



INCORPORATING THE PARISHES OF

- Cathedral of St Francis Xavier, Wollongong • Co-Cathedral of St John Vianney, Fairy Meadow
- Mater Dolorosa, Balgownie • St Brigid's, Gwynneville

JESUS SAW GOD'S TENDERNESS IN JOSEPH



Dear Parishioners,

Pope Francis has declared a Year of Saint Joseph (8 December 2020 — 8 December 2021) and published an Apostolic Letter, *Patris Corde*, in which he reflects upon St Joseph's love as a father to Jesus. The purpose of the Letter "is to increase love for this great saint, to be moved to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues". The title of the letter — *Patris Corde* — is taken from its first sentence: "With a father's heart: that is how Joseph loved Jesus".

There are seven aspects of St Joseph's fatherhood that Pope Francis considers: 1) A beloved father who made his life one of service to Jesus and Mary; 2) A father who showed tenderness to Jesus; 3) A father who obeyed God's call to love and care for Jesus and Mary; 4) A father who welcomed Mary into his life and care; 5) A father who exercised creative courage in difficult circumstances; 6) A father who taught Jesus the value, dignity and joy of work; 7) A father who placed Jesus and Mary at the centre of his life, loving them selflessly and without possessiveness. These are all qualities we can practice in fulfillment of our responsibilities to others.

Fr Bernard Gordon

*Hail, guardian of the Redeemer,
and husband of the Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*O Blessed Joseph, show yourself a father for us too,
and guide us on the journey of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage,
and defend us from all evil. Amen.*

Fourth Sunday of Advent Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Presider

As we begin our celebration for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, let us prepare to light the fourth and last candle on our Advent wreath. As Advent draws to a close, we pause to pray for faith that opens our lives to the Spirit of God.

- Presider:** Come, O Wisdom of our God, Most High.
All: Come! Teach us to walk in the paths of Truth.
Presider: Come, O Morning Star and Radiance of eternal light.
All: Come! Enlighten all those who dwell in darkness.
Presider: Come, O Emmanuel, our long-awaited Saviour.
All: Come quickly now! Do not delay!



CONTACT US AT THE PARISH OFFICE

36 Harbour St, Wollongong NSW 2500

Monday to Friday 9.00am—1.00pm

Parish Office: 02 4211 0500 | wollongong@dow.org.au

lumenchristi.org.au

Hospital Chaplain: 0475 815 506

Our Privacy policy: www.privacy.lumenchristi.org.au

Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Year B

20 December 2020

In our parishes & around the diocese

LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISHES

MASS TIMETABLE

WOLLONGONG

Monday	Mass: 7am
Tuesday	Mass: 7am
Wednesday	Mass: 7am Confessions: 11:30am Mass: 12.10pm Holy Hour: 6:30pm (including confessions)
Thursday	Mass: 7am
Friday	Mass: 7am Confessions: 11:30am Mass 12.10pm
Sunday	Mass: 7am, 10.30am & 5pm

GWYNNEVILLE

Thursday	Mass: 9.30am
Saturday	Mass: 5.30pm
Sunday	Mass: 9am

FAIRY MEADOW

Tuesday	Mass: 9.30am
Thursday	Mass: 9.30am (Italian) Mass: 5.30pm
Sunday	Mass: 8.30am Mass: 10am (Italian) Mass: 4.30pm (Vietnamese)

BALGOWNIE

Sunday	Mass: 10am Mass: 11.30am (Syro-Malabar)
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- **Live Mass Sundays at 10.30am**
(Go to: livestream.lumenchristi.org.au)
- **Baptisms:** By appointment only. Contact the parish office for details.
- **Marriages:** A preliminary appointment needs to be made at least 6 months prior to the Wedding Date. No Sunday weddings.
- **Online Payments and Donations:**
www.payments.lumenchristi.org.au

IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST WE PRAY FOR ALL OUR DEPARTED RELATIVES, FRIENDS AND BENEFACTORS ...

