

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, B

3 DECEMBER 2023

PARISH VISION

We are called to reveal the Light of Christ to the world



MASS TIMETABLE

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 Brigid's, Gwynneville

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

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow

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

Mater Dolorosa, Balgownie

Sunday	Mass: 10am
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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

PARISH STAFF

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,
Diocesan Bishop & Parish Priest
Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,
Vicar General & Administrator
Reverend James Arblaster,
Assistant Priest & UoW Chaplain
Kevin Galea,
General Manager
Leanne Burlin,
Parish Secretary
Patricia Di Leva,
Administration Assistant

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Wollongong Hospital: 0475 815 506

PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNCILS

Lisa de Paiva, Chair of the Pastoral Council
Gabi Tobin, Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

Kathy Uroda, Principal, St Brigid's Gwynneville
Toni Sillis, Principal, Good Samaritan Fairy Meadow

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.



LUMEN CHRISTI

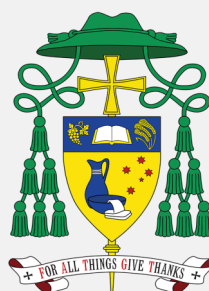
CATHOLIC PARISH

MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE ...

Jan Coulson, John Roodenrys, Paul Gray, Margaret Gray,
Maria Hue Pham, Aileen Jose, members of Cook & Roberts
families, Secondo Mancini, Father Drago Prgomet, Madeliene
Smith.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

Bishop Peter Ingham, Fr David Catterall, Terry Barratt, Nelson
Salinas, Joan O'Dowd, Alan Curtis, Matthew Johnson, Suzy
May Gellel, Pat Carr, John Parkinson, Joseph Scalia, Bill
Sharpe, Therese & Noel Rouse, Mario Saverimuttu, Ron
Cooper.



In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: DEC 2023

Fri, 8 Dec: Immaculate Conception
Sun, 10 Dec: Second Sunday of Advent - Year B
Sun, 10 Dec: Reconciliation after MDB 10am Mass
Sun, 10 Dec: Ordination Anniversary Fr James Arblaster(2022)
Tue, 12 Dec: Reconciliation after SJV 9.30am Mass
Tue, 12 Dec: Farewell Mass Toni Sillis, SJV 11.30am Mass
Tue, 12 Dec: Finance Council Meeting
Wed, 13 Dec: Diocesan Pastoral Works Mass, SFX 12.10pm
Wed, 13 Dec: Pastoral Council Meeting
Thu, 14 Dec: Reconciliation after SBG 9.30am Mass
Fri, 15 Dec: Second Rite of Reconciliation, SFX 11am
Fri, 15 Dec: First Rite of Reconciliation, SFX 6pm
Sun, 17 Dec: Third Sunday of Advent (Rose Sunday) -Year B
Sun, 24 Dec: Fourth Sunday of Advent—Year B
Sun, 24 Dec: Christmas Eve Masses (see schedule)
Mon, 25 Dec: Christmas Day Masses (see schedule)
Tue, 26 Dec: St Stephen (see schedule)
Sun, 31 Dec: SFX 5pm Mass relocated to SBG 5pm

SACRAMENTS

- ♦ **Baptisms:** By appointment only. Baptism preparation session must be completed. Contact the parish office or book online lumenchristi.org.au/baptism)
- ♦ **Marriages:** A preliminary appointment needs to be made at least 6 months prior to Wedding Date (**No Sunday weddings in our parish**)
- ♦ For Pastoral and Sacramental needs, please contact the parish office during office hours

HELPFUL LINKS

- ♦ **Mass for you at Home:** youtube.com/massforyouathome
- ♦ **Mass/Prayer Intentions:** lumenchristi.org.au/intentions
- ♦ **Light a Votive Candle:** lumenchristi.org.au/votive
- ♦ **Census Form:** lumenchristi.org.au/census
- ♦ **Online Donations:** lumenchristi.org.au/donate
- ♦ **Join Planned Giving:** lumenchristi.org.au/support
- ♦ **Columbarium:** lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium
- ♦ **Sacramental Programme:** lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental
- ♦ **Privacy Policy:** privacy.lumenchristi.org.au
- ♦ **St Brigid's School:** sbgdow.catholic.edu.au
- ♦ **Good Samaritan School:** gsfmdow.catholic.edu.au

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

ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMES AT LUMEN CHRISTI

Mater Dolorosa Church

Sunday 10th December after the 10am Mass

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral

Tuesday 12th December after the 9.30am Mass

St Brigid's Church

Thursday 14th December after the 9.30am Mass

St Francis Xavier Cathedral

Friday 15th December 11am –12pm (2nd Rite)

Friday 15th December 6pm – 7pm & Every Saturday 11am – 12pm



Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December

Gwynneville: Mass 5.30pm

Fairy Meadow: Mass 6pm

Wollongong: Mass 7pm & Midnight

Christmas Day, Monday 25th December

Wollongong: Mass 7am, 10.30am & 5pm

Gwynneville: Mass 9am

Fairy Meadow: Mass 8.30am

Balgownie: Mass 10am

Tuesday 26th December, St Stephen

Wollongong: Mass 8am

Wednesday 27th December

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

Thursday 28th December

Wollongong: 7am

Friday 29th December,

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

Saturday 30th December, Holy Family

Wollongong: Reconciliation 11am –12pm

Gwynneville: Mass 5.30pm

Sunday 31st December, Holy Family

Wollongong: Mass 7am & 10.30am

Gwynneville: Mass 9am & 5pm (relocated due to New Year's Eve Celebrations on the Harbour)

Fairy Meadow: Mass 8.30am

Balgownie: Mass 10am

Monday 1st January 2024, Mary Mother of God

Wollongong: Mass 9am

Normal Mass times resumes Tuesday 2nd January 2023

For more information on bequests please visit: lumenchristi.org.au/bequest

In our parish & around the diocese

THE WILD ATLANTIC ADVENT

Dear Parishioners,

After a very enriching time on sabbatical in Ireland I am very happy to return to Lumen Christi. I have learnt so much about the history of my parent's homeland. It is a history both lively, tragic, and inspiring.

