



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH



SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

8 FEBRUARY 2026

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 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 |
| Sunday | Mass: 8.30am, 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



*“Jesus Christ is our light—
teach us to shine with
charity, humility, and
truth.”*



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE..

Damian Biddle, Josephine Bonanno,
Carmel Mowbray, Martin Hubbard,
Aldo Dellapina, Antonio Dellapina,
Ligoury Pinto.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Fr John Pickering, Duc Trong Nguyen,
Angela Mosley, Brian Mattock, Jim
Lyon, Teresa George, Chiara Sirianni,
Joyce Milan, Noel Meddows, 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.



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, 11 Feb: Our Lady of Lourdes
- Wed, 11 Feb: Mass of Anointing, SFX 12.10pm (With Bishop Brian)
- Sun, 15 Feb: Caritas launch in our parish (Project Compassion 2026)
- Wed, 18 Feb: Ash Wednesday Masses
- Thu, 19 Feb: SBGS Start of Year Mass, SBG 9.30am
- Fri, 20 Feb: Stations of the Cross, SFX 6.30pm
- Sun, 22 Feb: Episcopal Ordination Anniversary of Bishop Brian (2018)
- Sun, 22 Feb: First Sunday of Lent
- Tue, 24 Feb: GSFM Start of Year Mass, SJV 9.30am
- Tue, 24 Feb: Education Mass, SJV 6pm

CHILDREN'S LITURGY— BALGOWNIE

I am very grateful to Kerrie Guillaume, Jodie Hillhouse, Bronwyn Seaborn, Margaret Biggs, Megan Biggs, and Samuel Franklin for their commitment to leading Children's Liturgy in Lumen Christi Parish.

What is Children's Liturgy?

Children's Liturgy (also called Children's Liturgy of the Word) is a part of Mass where children are invited to hear and reflect on God's Word in an age-appropriate way. During the Liturgy of the Word, children are invited forward and accompany the Children's Liturgy Leaders to a nearby designated space. They will hear the readings and Gospel explained at their level, pray together, and then return to the church to join their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.



Theological meaning

Children's Liturgy is not "childcare" during Mass—it is a genuine participation in the Church's worship. The Word of God is living and active, and the Church desires that every baptised person, including children, can receive the Word, respond in faith, and be formed as disciples. By proclaiming and reflecting on the Scriptures at an appropriate level, Children's Liturgy helps children to:

- grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ
- learn how to listen for God's voice in Scripture
- understand that the Mass is a dialogue of love between God and His people
- experience belonging in the parish as active members of the Body of Christ

If you are interested in your children attending, please sign up via the parish website: lumenchristi.org.au/cl or see a member of the Children's Liturgy Team.

Fr Bernard

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

PARISH COUNCILS

Kathy Uroda,
Chair of the Pastoral Council

Vicky Davidson,
Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

Amy Sammut, Principal
St Brigid's Gwynneville

Pauline Chrostowski, Principal
Good Samaritan Fairy Meadow

PARISH EFT BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

CHURCH ACCOUNT:

FOR DONATIONS & GIVING
BSB: 066 711 Account: 008056
Account Name: LC Parish

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT:

FOR THE CLERGY
BSB: 066 711 Account: 002286
Account Name: LC Presbytery

CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

lumenchristi.org.au/donate

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Wollongong Public/Private
Emergency Calls
Phone: 0475 815 506

NEWS IN BRIEF

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES – MASS OF THE ANOINTING

On the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Mass of the Anointing will be celebrated at **St Francis Xavier Cathedral during the 12:10pm Mass this Wednesday 11 February**. Bishop Mascord will offer this Mass, and all are warmly welcome to attend and pray for the sick and those in need of God's healing.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2026

As we begin Lent, we also renew our commitment to Project Compassion (Caritas Australia). This year's theme is **"Unite Against Poverty."** Project Compassion envelopes and boxes will be available next **Sunday 15 February**. Please help support Caritas.

