



**LUMEN CHRISTI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

# SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

17 AUGUST 2025

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY, 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



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

Secondo Mancini, Frank Gray.

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

Angela Mosley, Noel Meddows, Judith James, Dianne Hukins, Matthew Johnson, Pat Carr, John Gauci, Joseph Scalia.

*"Let us ask the Lord today to teach us how prepare for his presence and so be able to welcome him, and those around us, into our hearts." Pope Leo XIV*



*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.



**WE ARE CALLED  
TO REVEAL THE  
LIGHT OF CHRIST  
TO THE WORLD.**



# WELCOME TO LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH

## PARISH CALENDAR

- Wed, 20 Aug: Baptism Class, SFX 7pm
- Sun, 24 Aug: Marriage Anniversaries Mass, SFX 2pm
- Tue, 26 Aug: Finance Council Meeting
- Thu, 04 Sep: Parish Lunch, The Builders Club Wollongong 12pm
- Sun, 07 Sep: Father's Day
- Sun, 07 Sep: Hospitality weekend
- Mon, 08 Sep: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Thu, 11 Sep: Catholic Mission Launch
- Fri, 12 Sep: Consoling Mass, MDB 12.10pm
- Sun, 14 Sep: Anniversary of Good Samaritan School (2011)

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

As part of our Parish Pastoral Plan, Lumen Christi Parish warmly invites anyone seeking to learn more about the Catholic faith to join our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) journey.

The RCIA is a grace-filled process of prayer, reflection, and learning. It is a pathway to explore the teachings of the Catholic Church, deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ, and experience the life of our parish community. It is open to:

- Those who are not baptised and who wish to become Catholic.
- Those baptised in another Christian tradition who now desire to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.
- Baptised Catholics who have not yet received their First Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Confirmation.

RCIA participants journey together with the support of parishioners, sponsors, and the RCIA team. Regular gatherings offer opportunities to share faith, ask questions, and enter more deeply into the richness of the Church's liturgy, scripture, and sacramental life.

As part of our welcome and introduction to the RCIA process, a Welcome to RCIA Weekend will be held in our parish in October 2025 and a gentle introduction to the program, allowing interested participants to meet the RCIA team, hear from past participants, and discover how this journey can help them draw closer to Christ and His Church.

A flyer with further details about the RCIA process and the Welcome Weekend will be printed for all our churches, parish and state & local schools.

For more information, or to express your interest, please visit our webpage: [lumenchristi.org.au/rcia](http://lumenchristi.org.au/rcia)

Fr Bernard



## 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

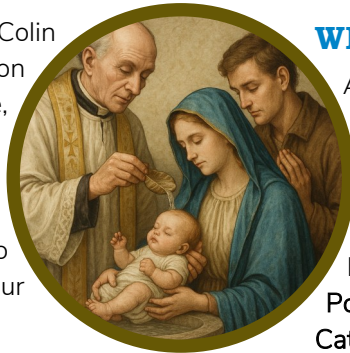
## COLUMBARIUM SALES

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

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## THE NEWLY BAPTISED — JUNE & JULY

Congratulations Noah Gutierrez, Colin Vakata, Isaac Van der Merwe, Harrison Van der Merwe, Theodore McGlone, Charlie McGlone, Madison Dam, Brooklyn Ferris, Freya Veney, Angelo Degidio, Lincoln Orton, Zachary Zhang and Howard Wu who have been recently Baptised in our parish.



May the Sacrament of baptism bring joy, peace, and blessings to their Parents, Godparents, family and friends. May God's grace guide and protect them.

## FATHER'S DAY INTENTIONS

Let us pray for all our fathers. Whether they are living or have been called to eternal life, you are invited to join our parish in honouring all our fathers.

If you would like to include an Intention on our list for Father's Day Go to: [lumenchristi.org.au/fathersday](http://lumenchristi.org.au/fathersday) or collect a Father's Day envelope from the doors of the church or at the parish office.

The names of the fathers given to us will be published on Father's Day Sunday, September 7.

Please note that the Intention list will close 1 September.

## PARISH HYMNALS

Thank you to our generous donors, including an anonymous benefactor, whose contributions have enabled the purchase of new parish hymnals for St Francis Xavier Cathedral and Mater Dolorosa Church.

A very big thank you also to Paul Mason for his assistance and guidance in selecting the hymnals. We encourage you to visit his website, [liturgicalsongs.com](http://liturgicalsongs.com), for many more suggestions on music and other liturgical resources. The new hymnals will be officially launched on **Sunday, 31 August 2025** in both the Cathedral and Mater Dolorosa.