But the natural beauty of Ireland is magical in its rugged wonder. At present I am visiting the Wild Atlantic Way along the west coast of Ireland. I will never forget the feeling of awe and joy I felt as I drove along a narrow cliff road to Slea Head past Dingle Bay. It felt sublime as I looked out to the Atlantic ocean, so vast and so calm in the evening light.

Along that road by the Atlantic there is a crucifixion scene that draws you into the steadfast love of Mary, Mary Magdalene, and John as they stand by Christ on the Cross. The boundless nature of that love flows into all creation and brings to light its life-giving power, even amid its raging storms.

Advent brings us back to this mystery of love in its beginning to propel us forward in its power. We commence a season of preparing for the birth of our Saviour. This little baby saves us because he returns us to our beginning in God's creative love, and then walks with us through our growing and learning until he stands with us in our time of sorrow. Christ completes us in this way of self-giving love by leading us to share in his glory. By this love and this promise we walk forward in hope. That is the meaning of Advent—expecting God in our lives!

I am grateful for my time away, but I am looking forward to worshipping and working with you all as we approach the joy of Christmas and the New Year of Grace.

Fr Bernard Gordon

We could take a moment to pray that, when the Lord returns, we may hear: 'Come, good and faithful servant, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.'

PARISH LUNCH

You are warmly invited to our Parish luncheon on Thursday 7th December, 12pm at The Builders Club Wollongong (Church St). You can grab yourself a meal, drink and have a great chat!



THANK YOU FOR THE KNEELERS!

A very big thank you to all our parishioners who donated to our kneeler padding project. St Brigid's now has a complete set of padding for their kneelers!

Donations towards the new padding on the kneelers at St John Vianney's Co-Cathedral and Mater Dolorosa will continue. Please give to provide comfort for our parishioners and visiting worshippers, families and friends. You can donate by:

- ♦ completing a pledge form online at: www.lumenchristi.org.au/kneelers

- ♦ Direct Deposit

BSB: 066 711 Account #: 008056 Ref: Your Name-SOK

Cheques Payable to: [Lumen Christi Parish](#)

- ♦ Or by collecting an envelope from the church door (mark it "Kneelers Donation") and place it inside the collection bag, collection boxes, or hand it in at the parish office.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS CARDS & CALENDARS

Christmas Cards & Columban Calendars can be purchased after Sunday Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral on December 10 & 17. Please any items you have for our SVDP Christmas Hampers on these two weekends. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



ST JOHN VIANNEY GARDENS

Thank you to Peter Fickers for assisting in cleaning the surrounding gardens of St John Vianney Co-Cathedral. We are in need of additional hands to help maintain the gardens. If you could spare a few hours to help maintain the gardens please contact the parish office. Thank you so much for your help.



THANK YOU TO OUR PARISH SCHOOLS!

As we approach the conclusion of this academic year 2023 I offer my heartfelt acknowledgment to the leadership teams in our local parish schools of Good Samaritan and St Brigid.

The dedication of these teaching teams plays a pivotal role in the education of our young people. Our students have been afforded the best of opportunities for a well-rounded and holistic education. I extend a big thank you to our Principals, Deputy Principals, Religious Education Coordinators, and all the teaching and administration staff.

A special note of congratulations and best wishes to all Year 6 students who will go into the exciting new world of High School in 2024! I pray that you will continue to grow in knowledge about yourselves, life, and other people, and gain confidence to place your talents in the service of helping others to grow. May God bless you, your parents and caregivers, and all your families with joy and peace.

Fr Bernard

For more information on our Columbarium please visit: lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium

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 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Oh that you would tear the heavens apart and come down.

You, Lord, yourself are our Father,
Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants,
the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard,
no eye has seen
any god but you act like this
for those who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity
and keep your ways in mind.
You were angry when we were sinners;
we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean,
all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves
and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you.
For you hid your face from us
and gave us up to the power of our sins.
And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter,
we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. **(R.)**
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

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

The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!
Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 84:13

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

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Timely Living and the End of History

Our Lord portrays himself as the Master who goes away on a journey. It is certain that he will return, even if no-one in his household knows exactly when. That is our situation. What do we do in anticipation?

Our Lord, the Master, indicates we have a choice. We can close our eyes and enter into the world of dreams where we create our own fantasy futures, or we can stay awake and alert to do what Our Lord wants us to do: 'He left his servants in charge, giving to each his work.'

You and me – his servants – have a particular role or work in and for this phase of human history. A deep down intuition, prompted by the Holy Spirit, indicates what this is. We must be true to this assignment.

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