



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH



SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

30 NOVEMBER 2025

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, A

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...

Fr Leonard Testa OFMConv, David Alamango, Patricia Warburton, Mary Greco, Donato Di Bono.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Fr John Pickering, Teresa Salilin, George, Lorraine Cook, Chiara Sirianni, Angela Mosley, Joyce Milan, Noel Meddows, Dianne Hukins, Matthew Johnson, Pat Carr, John Gauci, Joseph Scalia.

"Stay awake, for you do not know on which day your Lord will come."
— Matthew 24:42



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.



WOLLONGONG



FAIRY MEADOW



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

BALGOWNIE



GWYNNEVILLE



WELCOME TO LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH

PARISH CALENDAR

- Wed, 03 Dec: Feast of St Francis Xavier
- Sat, 06 Dec: Jubilee Feast Day Celebration, SFX 11am - 1pm
- Sun, 07 Dec: Second Sunday of Advent - Year A
- Sun, 07 Dec: Hospitality weekend
- Mon, 08 Dec: Immaculate Conception
- Tue, 09 Dec: GSFM, End of School Year Mass, SJV 9.30am
- Fri, 12 Dec: Advent Reconciliation, SFX 11am
- Sat, 13 Dec: Advent Reconciliation SBG, 4.45pm
- Sun, 14 Dec: Third Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday)
- Sun, 14 Dec: Advent Reconciliation MDB, after 10am Mass

BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,
Diocesan Bishop

PARISH STAFF

Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,
Vicar General, Dean of the Cathedral
& Parish Priest

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

Christmas Timetable 2025

Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December

Gwynneville: Mass 5.30pm
Fairy Meadow: Mass 6pm & 8.15pm (Vietnamese)
Wollongong: Mass 7pm, Carols 11pm & Mass Midnight

Christmas Day, Thursday 25th December

Wollongong: Mass 7am, 10.30am & 5pm
Gwynneville: Mass 9am
Fairy Meadow: Mass 8.30am, 10am (Italian) & 4.30pm (Vietnamese)
Balgownie: Mass 10am

Friday 26th December, St Stephen

Wollongong: Mass 8am

Saturday 27th December, Holy Family

Wollongong: Reconciliation 11am
Gwynneville: Mass 5.30pm

Sunday 28th December, Holy Family (Jubilee Closing)

Wollongong: Mass 7am, 10.30am & 5pm
Gwynneville: Mass 9am
Fairy Meadow: Mass 8.30am
Balgownie: Mass 10am

Monday 29th December

Wollongong: Mass 7am

Tuesday 30th December

Wollongong: Mass 7am

Wednesday 31st December

Wollongong: Mass 7am, Reconciliation 11.30, Mass 12.10pm

Thursday 1st January

Wollongong: Mass 9am

Masses resume as per normal schedule from Friday 2nd January 2026.



NEWS IN BRIEF

ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMETABLE

Advent, a time of preparation for the joy of Christmas, invites us to renew our hearts and deepen our relationship with God. It is a season of hope, reflection, and conversion—a time to prepare not only our homes but our spirits for the coming of Christ.

St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong

Friday 12th December 2025, 11am to 12pm

St Brigid's Church, Gwynneville

Saturday 13th December 2025, 4.45pm

Mater Dolorosa Church, Balgownie

Sunday 14th December 2025, after 10am Mass

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow

Tuesday 16th December 2025, after 9.30am Mass

JUBILEE FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

Parishioners and visitors are warmly invited to gather at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong, this **Saturday, 6 December**. Reconciliation will be available from **11am**, followed by the **Mass of the Feast of St Francis Xavier at 12:10 pm**, ending with the veneration of St Francis's relic and the Litany of the Saints.

This feast invites us to reflect on St Francis Xavier's missionary spirit and his example of courage and faith in spreading the Gospel. As we continue our Jubilee journey, let us come together to give thanks, walk in faith, and be renewed in hope.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE & PARISH CAROLS 2025

Join us as we celebrate the Lighting of the Christmas Tree and Parish Carols at St Francis Xavier Cathedral on **Friday 19th December 2025, 7pm to 8.30pm**.

All are warmly invited to this special parish celebration.

PARISH LUNCH

The final Parish Lunch for 2025 will be held on Thursday, 4 December, at The Builder's Club at 12 noon. All parishioners and friends are warmly invited to come along — everyone is welcome. Please note: There is no organised lunch in January. Our next Parish Lunch gathering will be on Thursday, 5 February 2026.

CWL WOLLONGONG RAFFLE

The Wollongong CWL Branch will be holding a Christmas Raffle on 6th/7th December and 13th/14th December.

Tickets are 3 for \$5 and will be available at St Brigid's and St Francis Xavier's churches.

Wonderful prizes are ready to be delivered to the lucky winners! Thank you for your support.

of life providing the timetable for our own contribution to the hammering of swords into ploughshares.

Recent Popes, especially St John Paul II, have taken up this theme for our times, teaching more restrictive criteria for using armed force, even dropping the term 'just war' to very small print in the Catechism.

We could pause for a moment to pray to be awake to our opportunities to shape society in the light of the vision of Isaiah and the practice of Jesus the Prince of Peace.

CWL BRANCH WOLLONGONG UPDATE

The Wollongong Catholic Women's League Branch is pleased to announce the election of its office bearers for the 2026–2028 term: Susan Meehan as President, Margaret Frew as Vice President, Lorraine Runko as Secretary, and Diana Lyon as Treasurer.

I wish to congratulate each of them and expresses my gratitude for their dedication and willingness to serve our CWL and parish community.

We also extend our thanks to Jo Clark and Maureen Kingston-Ray for their generous work and faithful commitment during their time in office.

ACSL—AUDIT

Lumen Christi Parish was one of the parishes selected at random and was audited as part of ACSL's Audit and Review Program, which is designed to assess how well a Church entity is applying the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards. The National Catholic Safeguarding Standards have been developed to put into practice the Church's commitment to ensuring the safety of all who encounter the Church, with a particular focus on children and adults at risk. The Diocesan Office of Professional standards will review the reports and may need to implement changes based on the recommendations provided.

Fr Bernard

SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL 2025

This weekend, our annual St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal will take place in our parish.

A **leaving collection** will be held after each Mass to support those in need in our community during the Christmas season.

Thank you for your generous, ongoing support in bringing hope to those less fortunate.

IMAGE OF ST TERESA OF CALCUTTA

This **Friday, 5th December**, the image of St Teresa of Calcutta will be blessed at the **12:10 pm Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral**. All are warmly welcome to attend. Thank you to the generous donor for your support.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

*The Gloria in excelsis (Glory to God in the highest)
is not said.*

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the
kingdom of God.*

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come

the mountain of the Temple of the Lord

shall tower above the mountains

and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it,

peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations

and adjudicate between many peoples;

these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation,

there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,

let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 121:1-2. 4-5. 6-9. R. see v.1.

(R.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:
'Let us go to God's house.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)
2. It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.
There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. (R.)
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray:
'Peace be to your homes!
May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!' (R.)
4. For love of my brethren and friends

I say: 'Peace upon you!'

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under the cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the day-time: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,

and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left. 'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Wake up to the Poetry

Our Lord loved to unfurl the scroll of the Prophet Isaiah in his local synagogue. The poetic image of swords being hammered into ploughshares reverberated into his renouncing violence against the Roman occupying army in his own time. When will this picture come true for all human beings for all time?

Only God knows! We don't know any more than we know when a burglar might target our home. But our ignorance of God's timetable is no excuse for being fatalistic and sleepy. We have our own span

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