



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

30 MARCH 2025

FOURTH (LAETARE) 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

*"Let hope be the
anchor of your soul."*

(Pope Francis)



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE...

Valentino Quintero, Barry Thomas
Walsh, 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

- Thu, 03 Apr: Parish Lunch, The Builders Club Wollongong 12pm
- Fri, 04 Apr: Stations of the Cross, SFX 6.30pm
- Sun, 06 Apr: Fifth Sunday of Lent
- Sun, 06 Apr: Hospitality weekend
- Tue, 08 Apr: Lenten Reconciliation after SJV, 9.30am Mass
- Wed, 09 Apr: Priestly Ordination of Fr Bernard Gordon (1994)
- Fri, 11 Apr: Term 1 concludes
- Fri, 11 Apr: Stations of the Cross, SFX 6.30pm

MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS: BEING FOR EACH OTHER, SHINING SIGNS OF HOPE

... the Gospel tells us about the Transfiguration of Jesus (Lk 9:28-36). Having climbed to the top of a mountain with Peter, James and John, Jesus immerses Himself in prayer and becomes radiant with light. In this way, He shows the disciples what is hidden behind the gestures He performs in their midst: the light of His infinite love.

I am sharing these thoughts with you while I am facing a period of trial, and I join with so many brothers and sisters who are sick: fragile, at this time, like me. Our bodies are weak but, even like this, nothing can prevent us from loving, praying, giving ourselves, being for each other, in faith, shining signs of hope. How much light shines, in this sense, in hospitals and places of care! How much loving care illuminates the rooms, the corridors, the clinics, the places where the humblest services are performed! That is why I would like to invite you, today, to join me in praising the Lord, who never abandons us and who, in times of sorrow, places people beside us who reflect a ray of His love.

I thank you all for your prayers, and I thank those who assist me with such dedication. I know that many children are praying for me; some of them came here today to “Gemelli” as a sign of closeness. Thank you, dearest children! The Pope loves you and is always waiting to meet you.

Let us continue to pray for peace, especially in the countries wounded by war: tormented Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Myanmar, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

And let us also pray for the Church, required to translate into concrete choices the discernment made in the recent Synodal Assembly. I thank the General Secretariat of the Synod, which over the coming three years will accompany the local Churches in this undertaking.

May the Virgin Mary keep you and help you to be, like Her, bearers of Christ’s light and peace.

(Pope Francis, Angelus Address, 16 March 2025)

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 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. 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

CELEBRATING MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES IN THE JUBILEE YEAR



It has been a privilege to recently celebrate and bless two wonderful couples in our parish during this Jubilee Year. Congratulations to **Richard and Elicia Cohen**, who celebrated **10 years of marriage**, **Michael and Lorraine Tobin**, who marked **50 years of marriage**, and **Rex & Marian McAlary** who celebrated **66 years**. May God continue to bless them with love, joy and faith in their journey together.

Pope Francis reminds us that marriage is a sign of God's faithful love and encourages couples to seek His grace to strengthen their bond. Francis often speaks of the beauty of married life, saying: "*Marriage is a journey of love that requires patience, forgiveness, and the constant presence of Christ in your lives.*" May God bless all our married couples celebrating anniversaries!

Fr Bernard

PALMS AND OLIVE BRANCHES

Palm Sunday is when we celebrate Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. It is also a time to remember Jesus' suffering and entry into the glory of the Father. To help us celebrate this great liturgical experience, please bring Olive branches or palms to the Cathedral sacristy by **9am Friday 11th April**.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED—WED 2 APRIL

The parish office will be closed on Wednesday 2nd April for the annual diocesan secretaries Inservice.

That is Jesus' portrayal of his heavenly Father's relationship with us.

Of course, sometimes we are the older brother, resentful that someone seems to have had too easy a time of God's forgiveness. Is this the attitude of many who challenge the emphasis by Pope Francis on Mercy as the core of God's relationship with us?

More often, we are like the younger brother who has strayed to a far off place, sometimes quite deliberately. We could resolve to approach the Sacrament of Mercy during Lent, knowing that our heavenly Father will run towards us, embracing us, exclaiming, 'You were lost but now you are found.' That is worth a celebration!

GOOD SAMARITAN SCHOOL FAIRY MEADOW HOLY WEEK LITURGY

You are warmly invited to join us for our Holy Week Liturgy, "He Is Risen", as we gather in faith and reflection to commemorate the joy and hope of the Resurrection. This liturgical experience will be celebrated by **Good Samaritan Catholic Primary School Fairy Meadow** on **Wednesday, 9 April**, at **9:15 am** at **St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow**.

Each year, Holy Week invites us to journey through the Paschal Mystery—the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This year, our focus will be on Easter Sunday, the glorious day when Jesus conquered death and rose to new life. In this year of Hope let us embrace the joy of the Risen Christ and be renewed in our faith as a parish community. He has risen!" (Luke 24:6).

VALENTINO QUINTERO—RIP

Last Monday, the family, friends and parish community gathered to offer Mass for **Valentino Quintero**, who passed away on 12th March at just 13 years old. Valentino was a former student of Good Samaritan School, Fairy Meadow, and his passing is a heartbreaking loss for his family, friends, and school community at Holy Spirit.



We extend our deepest prayers and sympathy to his parents, Javier and Annetta, and his brothers, Gabriel, Enrique, and Fernando. May God's love bring them comfort and strength in this time of sorrow.

May the Lord welcome Valentino into His eternal embrace and grant him peace. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen."

Fr Bernard

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Isaiah 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading

Joshua 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

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

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. 'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

Communion Antiphon

Luke 15: 32

You must rejoice, my son,
for your brother was dead and has come to life;
he was lost and is found.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Truth and Reconciliation

For Jews, pigs are ritually unclean, so that living in a pig sty would make this young man unapproachable.

So, imagine the reaction of his Jewish audience when Jesus told the story of the father running to his son and embracing him still stinking of the pig sty, exclaiming, 'You were lost and now you are found.'

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.