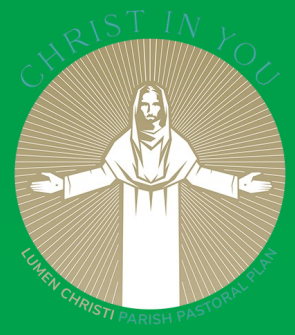


# 15 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY, Year A

16 JULY 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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## PARISH OFFICE

**Office Hours:** Monday to Friday 8.30am —2.00pm  
(Closed for Lunch 12pm—12.30pm)  
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 & UoW Chaplain  
**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.



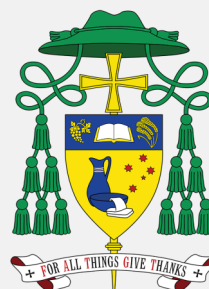
**LUMEN CHRISTI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Percy Di Leva, Antonio, Segundina & Fructoso Ocenar, Aurelia & Maria Cecilia Terencio, Paul Gray, Philomena Carvalho.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

Bishop Peter Ingham, Joan O'Dowd, Alan Curtis, Matthew Johnson, Suzy May Gellel, Pat Carr, John Parkinson, Joseph Scalia, Bill Sharpe, Therese & Noel Rouse, Grace Zammit.



# In our parish & around the diocese

## PARISH CALENDAR: JUL—AUG 2023

**Mon, 17 Jul:** Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Parent Evening, SBG 6.30pm

**Tue, 18 Jul:** Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Parent Evening, SJV 6.30pm

**Sun, 23 Jul:** World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

**Tue, 25 Jul:** Finance Council Meeting

**Wed, 26 Jul:** Sts Joachim and Anne, Grandparents of Jesus

**Thu, 27 Jul:** Pastoral Council Meeting

**Tue, 1 Aug:** Feast of St John Vianney, Mass SJV 9.30am

**Thu, 3 Aug:** Parish Lunch, Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow 12pm

**Fri, 4 Aug:** Feast of St John Vianney

**Sat, 5 Aug:** Dedication of SJV Co-Cathedral (2011)

**Sun, 6 Aug:** Transfiguration

**Sun, 6 Aug:** Hospitality weekend

**Tue, 8 Aug:** Feast of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop

Masses SFX 7am, SJV 9.30am & SFX 12.10pm

**Thu, 10 Aug:** Reconciliation First Holy Communion Program

## SACRAMENTS

♦ **Baptisms:** By appointment only. Baptism preparation session must be completed. Contact the parish office or book online [lumenchristi.org.au/baptism](http://lumenchristi.org.au/baptism))

♦ **Marriages:** A preliminary appointment needs to be made at least 6 months prior to Wedding Date (**No Sunday weddings in our parish**)

♦ 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](http://lumenchristi.org.au/intentions)
- ♦ **Light a Votive Candle:** [lumenchristi.org.au/votive](http://lumenchristi.org.au/votive)
- ♦ **Census Form:** [lumenchristi.org.au/census](http://lumenchristi.org.au/census)
- ♦ **Online Donations:** [lumenchristi.org.au/donate](http://lumenchristi.org.au/donate)
- ♦ **Join Planned Giving:** [lumenchristi.org.au/support](http://lumenchristi.org.au/support)
- ♦ **Columbarium:** [lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium](http://lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium)
- ♦ **Sacramental Programme:** [lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental](http://lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental)
- ♦ **Privacy Policy:** [privacy.lumenchristi.org.au](http://privacy.lumenchristi.org.au)
- ♦ **St Brigid's School:** [sbgdow.catholic.edu.au](http://sbgdow.catholic.edu.au)
- ♦ **Good Samaritan School:** [gsfmdow.catholic.edu.au](http://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

## OUR KNEES ARE CRYING FOR HELP!

### THEY APPEAL FOR NEW PADDING

Dear Parishioners,

Our knees are very important to our physical, emotional and social health. As Mary Anne Dunkin from the Arthritis Foundation explains (Feb. 16, 2023):

“One of the largest and most complex joints of the body, the knee is crucial to movement, which means protecting knee joints should be a priority. Our knees make it possible for us to walk, jump, dance, pedal a bicycle, climb steps or ladders, kick balls or tires, squat to sit, or bend to lift a child – all while bearing the weight of our bodies.”

Our knees also help us to pray.

Yet, how difficult life can be when our knees are creaking, clicking, stiff and sore!

Now, I am very much aware that the cost of living is on our minds and in our public discussions and it is perfectly right and just for everyone to give only according to their means.

