



Share the

GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

18 OCTOBER 2026

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

Liturgy schedule in our parish

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL

36 Harbour Street, 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

1 Cabbage Tree Lane, Fairy Meadow

Tuesday: Mass: 9.30am
Sunday: Mass: 8.30am, 4.30pm (Vietnamese)

MATER DOLOROSA CHURCH,

47 Balmoral Road, Balgownie

Sunday: Mass: 10am
Children's Liturgy (3rd Sunday)

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH

119 Gipps Road, Gwynneville

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



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

Parish Centre

PARISH OFFICE

36 Harbour St, (P.O. Box 874)
Wollongong NSW 2500

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 8.30am — 2.00pm
(Closed for Lunch 12pm—12.30pm)

CONTACT US

02 4211 0500

wollongong@dow.org.au

lumenchristi.org.au

linktr.ee/lumenchristiparish



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE...

Federico Sandona, Jose Nascimento, Jason Muscat, Indra Edward, William McCormack, Clare McCormack, Patrick McCormack, Maureen Gray, Mary Kolbergs, Secondo Mancini.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Denis Bristow, Margaret Mascord, Maria Hubbard, Daniel Caruana, Duc Trong Nguyen, Maureen Harrison, Lorraine Cook, Jacek McLaurin, Angela Mosley, Brian Mattock, Jim Lyon, Teresa George, Chiara Sirianni, Joyce Milan, Noel Meddows, Matthew Johnson, Pat Carr, John Gauci, Joseph Scalia, Llesl Caibal, Brusic, John Wise.

"Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

— Matthew 22:21

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 Peoples.



OUR

Sacraments

SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEB PORTAL



WOLLONGONG



FAIRY MEADOW



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

BALGOWNE



GWYNNEVILLE



Parish Information

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 Office Coordinator

Patricia Di Leva,
Administration Assistant

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Emergency Calls: 0475 815 506
(Wollongong Public/Private)

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

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

World Mission Sunday

This weekend our parish joins Catholics around the world in celebrating World Mission Sunday, marking 100 years of prayer, generosity and support for the Church's missionary work throughout the world.

The 2026 theme, chosen by Pope Leo XIV, is "One in Christ, United in Mission." It reminds us that, although we come from many nations, cultures and communities, we are united in Christ and share one mission: to proclaim the Gospel and bring Christ's love to others.

Through our prayers and generosity, we support missionary priests, religious sisters, catechists and local communities who serve some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Next weekend a special leaving collection for World Mission Sunday will be taken up after all Masses this weekend. We thank you for your generous support and ask you to continue praying for missionaries and the communities they serve throughout the world.

We are one in Christ, let us be united in Christ's Mission.
Fr Bernard



Understanding the Mass

Part 2 The Sign of the Cross

Why does Mass begin with the Sign of the Cross?

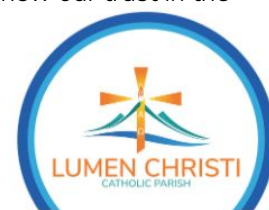
"In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

These familiar words are not simply a way of beginning our prayers. They remind us of our Baptism, when we were baptised in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

When we make the Sign of the Cross at the beginning of Mass we remember who we are: children of God, members of Christ's Body and a people called together by the Holy Spirit.

The Mass begins in the name of the Holy Trinity because everything we are about to celebrate comes from God and leads us back to the One who is the source of our being and our salvation..

The cross traces upon our bodies the sign of Christ's saving love. It recalls His death and resurrection and reminds us that we belong to Him in love. The words name the one God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Making this gesture thoughtfully can help us move from distraction into prayer. Our response, "Amen," expresses our agreement to enter this celebration in God's holy name. Each time we make the Sign of the Cross we renew our trust in the God who loves us and calls us to eternal life.



Presence: Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections

Presence Advent and Christmas books are available from the parish centre for just \$3 each.

Digital Projection Volunteers Needed

We are seeking volunteers to operate the digital projection system at the 8:30am Sunday Mass at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow. If you can help with this ministry, please contact the Parish Office.

South Stage II Columbarium Update

We are pleased to advise that a Development Application (DA) for the proposed new Southern Columbarium Wall at St Francis Xavier Cathedral has now been submitted to Wollongong City Council for consideration.

Mass with Anointing | 4 November 2026

We warmly invite all parishioners to join us for a special Mass with Anointing on **Wednesday, 4 November at 12:10pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral**. Whether you or someone dear to you is experiencing illness, facing a recent diagnosis, preparing for surgery or seeking strength and comfort during a difficult time, this Mass offers an opportunity to come together in faith, prayer and hope, entrusting our needs to God's care.