Anders Nilsson, Madeliene Smith, Helen Hampson, Patrick Gardiner, Anne Hamilton, Stephen Hamilton, Rose Mercieca, Leo Boyle, John & Frances Merritt, Jim Bates, Luigi Tollardo, David & Judith Crowe, Maureen Gray, John Hayes, Steve Windler, Deceased members of our parish, John B Davis, Francis Joseph O'Donnell, Tom & Joan Mackie, Rhonda Reynolds, Frances Clifford, Joshua Pead, Brian Tuxworth, Catherine Tuxworth, Doris Hogan, Isabel Marques, Manuel Rebelo, Mary Greco, Paula Dingli.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE SICK ...

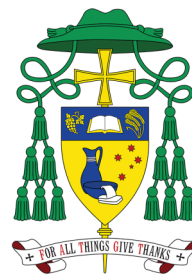
Fr David Catterall (Oran Park PP), Amelia Wilkinson, Sue Freestone, Ardell Sharpe, Linda Dargham, Joseph Scalia, Lilia Pelino, Don Alanis, Jacquie Brady, Lyn Griffin, Edna Wilson, Brian Brennan, Margaret Cooke, Betty Bloye, Bill Keirse, Lyn Gilbert, Jessica Sparks, Pat Carr, Bruce Creenaune, Tri Vu's mum (Vietnam), Catherine Cox, Frances McMahon, Joan O'Dowd, Margaret Bartley, Kath McGuinness, Jan Newman, Lucy Caruana.

IN PRAISE OF CHRISTMAS CARDS

"It is worth taking Christmas cards down from our mantelpieces and kitchen walls to hold them in our hands and quietly let them prompt a heart to heart conversation with Jesus." (Gerald O'Collins, SJ)

STAFF

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,
Diocesan Bishop & Parish Priest
Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,
Vicar General & Administrator
Reverend Victor Vincent,
Assistant Priest
Reverend Anthony Ha,
Vietnamese Chaplain
Mr Kevin Galea,
Business & Operations Manager
Mrs Cathy Zamroz,
Pastoral Associate
Mrs Leanne Burlin,
Secretary
Mrs Patricia Di Leva,
Administration Assistant
Mrs Karen Borger,
Cathedral Housekeeper



PLENARY INDULGENCE FOR THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

The Apostolic Penitentiary in Rome has published a decree granting the plenary indulgence for the following acts of prayer or service during the Year of St Joseph. The indulgence is granted under the usual conditions: sacramental confession, Holy Communion, prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father, and detachment from any sin:

- ♦ Meditate for at least 30 minutes on the prayer of the Our Father, or take part in a spiritual retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on St Joseph
- ♦ Following the example of St Joseph, carry out a corporal or spiritual work of mercy
- ♦ Recite the Holy Rosary in families and between engaged couples.
- ♦ Entrust daily activity to the protection of St Joseph or pray that those without work will find dignifying work
- ♦ Recite the Litany of St Joseph or some other prayer to St Joseph for the relief of all Christians who suffer persecution.
- ♦ Recite any legitimately approved prayer or act of piety in honor of St Joseph, especially on St Joseph's feasts of 19 March (Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary) and 1 May (St Joseph the Worker), the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (27 December), on the 19th of each month and on every Wednesday.
- ♦ The indulgence is particularly extended to the elderly, the sick, the dying and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave their house, who with a soul detached from any sin and with the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions given above, recite an act of piety in honor of St. Joseph, comfort of the sick and Patron of a happy death, offering with trust in God the pains and discomforts of their life.

For the latest updated Mass times and bookings visit: lumenchristi.org.au/masstimes

In our parishes & around the diocese

LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISHES

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

On-line registrations for Christmas Masses have now opened.

If you want to attend the Syro-Malabar, Italian or Vietnamese Christmas Masses, please contact the Priest or Chaplain directly to register.

To give everyone a fair chance to attend one of the Vigil and Christmas Day Masses, please only register for one of the Masses. Thank you for your cooperation.

Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral will be livestreamed at 7pm, Midnight and 10.30am Christmas Day. Go to: livestream.lumenchristi.org.au

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass Thursday 24th December

St Francis Xavier Cathedral
5pm, 7pm, & Midnight

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral
6pm & 8pm (Vietnamese)

St Brigid's Church
5pm & 7pm

Mater Dolorosa Church
7pm (Syro-Malabar)

Christmas Day Mass Friday 25th December

St Francis Xavier Cathedral
7am, 9am & 10.30am

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral
8.30am & 10am (Italian)

St Brigid's Church
9am

Mater Dolorosa Church
Mass 10am & 11.30am (Syro-Malabar)



POPE FRANCIS ON BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS

"As great as the responsibility of politicians may be, it does not exempt scientists from acknowledging their own ethical responsibilities in the effort to halt not only the manufacture, possession and use of nuclear weapons, but also the development of biological weapons, with their potential to devastate innocent civilians and indeed, entire peoples." (To the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, 7 October 2020)

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

The world in which we live and the events of which we are a part are the stage upon which the drama of salvation is enacted. God works through real flesh and blood people, those like David, who occupy the seats of power and influence as well as those like Mary and us, who are unseen and unknown. All can be agents of salvation. God's future is in our hands. Human history is really the history of salvation. Each turn of God's revealing causes us to wonder at what might come next. In this tension, mystery is revealed. What was hidden is now made known. Jesus establishes a people of covenant promise. Still, the mystery is unknown, for it continues to come to us from the future, revealing more and more of itself in the junctures of history.

The waiting of Advent is over. In the face of the impossible, God works the possible. During Advent, we have been waiting for the realisation of the promise made to David. We have been waiting for Mary's yes. With this yes, hope is enlivened, and history is changed. There is an unimaginable future for all people, a future that comes from God. Salvation is created among us, and the fate of history is altered by a godly presence. This salvation resides in the hearts of those who believe in the gift, and who stay awake eagerly to know its coming. With David we await it, with the nations we long for it, with Mary we behold it.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS HAMPERS Wollongong & Fairy Meadow

The Wollongong & Fairy Meadow SVdP Conferences will again be providing Christmas Food Hampers and toys for families in need. Please assist with pantry food or suitable children's gifts. Food and gifts can be left in marked SVdP baskets provided in the churches. The final date for donations is this Sunday 20th December.

Christmas Cards and Calendars are on sale after Mass. Please see a member of the SVdP if you wish to purchase a card or calendar, or both.

MASS REGISTRATION CHANGES

As of **Friday 1st January 2021** there will no longer be pre-registration bookings for Masses. NSW Health now requires all parishes to keep a record of name, contact number and entry time for all staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors for a period of at least 28 days, using electronic collection (e.g. using a QR code). Parishioners will be asked to scan the QR code upon entry using their smart phone. Alternatively, see the door monitor for your details to be entered through an iPad.

THE GREAT COMFORTERS

The meaning of Christmas is:

- ⇒ that we petition God;
- ⇒ that God redeems us through the mystery;
- ⇒ that we are rich and capable enough through God's comfort to give others the comfort they need so much;
- ⇒ that we go away from the celebration as the great comforters, as the great knowers, the great blessed ones who know what it means to be consoled by God. (Adapted from Alfred Delp, SJ, 22 Dec. 1942)

For the latest diocesan directives updates visit: www.dow.org.au/covid-19

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 45:8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

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

First Reading

2 Sm 7:1-5. 8-12. 14. 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent'. Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 88:2-5. 27. 29. R. see v.2

(R.) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.
(R.)
2. 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
and set up your throne through all ages.' (R.)
3. He will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock who saves me.'
I will keep my love for him always;
for him my covenant shall endure. (R.)

Second Reading

Rom 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Creed is said.

Communion Antiphon

Is 7:14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.

CHRISTMAS PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday 21st December to Wednesday 23rd December:
9am to 1pm

Parish Office closed 1pm Wednesday, 23rd December
until Monday, 4th January 2021