Still, if you can give to this appeal I do believe you would be helping our community, our parishioners and visitors, in a very practical way. The padding we want to place on the kneelers at St John Vianney's, St Brigid's and Mater Dolorosa will make it more comfortable for everyone to adore the Lord. It is a gift for present parishioners and families and visitors for years to come.

Every donation will be gratefully received as an important part of a good work for all. Your generous donation will help ensure a far more agreeable experience of worship for all.

### HOW TO DONATE?

To be part of this important renewal for our liturgical worship, please complete a pledge form online at: [www.lumenchristi.org.au/kneelers](http://www.lumenchristi.org.au/kneelers)

### Direct Deposit

BSB: 066 711 Account #: 008056 Ref: Your Name-SOK

Cheques Payable to: [Lumen Christi Parish](http://Lumen Christi Parish)

Or collect an envelope from the church door (mark it “[Kneelers Donation](http://Kneelers Donation)”) and place it inside the collection bag, collection boxes, or hand it in at the parish office.

Thank you for liberating our knees!

Fr Bernard Gordon

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

# In our parish & around the diocese

## ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP

The Diocesan Mass to celebrate the feast of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop will be held on **Tuesday 8th August** in **St Francis Xavier Cathedral at 12.10pm**.

Mass will be celebrated by Fr Bernard Gordon for all parishioners and for all our people around the Diocese of Wollongong.



On the same day, Fr Anthony Ha will celebrate the 7am Mass at the Cathedral and Fr John Stork will offer the 9.30am Mass at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral.

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop

Pray for Us!



## LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH LUNCH

Thank you to the parishioners who attended the recent Lumen Christi Parish Lunch. It is an opportunity for members of our parish to share a meal and come together in a relaxed and welcoming environment. You are invited to the next Parish Lunch at the Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow 12pm on **Thursday 3rd August**.

## LITURGICAL TIP

After the priest invites the people: "Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father", "**The people rise** and make the response": "May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church." (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 146).

Blessed are they who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### Creation Set Free

Here is Jesus telling another story about nature, in this case about soil good enough to bear a crop. Is he just a keen observer of the farmers of his time? No.

Throughout the Gospels there is a harmony between Jesus and the natural creation of a profound kind.

But St Paul intuited that link at a profound level in the case of the Risen Lord. This led him to make the most amazing claim that:

*'The creation itself would be set free from its slavery to decay in order to share the freedom associated with the glory of the children of God.'*

We, and the whole cosmos, share the legacy of a common destiny brought about by the powerful victory of Christ over the final instance of decay, destruction and every type of death.

We could pause a moment to pray with the angels as we do at every Mass:

*'Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.'*

## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES REFRESH DAY

Day of formation and training for Readers, Ministers of Communion, Acolytes, and Servers at the Xavier Centre on **Saturday 2nd September 2023, 9am—2pm**.

To register go to: [lumenchristi.org.au/refresh2023](https://lumenchristi.org.au/refresh2023)

Registration closes on Friday 25th August 2023.

## MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES MASS



If you are celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years of marriage this year, we invite you to the celebration of Significant Marriage Anniversaries, to be celebrated with Bishop Brian Mascord on Sunday 17 September 2023 at 2pm at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong.

Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre Conference Room.

Please register online at: <https://dow.sh/ma23> or contact Helen Bennett at the Office of the Bishop at 42222403, or email [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au) no later than Friday 4 August 2023.

## POPE FRANCIS: SUNDAY, 2 JULY 2023

"Let us take an interest in what is happening, let us help those who suffer and let us pray, because prayer is the gentle strength that protects and sustains the world."

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



### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 16:15

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;  
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

### First Reading

Is 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The rain makes the earth fruitful.*

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 64:10-14. R. Lk 8:8

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water,  
you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over  
to provide its grain. (R.)
2. And thus you provide for the earth;  
you drench its furrows,  
you level it, soften it with showers,  
you bless its growth. (R.)
3. You crown the year with your goodness.  
Abundance flows in your steps,  
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)
4. The hills are girded with joy,  
the meadows covered with flocks,  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)

### Second Reading

Rom 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.*

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;  
all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

Mt 13:1-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*A sower went out to sow.*

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables. He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand,  
see and see again, but not perceive.

For the heart of this nation has grown coarse,  
their ears are dull of hearing,  
and they have shut their eyes,  
for fear they should see with their eyes,  
hear with their ears,  
understand with their heart,  
and be converted  
and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

### Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 83:4-5

The sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for her young:  
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

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