



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

23 MARCH 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT, 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

HOPE AND
GOD'S LOVE
"Through hope,
we are empowered to
overcome all trials."
(Pope Francis)



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE...

Valentino Quintero, Vincenzo
Demaria, Margaret & Paul Gray.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Fr David Catterall, Angela Mosley,
Noel Meddows, 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: MAR—APR 2025

- Sun, 23 Mar: Third Sunday of Lent
- Tue, 25 Mar: Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
- Wed, 26 Mar: Mass for Babies who have died, SFX 12.10pm
- Thu, 27 Mar: Lumen Christi Staff Development Day, Office Closed
- Fri, 28 Mar: Stations of the Cross, SFX 6.30pm
- Sun, 30 Mar: Fourth Sunday of Lent
- Wed, 02 Apr: Parish Secretaries Day
- Thu, 03 Apr: Parish Lunch, The Builders Club Wollongong 12pm

NEW HOLY WATER FONT FOR THE CATHEDRAL

Thanks so very much to the Vietnamese Community for their very swift and generous donation towards a new Holy Water Font for the entrance of St Francis Xavier Cathedral.

Holy Water Fonts have long been a significant feature in our churches, serving as a reminder of our baptism, a symbol of spiritual renewal, and a prayer for God's saving protection. As we bless ourselves with holy water upon entering and leaving the church, we open our hearts to God's grace in our lives and we recall our commitment to live our faith in love.

Fr Anthony Ha will bless the new Holy Water Font on Saturday, 26th April at 7pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend this special blessing.

Once again, on behalf of our parish we sincerely thank the Vietnamese Community for their generosity in providing this beautiful holy water font for our Cathedral.

Fr Bernard

YOUNG PEOPLE—LOOK AT THE PEOPLE IN NEED—HAVE THE COURAGE TO GO

St Francis Xavier was a priest of the Society of Jesus who sought to bring God's Hope to the World of his day (1506-1552). He had the courage to travel the world and bring the love of God to the people of India and Japan. He took great care of the sick, the poor and children. He died on a island near the coast of China with only one other person with him. Reflecting on the life of St Francis Xavier, Pope Francis issued a challenge to young people:

"To the many young people who feel restless today and do not know what to do with that restlessness, I say: Look to Francis Xavier, look at the horizons of the world, look at the people who are in great need, look at the many people who are suffering, so many people who need Jesus. And have the courage to go." (Wednesday, 17 May 2023)

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

NEWS IN BRIEF

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



As we approach the Parish Jubilee Dinner on Friday 25 July, 2025, the Organising Committee is keen to finalise tickets for the dinner as soon as possible. On **Sunday 6th April**, we will be selling Tickets for the Parish Dinner at all Masses. Representatives will assist you in buying your Jubilee Dinner Tickets at Mass on this day.

All ticket purchases before 7th April will go in the draw to win a free book of 10 raffle tickets. **The first prize is \$1 000** and there are many other valuable prizes!

To purchase your ticket visit our parish website: 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

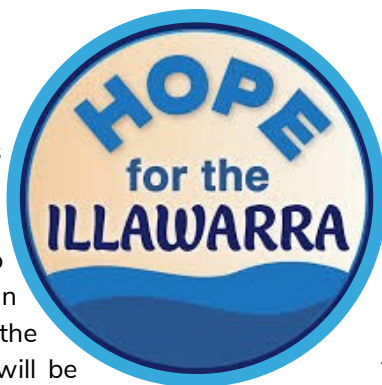
Fri 28 Mar - An Evening for Youth (7pm)

Sat 29 Mar - A Morning Event for Children (11am)

Sat 29 Mar - Dr Michael Youssef (7pm)

Visit: www.hopefortheillawarra.com.au/about-1

or contact jude.hennessy@dow.org.au / P: 4222 2407



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

As we journey through the season of Lent, you are invited to join us each **Friday evening at 6:30pm** at **St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong** for the Stations of the Cross.

MASS FOR BABIES WHO HAVE DIED AND FOR THEIR FAMILIES

Mass will be offered at **St Francis Xavier Cathedral** this **Wednesday 26th March** at **12.10pm**, for all babies who died before or after birth and for their families. Please join us after Mass for a cup of tea and chat. All welcome!

Communion Antiphon

John 4:13-14

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Politics, Economics, and the Gardener

A tragic disaster occurred when a building collapsed, killing eighteen people. Some speculated that the victims must have been sinners, but Jesus rejected this idea, emphasizing that they suffered due to poor construction, not personal wrongdoing. He urged people to hold those truly responsible accountable rather than hiding behind religious beliefs or self-interest.

Jesus then used the metaphor of a fig tree, reminding us that, even if we are not bearing fruit now, He is the divine gardener who nurtures us. Through baptism, Lent's pruning, and the nourishment of the Eucharist, He helps us grow in faith. During this season, we are invited to let Him cultivate our souls, transforming humanity into a new Eden.

STAFF INSERVICE 27 MARCH 2025

The Lumen Christi Parish staff will be attending the annual in-service on **Thursday, 27th March 2025**. As a result, the Parish Office will be closed on this day.

There will be **no** Mass at **St Brigid's Church, Gwynneville** that day, in its place a **Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion** will be offered at **9:30 am**.

DIACONATE ORDINATION

Bishop Brian Mascord recently announced that Mr. Sinh Le, in pastoral placement at Oran Park Parish, and Mr. Joseph Nguyen, in pastoral placement at West Wollongong and Unanderra Parishes, have been accepted for Ordination to the Order of Deacons. They will be ordained **7:30 pm** on **Tuesday, 29 April 2025**, at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral Wollongong.

On behalf of all members of Lumen Christi Parish I wish Sinh and Joseph every blessing as they prepare for this moment of grace in their lives and commit themselves to the service of God's People as deacons.

Fr Bernard

CATHEDRAL CLEANING WORKING BEE

A Cleaning Working Bee will be held at St Francis Xavier Cathedral next **Saturday, 29th March 2025**, from **8 am** to **11am**. Please come, and clean and shine!

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

Readings at 10.30am Mass are from Year A.
(refer to your Sunday Missal)

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

*This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I
Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

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

*All this that happened to the people of Moses in the
desert was written for our benefit.*

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;

the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'

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