



**LUMEN CHRISTI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

# SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

2 MARCH 2025

EIGHTH 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

### 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

*A person speaks from  
what is in his heart.*

Luke 6:39-45



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

Sue Freestone, Gennaro Iera.

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

Pope Francis, Fr David Catterall,  
 Angela Mosley, Noel Meddows, Ken  
 Clark, 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 24-28 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 SJV, Pancakes after 9:30am Mass
- 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*

Ash Wednesday, a day of fast and abstinence, will be celebrated this Wednesday **5th March**. Everyone is called to be blessed with ashes as a sign of our sorrow for sin and our hope for 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)

## THE LENTEN OBSERVANCES

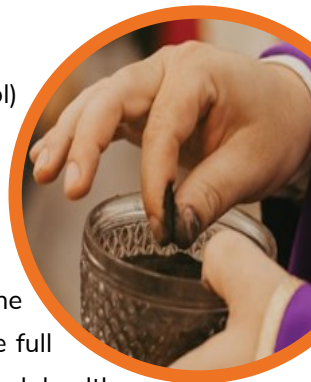
All who have completed their **18th year** (until the beginning of their sixtieth year) are bound to fast (one full meal and two smaller meals, subject to medical and health requirements) and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their **14th year** are bound to abstain 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.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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



## 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  
Fairly 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

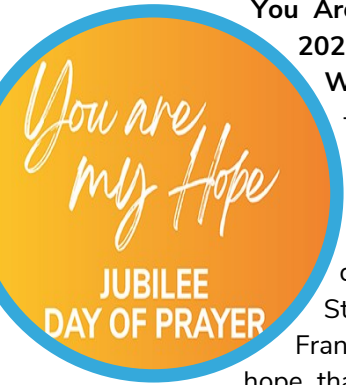
## COLUMBARIUM SALES

[lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium](http://lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium)

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## JUBILEE DAY OF PRAYER: YOU ARE MY HOPE

Join us for a day of 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.**



The day will begin with Morning Prayer (8am) and Mass (9am), followed by Reconciliation (11am) and Adoration throughout the day. Fr Bernard will deliver talks on St Thérèse of Lisieux (1pm) and St Francis Xavier (4pm), reflecting on hope that flows from contemplation and overflows into mission. The day will include a guided meditation at 5pm and conclude with Sung Evening Prayer (7pm) and Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Visit our webpage [jubilee.lumenchristi.org.au](http://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](http://lumenchristi.org.au/jubileedinner)

## HOPE FOR THE ILLAWARRA INTER CHURCH EVENTS

Bishop Brian Mascord invites Catholics in the Diocese of Wollongong, particularly those in the Illawarra Region, to attend **Hope for the Illawarra**, an Ecumenical Event celebrating the Jubilee Year of Hope. Events will be held at the WIN Entertainment Centre

**Fri 28 Mar - An Evening for Youth (7pm)**  
**Sat 29 Mar - A Morning Event for Children (11am)**  
**Sat 29 Mar - Dr Michael Youssef (7pm)**

For more information go to:

[www.hopefortheillawarra.com.au/about-1](http://www.hopefortheillawarra.com.au/about-1)

or contact [jude.hennessy@dow.org.au](mailto:jude.hennessy@dow.org.au) / P: 4222 2407



We are all conscious of the times we have fallen short of the practice and teaching of our Master despite our praying: 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.' We could pause for a moment to pray that The Teacher's loving gaze fall upon us to make us whole-hearted disciples willing 'to be formed by divine teaching'.

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKES—A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP AND TRADITION!

Join us this **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. This practice gave rise to the tradition of eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, symbolising a time of preparation and spiritual renewal.

## PROJECT COMPASSION

This weekend the First Sunday of Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. By taking home a Project Compassion donation box or envelope, you'll be answering the Gospel call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable.

Your generous support this Lenten season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to communities facing poverty, food insecurity, lack of education, and water shortages, while building resilience against future challenges. Together, through faith and action, we can bring compassion and opportunity to those most in need.

Please collect a **Project Compassion Box** or **Envelopes** to help support Project Compassion.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

## 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.

# THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

## Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 17:19-20

The Lord became my protector.  
He brought me out to a place of freedom;  
he saved me because he delighted in me.

## First Reading

Sirach 27:4-7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

*Do not praise someone before they have spoken.*

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.  
The kiln tests the work of the potter,  
the test of a man is in his conversation.  
The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its  
fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels.  
Do not praise a man before he has spoken,  
since this is the test of men.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

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

*Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.*

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

## Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*A person speaks from what is in his heart.*

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.



'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

## Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 12:6

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me,  
sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### Disciples or Mask-Wearers?

In ancient Greece actors wore masks which concealed the face. One may say they were 'two-faced'. They were called 'Hypocrites', and we derive our word and the idea of 'hypocrite' from that. As did Jesus. He could always see through the veneer which people (such as you and I) present to the outside world, and his gaze would (and still can) penetrate through to the heart – the core of the personality. For us, judging the heart of someone is fraught with risk. As Jesus humorously put it, how readily we see the smallest splinter of sawdust in someone else's eye, and in super-critical mode fail to see the plank of wood which impairs and distorts our vision. We should not rush to judgment.

The fact is that only the gaze of God can really penetrate to the heart of someone. We know that the gaze of Jesus, Who is God, is always a loving gaze visualising a heart open to salvation. (Mk 10:17-22)

This is one of the reasons why recent Popes have opposed capital punishment. Time must be given for the heart of the convicted criminal to respond to that loving gaze. And it leaves the Final Judgment, even of the murderer, to God.

Listen to the dying moments of Our Lord. His loving gaze penetrated beyond the masks and actions of his tormentors and focused on their hearts. Then he cried out this plea: 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.'

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