ASH WEDNESDAY—18 FEBRUARY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the Church's forty-day journey of renewal and preparation for Easter. It is a day that invites us to pause, be honest about what needs to change, and begin again with God.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES:

Wollongong: 7am, 12:10pm & 6:00pm

Fairy Meadow: 9:30am (incl School), Vietnamese: 7pm

Gwynneville: 10:30am (incl School)

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday all who are 14 years or older are obliged to abstain from meat

All who are 18 to 59 are obliged to fast—one full meal and two smaller meals in accord with appropriate health and medical needs (Canon 1252). Pastors, teachers, and parents are to ensure that even those who, by reason of their age, are not bound by the law of fasting and abstinence are taught the true meaning of penance.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday (18 February 2026) and Trinity Sunday (31 May 2026) unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

DIOCESAN LENTEN PROGRAM – "COMPASSION"

Our diocesan Lenten Program has been widely distributed. The book and CDs are available as digital downloads for credit card purchases only. If you have any questions or you would like to place a phone or email order, call us on (02) **4222 2411** or **orders@dow.org.au**. Go to: **dow.org.au/shop** or go to Cathedral Bookshop.

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

Bishop Brian Mascord has announced the following clergy appointments in the Diocese of Wollongong:

Camden Parish

Fr Hung Tran has been appointed as Assistant Priest at St Paul's Parish, Camden, effective 7 March 2026.

Shellharbour Parish

Fr Leonides Mateo (Leo) has been appointed as Assistant Priest at All Saints' Parish, Shellharbour, effective 7 February 2026. Fr Leonides has been welcomed into the Diocese of Wollongong.

Bishop Mascord thanks Fr Hung and Fr Leonides for accepting these new responsibilities and extends every blessing for their priestly ministry.

Fr Bernard

FR CANG TRAN

Fr Cang Tran will be on annual leave from Monday 9 February and will return to the parish on Sunday 8 March.

We wish Fr Cang a restful time away and look forward to welcoming him back on his return.

During this time, Fr Anthony Ha & Fr Joseph Pothenparampil will assist with Masses in Fr Cang's absence. We thank Frs Anthony & Joseph for their generous support in the parish.

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENTS

Parents and caregivers of children in Year 6 are now invited to enrol their child into the 2026 programme for Confirmation. Parents and caregivers will need to attend a compulsory information session with the Parish Priest. Please refer to the parish website for details.

To enrol your child in the Sacramental program visit the parish website: **lumenchristi.org.ausacramental**

N.B. Enrolments close 27 March 2026.

CATECHIST LEVEL 1 COURSE

The Catechist Level 1 Course is required for all new SRE catechist volunteers and is also valuable as a refresher for experienced catechists. Day 1 includes Safeguarding and Classroom Management training, which must be renewed every three years to remain active in the ministry. The five-week course runs **9:30am–1:30pm in Wollongong (Mondays 9, 16, 23 February and 2, 9 March)**.

Registration for full course

dow.sh/ccd_one

Registration for Safeguarding/Classroom Management

dow.sh/ccd_sg

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading

Isaiah 58:7-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,
and shelter the homeless poor,
clothe the man you see to be naked
and turn not from your own kin.
Then will your light shine like the dawn
and your wound be quickly healed over.
Your integrity will go before you
and the glory of the Lord behind you.
Cry, and the Lord will answer;
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'
If you do away with the yoke,
the clenched fist, the wicked word,
if you give your bread to the hungry,
and relief to the oppressed,
your light will rise in the darkness,
and your shadows become like noon.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

(R.) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:
he is generous, merciful and just.
The good man takes pity and lends,
he conducts his affairs with honour. (R.)
2. The just man will never waver:
he will be remembered for ever.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. (R.)
3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;
open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His head will be raised in glory. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

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

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a

demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation

John 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
the man who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Salty and Radiant

You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the cosmos. 'You' is in the plural. So these descriptions are meant to apply to us as a Christian community.

Salt in the ancient world was a preservative for food. So, we are the ones who are to preserve the earth, to prevent its deterioration, to keep it life-giving.

Salt has to penetrate food to have an effect. We have to penetrate the world with our Sermon on the Mount values. Staying self-contained as a perfect little band of Christians is about as useful as salt remaining in the saltshaker. In Our Lord's scary opinion we would quite rightly be trampled underfoot.

How are we light for the cosmos? By 'good works'? No, a truer translation is by 'beautiful works'. These are those things we do which have grace, elegance and proportion and are therefore pleasing to observe: beautifully-good-works.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we remain salty and tangy, doing good beautifully and elegantly.

WOLLONGONG—CWL

Wollongong Catholic Women's League will hold the first meeting for 2026 on **Friday, 13 February at 10:00am in the Xavier Centre**. All are welcome. Please note the change of day for February only.

© 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.