Reflection by Kevin Galea, General Manager

This weekend's Gospel invites us to reflect on an important question: What do we truly give to God? In Matthew's Gospel (22:15–21), Jesus is challenged about paying taxes to Caesar. His response reminds us that while we have responsibilities in the world, our greatest responsibility is to God.

We often find ourselves caught up in the busyness of everyday life, balancing family, work, commitments and the many demands placed upon us. Yet, amid all these responsibilities, we are reminded that our faith should remain at the centre of everything we do.

Here at Lumen Christi Parish, I am continually reminded of the many people who generously give their time, talents and energy in service to others. Whether through our liturgical ministries, pastoral care, hospitality, volunteering or simply offering a kind word to someone in need, these acts of generosity are beautiful expressions of our faith in action. As we reflect on this Sunday's readings, perhaps we can ask ourselves: Am I giving God the time, attention and place in my life that He deserves.

Thank you for all that you do to make Lumen Christi Parish a welcoming, prayerful and caring community.

The coin bore the image and inscription of Caesar. Genesis teaches us that human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. Our Lord is saying, 'Let the political and financial authorities have their coinage. It is their legal tender. But they cannot have human beings. Human beings belong to Another. They belong to God.'

We are fortunate to live in a wonderful democracy. But even a democracy can violate the dignity of a human being created in the image and likeness of God. As Pope John Paul II said: 'Authentic democracy is possible only in a state ruled by law, and on the basis of a correct conception of the human person.' (Italics added)

We could pause for a moment to thank God for the inscription, 'Child of God', effectively engraved on our hearts by baptism.

Become an RCIA Sponsor

This year, we are blessed to have 10 candidates journeying through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) as they prepare to be received into the Catholic Church. We are inviting parishioners who may be interested in becoming an RCIA Sponsor to attend an information session on **Saturday, 31 October at 3:00pm** in the Monsignor John Rigney Meeting Room.

A sponsor accompanies an RCIA candidate on their journey of faith through prayer, encouragement and friendship. You do not need to have all the answers—simply a willingness to walk alongside someone as they grow in their relationship with Christ and the Church.

To register: lumenchristi.org.au/rsvp or for enquiries: Lisa de Paiva – 4211 0506 or email lisa.depaiva@dow.org.au

All Saints and All Souls Masses

As we celebrate the lives of the saints and lovingly remember those who have gone before us in faith, we warmly invite parishioners to join us in prayer and remembrance.

Sunday, 1 November – All Saints Day

Masses at our normal Sunday times across our parish

Monday, 2 November – All Souls Day

St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong

7:00am – Mass

11:30am – Confessions

12:10pm – Mass

November Masses – Book of Remembrance

November Mass envelopes are available from our churches. Please write the names of those you wish to have remembered and return your envelope on the collection plate, to the parish office or drop it into the collection boxes at the doors of our churches.

You can also submit your November Mass intentions online at: lumenchristi.org.au/novembermass

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



THIS WEEK'S *Calendar Readings & Commentary*

The Parish Calendar

Tue, 20 Oct:	GSFM Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance
Thu, 22 Oct:	SBG Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance
Sun, 25 Oct:	World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly
Tue, 27 Oct:	GSFM Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance
Thu, 29 Oct:	SBG Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance Sacramental Program Session 1, SFX 3.45pm
Sat, 31 Oct:	Bishop Mascord, Priestly Ordination Anniversary
Sun, 01 Nov:	All Saints, Usual Sunday Masses Hospitality weekend
Mon, 02 Nov:	All Souls, SFX 7am, SFX, 12.10pm & 6pm

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 16:6,8

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

First Reading

Isaiah 45:1.4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whom he has taken by his right hand
to subdue nations before him
and strip the loins of kings,
to force gateways before him
that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,
of Israel my chosen one,
that I have called you by your name,
conferring a title though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, unrivalled;
there is no other God besides me.
Though you do not know me, I arm you
that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **(R.)**

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **(R.)**
4. Worship the Lord in his temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

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

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;

you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 32:18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Whose Image and Likeness?

Jesus first cleverly throws his questioners on the defensive. They are the ones carrying the coinage, not him. Then he poses the crucial question, 'Whose image is it and whose inscription?' They said to him, 'Caesar's'. Then he said to them: 'Render to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's.'

Community Life

"And over all these put on love" - Colossians 3:14

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