, David Coates, 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, Margaret Gray, Christine Bulters, Matthew Johnson, Suzy May Gellel, Lordna Omiping, Dr Madeleine Cincotta, Elenka Egan, 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: JAN 2023—FEB 2023

- Fri, 13 Jan:** Music Coordinators Meeting, Rigney Room 10am  
**Mon, 16 Jan:** Anniversary of Dedication of Saint Brigid's Church, Gwynneville  
**Thu, 26 Jan:** Australia Day Mass, SFX 7am (No Mass at SBG)  
**Fri, 27 Jan:** Catechists Meeting, Rigney Room 10am  
**Fri, 27 Jan:** Schools resume  
**Sat, 21 Jan:** Inservice—Liturgy of the Word, SFX 9.30am  
**Wed, 1 Feb:** Feast of St Brigid, Patroness of Gwynneville  
**Thu, 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  
**Wed, 22 Feb:** Ash Wednesday Masses, SFX 7am, SBG 9.30am, SJV 11am, SFX 12.10pm & SFX 6pm  
**Fri, 24 Feb:** Stations of the Cross, SFX 7pm  
**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](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

## HOME BLESSING FOR EPIPHANY



The Epiphany is an ancient liturgical feast (circa 4th cent.) which celebrates the Magi coming from the East to do homage to the newborn King of the Jews. The Gospel of Matthew sees their visit to the Christ Child as God's salvation reaching out to the Gentiles through Jesus. The Epiphany is a joyful celebration of the beauty and light of God revealed in Jesus who is the Saviour of all the nations.

Epiphany is also a feast in which we reflect on the mission of welcome. The Magi stand for all people who are welcomed by Jesus, the God who is with us to save us. We are called to open our hearts to welcome this saving God and invite others to welcome this beautiful mystery of God's love for us.

How can our "Lumen Christi Parish" foster the spirit of welcome in our local parish communities? How do we, as a parish community, show forth Jesus to the people we love so they become aware of God's welcome for them?

To receive the saving mystery of the Epiphany into our homes, we can practise the tradition to use chalk that is blessed at Mass for the blessing of our home for the New Year (*Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy*, 118). This weekend you will be invited to take a piece of blessed chalk and write above your front door the following inscription:

**20 + C + M + B + 23**

The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*: "May Christ bless this house." The "+" signs represent the Cross of Christ and 2023 is the year of grace in which we now live.

Please take a piece of blessed chalk and a copy of the Epiphany home blessing as you leave the church today. It is an opportunity to prayerfully welcome the light of God's saving beauty and joy into your home.

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

# In our parish & around the diocese

## ST JOHN VIANNEY GARDEN

Some money has been donated to enhance the Co-Cathedral at Fairy Meadow. It would promote devotion to the patron of the Co-Cathedral, St John Vianney, if we erect an outdoor statue of him and make a garden bed around it to further beautify the surroundings of the Co-Cathedral. Any contribution you can make to this project would be greatly appreciated:



**Online Donations:** [lumenchristi.org.au/donate](https://lumenchristi.org.au/donate)

**Cheques payable to:** Lumen Christi Parish SJV Garden

**Direct Deposit:** BSB: 066 711 Account: 008056

Ref: SJV Garden

Thank you for your ongoing support!

## INSERVICE

### LITURGY OF THE WORD/HOLY COMMUNION

The Inservice for Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion will take place at St Francis Xavier Cathedral on Saturday 21st January 2023 at 9.30am. Please contact Leanne at the parish office to register. New comers welcome to attend.

## PARISH COLLECTIONS

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for your presence, faith, and support for our Lumen Christi Parish and the works of worship and service we offer for our parishioners and the wider community.

Given that the feast of the Epiphany includes the Magi giving gifts to the Lord in a spirit of worship and generosity, it is a good opportunity to explain the collections at Mass.

The First collection (at the Offertory) is for our priests' financial support, for example, health insurance and living expenses.

The Second Collection (after Communion) is for parish costs such as insurance for parish buildings, bills for gas, electricity, and water, costs for sacramental programs, parish staff wages and superannuation, and diocesan programs.

If you are not part of our Parish Planned Giving, please consider contributing to the weekly envelopes or monthly direct debit. Your contributions to the Second Collection are very much needed and very much appreciated. They allow us to have a continuing and secure income to budget for parish works.

For more information please contact Leanne at the Office. Thank you for your ongoing support of your parish community.

Fr Bernard Gordon

thing of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth. As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.



*Requiescat in pace, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI*

"And speaking of kindness, at this moment, my thought naturally goes to dear Pope emeritus Benedict XVI who left us this morning. We are moved as we recall him as such a noble person, so kind. And we feel such gratitude in our hearts: gratitude to God for having given him to the Church and to the world; gratitude to him for all the good he accomplished, and above all, for his witness of faith and prayer ..."

(Pope Francis, 31 December 2022, Homily for Vespers)

## AUSTRALIA DAY: DAY OF PRAYER

Fr Bernard Gordon will celebrate the Australia Day Mass at **St Francis Xavier Cathedral, 7am, Thursday 26th January 2023.**

We pray "that as the Cross shines in our southern skies, so may Christ bring light to our nation, to its peoples old and new, and by saving grace, transform our lives" (Collect of the Australia Day Mass).

All are welcome to come and give thanks for the blessings we have received in Australia and ask God to help us further develop our nation in the ways of justice and peace.

Please note there will be no 9.30am Mass at Gwynneville on Australia day.

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



### Entrance Antiphon

*Cf. Mal 3:1; 1 Chr 29:12*

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;  
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

### First Reading

*Is 60:1-6*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The glory of the Lord shines upon you.*

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,  
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,  
though night still covers the earth  
and darkness the peoples.  
Above you the Lord now rises  
and above you his glory appears.  
The nations come to your light  
and kings to your dawning brightness.  
Lift up your eyes and look round:  
all are assembling and coming towards you,  
your sons from far away  
and your daughters being tenderly carried.  
At this sight you will grow radiant,  
your heart throbbing and full;  
since the riches of the sea will flow to you;  
the wealth of the nations come to you;  
camels in throngs will cover you,  
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;  
everyone in Sheba will come,  
bringing gold and incense  
and singing the praise of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13, R. see v.11*

*(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.*

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 earth's bounds. *(R.)*
3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts  
shall pay him tribute.  
The kings of Sheba and Seba  
shall bring him gifts.  
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,  
all nations shall serve him. *(R.)*
4. 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.)*

### Second Reading

*Eph 3:2-3, 5-6*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.*

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has

now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

### Gospel Acclamation

*Mt 2:2*

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

*Mt 2:1-12*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*We have come from the East to worship the king.*

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,  
for out of you will come a leader  
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

### Communion Antiphon

*Cf. Mt 2:2*

We have seen his star in the East,  
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

### REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

#### Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem. They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control this infant, but that there was some-

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