



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

23 FEBRUARY 2025

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, C



MASS TIME TABLE

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 JOHN VIANNEY CO-CATHEDRAL, FAIRY MEADOW

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

MATER DOLOROSA, BALGOWNIE

Sunday	Mass: 10am
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ST BRIGID'S CHURCH, GWYNNEVILLE

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



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH



PARISH CENTRE

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

linktr.ee/lumenchristiparish

GOSPEL

*Be merciful as your
Father is merciful.*

Luke 6:27-38



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE...

Paul Gray.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Fr David Catterall, Angela Mosley,
Noel Meddows, Ken Clark, Teresa
Dellapina, Judith James, Dianne
Hukins, Matthew Johnson, Pat Carr,
John Gauci, Joseph Scalia.



*Our Sacraments
& Helpful Links*

SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEB PORTAL

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.



WELCOME TO LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH

PARISH CALENDAR: FEB—MAR 2025

- Mon, 24 Feb: SBG Church Closed until 28 Feb 2025
- Tue, 25 Feb: Education Mass, SJV 6pm
- Sun, 02 Mar: Caritas launch in our parish (Project Compassion 2025)
- Sun, 02 Mar: Hospitality weekend
- Tue, 04 Mar: Shrove Tuesday, 9.30am SJV Pancakes
- Tue, 04 Mar: Finance Council Meeting
- Wed, 05 Mar: Ash Wednesday (refer to Mass Times below)
- Wed, 05 Mar: Pastoral Council Meeting

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES—5 MARCH 2025

"God's love has no limits, and His mercy is infinite."

Pope Francis, Year of Jubilee

This year Ash Wednesday will be celebrated on **5th March 2025**. Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence. On this day we are blessed with ashes as a call to repent and look toward God's mercy.

St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Mass: 7:00am, 12:10pm & 6:00pm

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral

Mass: 10:30am (includes Good Samaritan Parish School)

St Brigid's Church

Mass: 9:30am (includes St Brigid's Parish School)

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 6:30pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong.



THE LENTEN OBSERVANCES

All who have completed their 18th year (until the beginning of their sixtieth year) are bound to fast (one full meal and two smaller meals, subject to medical and health requirements) and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Pastors, teachers, and parents are to ensure that even those who, by reason of their age, are not bound by the laws of fasting and abstinence from meat, are taught the true meaning of penance.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year, in Australia between Ash Wednesday & Trinity Sunday.

PARISH STAFF

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

WOLLONGONG HOSPITAL

Emergency Calls: 0475 815 506

PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNCILS

- Lisa de Paiva,** Chair of the Pastoral Council
- Vicky Davidson,** Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

- Kathy Uroda,** 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:
Lumen Christi Parish

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT:
FOR THE CLERGY
BSB: 066 711 Account: 002286
Account Name:
Lumen Christi Parish Presbytery

COLUMBARIUM SALES

lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium

NEWS IN BRIEF

JUBILEE DAY OF PRAYER: YOU ARE MY HOPE

Join us for a day of extended Eucharistic Adoration and reflection at St Francis Xavier Cathedral: **Jubilee Day of Prayer: You Are My Hope Saturday, 22 March 2025 at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong: 8am—8pm.**



The day will begin with Morning Prayer (Lauds) and Mass, followed by an opportunity for Reconciliation and Adoration. Fr Bernard will deliver talks on St Thérèse of Lisieux and St Francis Xavier, reflecting on Hope through contemplation and mission.

The day will conclude with Sung Evening Prayer (Vespers) and Solemn Benediction.

All are welcome to participate in this sacred time of prayer and reflection.

Visit our webpage jubilee.lumenchristi.org.au to explore all of our upcoming Jubilee celebrations.

JUBILEE DINNER

Date: **Friday, 25th July 2025**
Venue: The Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow
Time: 6:00 pm
Tickets: Adults: \$70 per head
Children: \$35 per head



To purchase your ticket visit our parish website: lumenchristi.org.au/jubileedinner

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025

Our local World Day of Prayer service will be held on **Friday, 7th March 2025**, at **10am** in the Xavier Centre (38 Harbour St).

This year's service has been prepared by the women of the Cook Islands, reflecting their faith and culture. Bishop Brian Mascord has been invited as the guest speaker.

All are warmly invited to join us for prayer.

EPISCOPAL ANNIVERSARY—BISHOP BRIAN MASCORD

On **Saturday 22nd February 2025** we celebrate the seventh anniversary of Bishop Brian Mascord as our Bishop. We wish Bishop Brian every blessing and good health as he celebrates this graced occasion. May God guide and strengthen Bishop Brian in his service to the People of God in our Diocese of Wollongong.

START OF YEAR SCHOOL MASSES

This past week, I was honoured to celebrate the Start of Year School Masses for St Brigid's School, Gwynneville, and Good Samaritan School, Fairy Meadow. These Masses were beautifully prepared, and I extend my thanks to our Parish Principals, Kathy Uroda and Pauline Chrostowski, as well as our Religious Education Coordinators Nicole Checkley and Natalie Shelly and all the staffs and students for their dedication and hard work in our parish schools.

May this Jubilee Year be a Year of Hope for all.

Fr Bernard Gordon

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH TEMPORARY CLOSURE, 24 FEB—28 FEB 2025

Due to urgent necessary flooring repairs on the sanctuary, St Brigid's Church will be closed from this **Monday, 24th February 2025**, until **Friday, 28th February 2025**. During this time, there will be no 9.30am Mass at St Brigid's on Thursday, 27th February 2025. **Mass will resume on Saturday 29th February at 5.30pm.**

Thank you for your understanding.

Fr Bernard

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND TRADITION!

Join us on **Tuesday, 4th March 2025**, at **St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow**, for a special gathering after the **9:30am Mass**, as we celebrate Shrove Tuesday with delicious pancakes!

Shrove Tuesday, also known as Pancake Day, is a long-standing Christian tradition that marks the day before the beginning of Lent. Historically, it was a time when households used up rich ingredients like eggs, milk, and sugar before the fasting and penitential season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday. This practice gave rise to the tradition of eating pancakes, symbolising a time of preparation and spiritual renewal.

It will be a wonderful opportunity to come together as a parish community, share joyfully in bringing Ordinary Time to a close, and reflect on the journey of Lent that lies ahead on our way to Easter glory!



THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 12:6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading

1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 9:2-3

I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Learning the Language of Heaven

Jesus challenges us to unlearn the language of the world and to learn a language which is counter-cultural, paradoxical, perplexing, such as: 'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you' etc, etc. Are such attitudes and actions possible?

Our Lord is the best model. Jesus is the Word of God in human history. Jesus is the language of Heaven spoken in a human life. We have to read the Gospels and then imitate His dialect. Otherwise we might merely mutter to ourselves which would end up being eternally Hellish.

When we become aware of our language malpractice, i.e., sinning, and if we become really tongue-tied, i.e., seriously sinning, we can come to the Sacrament of Confession and emerge articulate and conversant with Christ again. We can talk with Our Lord again. We are singing the same tune.

Then at the moment of death we can gracefully pass over to our intended destiny which is not incommunicado, but comunicado, holy comunicado, holy conversation with God and with every creature.

We might pause for a moment and resolve to practise the language of Heaven and to 'walk the talk' every day.

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