



**LUMEN CHRISTI**  
CATHOLIC PARISH



# SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

15 FEBRUARY 2026

6TH 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
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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..

Luigi Celio, James McPhilbin, Jeanette Crisafi, Joyce Hubbard, Secondo Mancini.

### 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.

*"Blessed are those who choose God's way—not just in words, but in the quiet faithfulness of daily life."*

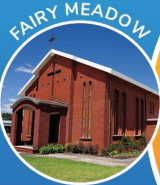
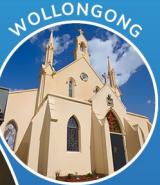


*Our Sacraments & Helpful Links*

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, 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
- Fri, 27 Feb: Stations of the Cross, SFX 6.30pm
- Sun, 01 Mar: Hospitality weekend
- Sun, 01 Mar: Second Sunday of Lent

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY— BALGOWNIE

Please come and support the start of a beautiful new ministry in our parish community.

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 at Balgownie.



### What is Children's Liturgy?

Children's Liturgy (Children's Liturgy of the Word) is 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 come forward with the Children's Liturgy Leaders to a nearby space, listen to the readings and Gospel explained at their level, pray together, and then return to Mass for the Liturgy of the Eucharist with their families.

### Why it matters

Children's Liturgy is not childcare—it is genuine participation in the Church's worship. It helps children to grow in their relationship with Jesus, learn to listen to God's voice in Scripture, understand the Mass as a dialogue of love between God and His people, and experience belonging as active members of the Body of Christ.

### Register / get involved

If you would like your children to attend, please sign up via the parish website: [lumenchristi.org.au/cl](http://lumenchristi.org.au/cl), or speak with a member of the Children's Liturgy Team.

Fr Bernard and Kerrie will speak next Sunday 22 February.

## SECURITY AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL

Following recent vandalism in the Cathedral, we would like the Cathedral to remain open during the day for prayer and visitation.

To support this, a sensor beam has been installed in front of the sanctuary. This will alert staff and the priests if someone steps into the sanctuary area. Please do not enter the sanctuary outside Mass times.

## 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

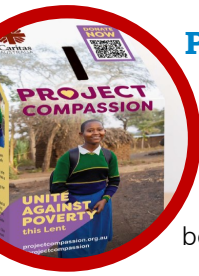
## CREDIT CARD DONATIONS

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

## HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

**Wollongong Public/Private**  
Emergency Calls  
Phone: 0475 815 506

# NEWS IN BRIEF



## 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 are available **this weekend.**

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES—18 FEB

**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.

## 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](http://dow.org.au/shop)** or go to Cathedral Bookshop.

## SHROVE TUESDAY—17 FEBRUARY

This Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday, the day we traditionally prepare for Lent by taking stock of our lives, seeking God's mercy, and making a fresh start.

"Shrove" comes from an old word meaning to be forgiven—a reminder to turn back to God, to pray, and to let go of whatever keeps us from living the Gospel. It's also been a practical day to use up rich foods (like eggs, milk, and sugar) before the simpler season of Lent—hence the tradition of pancakes. A big thank you to Lynne Hudson, who will be making pancakes after the 9:30am Mass.

All are warmly invited to join us for pancakes and fellowship as we begin this holy season together.

## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer, an ecumenical prayer service, will be held on **Friday, 6 March 10am at:**

**Corrimal Uniting Church, 4 Russell St, Corrimal**

**Salvation Army Centre, 11-13 Burelli St Wollongong**

All are most welcome to attend and join in prayer.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

## Communion Antiphon

**Cf Psalm 77:29-30**

They ate and had their fill,  
and what they craved the Lord gave them;  
they were not disappointed in what they craved.

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

### Truth-Telling

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean no. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to use God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an abuse.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truths.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships.

As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim.

(James 5:12-13)

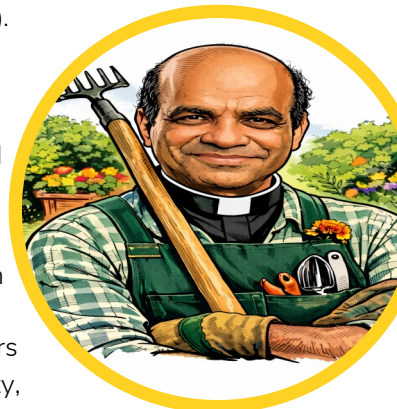
We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep all that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20).

## FR JOE'S GARDEN'S

Fr Joseph Pothenparampil would like to begin a gentle and very welcome ministry within the Cathedral Gardens.

If you feel called to help (even in a small way), Fr Joseph would love to hear from you. Volunteers can assist with simple hospitality, welcoming, and accompanying others in this calm and prayerful space.

To join the team, please email Fr Joseph at **[jo.pothen@dow.org.au](mailto:jo.pothen@dow.org.au)**.



# THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

## Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God,  
a mighty stronghold to save me.  
For you are my rock, my stronghold!  
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

## First Reading

Sirach 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

*He never commanded anyone to be godless.*

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,  
to behave faithfully is within your power.  
He has set fire and water before you;  
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.  
Man has life and death before him;  
whichever a man likes better will be given him.  
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;  
he is almighty and all-seeing.  
His eyes are on those who fear him,  
he notes every action of man.  
He never commanded anyone to be godless,  
he has given no one permission to sin.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless,  
who follow God's law!  
They are happy those who do his will,  
seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts  
to be obeyed with care.  
May my footsteps be firm  
to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live  
and obey your word.  
Open my eyes that I may consider  
the wonders of your law. (R.)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes  
and I will keep them to the end.  
Train me to observe your law,  
to keep it with my heart. (R.)

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

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

*God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.*

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the

masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

## Gospel Acclamation

See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;  
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 5:17-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

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