## THE LEGACY OF POPE FRANCIS

Bishop Brian Mascord will speak on the Legacy of Pope Francis, 2pm on Saturday, 6 September at the Xavier Centre. All are warmly invited to hear Bishop Brian Mascord reflect on the lasting impact of Pope Francis in a 40-minute presentation, followed by a Q&A session.

Free entry, but bookings are essential.

Go to: [www.trybooking.com/DDQBT](http://www.trybooking.com/DDQBT)

For more information: Denis Bristow on 0412 699 929.

## WELCOME & THANK YOU

A very big thank you to **Fr Cang Tran** for assisting with the hospital calls at Wollongong Public and Private Hospitals for almost 12 months. His generosity of time and care for the sick has been a great blessing to our parish and the wider community from all over the Illawarra. This week, we warmly welcome **Fr Joseph Pothenparampil** to his diocesan appointment as the **Catholic Chaplain** for Wollongong Public and Private Hospitals.

## CONFESSIONS—23 AUGUST 2025

A reminder due to the Ordination of Darren McDowell to the Diaconate at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong next Saturday, 23rd August 2025 **there will be no confessions at the Cathedral.**

## COMMUNION TO THE INBOUND

We are seeking parishioners who are willing to take Holy Communion to aged care centres, parishioners homes and patients at Wollongong Hospital. This is a deeply rewarding ministry, bringing the presence of Christ to those who are unwell and often in need of comfort.



A **Parish Formation Session** for those interested will be held on **Saturday, 27 September at 9:30 am** at St Francis Xavier Cathedral Wollongong. Current and new ministers are invited to attend.

To register, please visit our formation & training page: Go to: [lumenchristi.org.au/training](http://lumenchristi.org.au/training)

## ETERNAL PEACE GROTTO NICHES

The Eternal Peace Grotto, located in the grounds of St Francis Xavier Cathedral, is a sacred space for prayer, reflection, and remembrance. Limited columbarium niches are available for the interment of cremated remains, providing a dignified and lasting resting place.

Families are encouraged to make arrangements in advance to secure a niche for themselves or loved ones. If you are interested, please complete our online enquiry form at: [lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium](http://lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium).

Once we receive your enquiry, Leanne from our parish office will contact you to arrange an appointment.

The Eternal Peace Grotto is a place of hope, peace, and eternal rest — a beautiful expression of our faith in the Resurrection.

# THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

## Entrance Antiphon

**Psalm 83:10-11**

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;  
and look on the face of your anointed one;  
one day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

## First Reading

**Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10**

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

*You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole world.*

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 39:2-4. 18. R. v.14**

**(R.)** Lord, come to my aid!

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry. **(R.)**
2. He drew me from the deadly pit,  
from the miry clay.  
He set my feet upon a rock  
and made my footsteps firm. **(R.)**
3. He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God.  
Many shall see and fear  
and shall trust in the Lord. **(R.)**
4. As for me, wretched and poor,  
the Lord thinks of me.  
You are my rescuer, my help,  
O God, do not delay! **(R.)**

## Second Reading

**Hebrews 12:1-4**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon us.*

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith

and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

## Gospel Acclamation

**John 10:27**

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

## Gospel

**Luke 12:49-53**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*I have come not to give peace, but discord.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

## Communion Antiphon

**Psalm 129:7**

With the Lord there is mercy;

in him is plentiful redemption.

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### I have come to bring fire

A fierce fire in a eucalyptus forest bursts open the seed pods, cleanses the soil of smothering undergrowth, and returns nutrients to the soil to germinate the seeds. It is that sort of fire which Jesus brings to the earth.

So, at Pentecost, He sent His Holy Spirit '... like tongues of fire', bursting the early disciples out of the protective shell of the 'Upper Room', allowing them to be germinated as seeds of the early Church. It is the same in every generation which has to ask: What personal, family or social situations provide a hard casing which must be cracked open? What is the smothering undergrowth which prevents our germination as fearless disciples?

Jesus himself felt smothered by the small-minded people of Nazareth to which He never returned. He warns that families and good friends can try to smother the spark He wishes to ignite.

We might pause for a moment to pray that the fiery Holy Spirit might enable us to become a stand of tall trees reaching for the Risen Son in all His glory.

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