LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH

SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

Share the
GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

15 NOVEMBER 2026

33rd 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

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...
Josip Halic, Donato DiBono.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...
Pope Leo XIV, Denis Bristow, Margaret Mascord, Maria Hubbard, Daniel Caruana, Duc Trong Nguyen, Maureen Harrison, Jacek McLaurin, Angela Mosley, Brian Mattock, Jim Lyon, Teresa George, Chiara Sirianni, Joyce Milan, Noel Meddows, Matthew Johnson, Pat Carr, John Gauci, Joseph Scalia, Liesl Caibal, John Wise.

*"God **calls** us to use the **gifts** He has entrusted to us with **faith**, **courage** and **generosity**, bearing **fruit** through lives of **love** and service."*

OUR
Sacraments
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 Peoples.





First Holy Communion

This weekend and next, our Lumen Christi Parish community joyfully celebrates 84 young candidates receiving the Sacrament of First Holy Communion across our parish.

This is a significant milestone in their faith journey as they receive Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist for the first time. May this special occasion deepen their love for Christ and strengthen their connection with the Church.

I extend my sincere thanks to our school principals, Religious Education Coordinators (RECs), teachers, catechists and Parish Sacramental Coordinators for their dedication, guidance and commitment in preparing these children. I also thank the parents and families for nurturing their children's faith and supporting them on this important journey.

As a parish community, let us keep these young people in our prayers as they take this beautiful step in their spiritual lives. May their First Holy Communion be a truly significant step in a lifelong friendship with Jesus through the Eucharist.

Fr Bernard Gordon
Parish Priest & Dean

Understanding the Mass

Part 6 The First Readings

Why do we listen to Scripture at Mass?

When the Scriptures are proclaimed at Mass, we are not simply listening to an old story or receiving information about the past. God speaks now to us, a beloved and chosen people, through the proclaimed Word.

The First Reading on Sundays usually comes from the Old Testament, except during the Easter season, when it is taken from the Acts of the Apostles. These readings help us understand God's saving work throughout history and prepare us to hear the Gospel. At the conclusion we hear: "The Word of the Lord." Our response, "Thanks be to God," expresses our gratitude that God continues to speak to us.

The Old Testament helps us see that Jesus' coming belongs within God's long relationship with humanity. Stories of promise, freedom, faithfulness and hope prepare us to recognise how God's saving plan unfolds in Christ.

Listening takes practice. We can ask ourselves which word or image catches our attention and remain open to what it may reveal about God and how we live. Even when a passage seems difficult, we are invited to receive it patiently. Reading the Sunday Scriptures beforehand can also help us listen more attentively when they are proclaimed in the Eucharistic assembly.

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

First Holy Communion Candidates 2026

Akira Gonzalez
Alana El-Bacha
Alysha Pereira
Amalia Carusi
Amelia Mary Mendez
Amelia Navarrete
Annabelle Youssef
Antony Oswin Leema
Ari Pantalone
Ariana Thangavelu
Audrey Grella
Ava Draper
Billy Moore
Blaze Caruso
Brandon Di Pietro
Cara Di Pietro
Charli Grochowski
Charlie Hernandez
Clare Hagelstein
Darcy Preece
Elijah Ma'u
Ella Fredericks
Emeline Lautier
Estelle Sousa
Eveline Hagelstein
Evie Van Oord
Freya Sutton
Gabriel Thompson
Giuseppe Digiaro
Hamish Ostermeyer
Harvey South
Hendrix Catterall
Henry Wood
Ella Hofman
Hudson Pigozzo
Ignatius Woods
Indie Rouleau
Isabelle Doyle
Isla Bonnor
Isla Thompson
Iziaha Ma'u
Jack Hernandez
Jack Southerden
Jackson Young
Jobe Vian
Joshua Roeder
Kate Southerden
Kyah Gaudiosi
Kyrie Alexandrei Isip
Leo Lewis
Leonardo Di Pietro
Leonardo Perossa
Lewis McCarthy
Lockie Nederkoorn
Mackenzie Anthony Preece
Maitena Diaz Cancino
Maria Venita Menik Lonis
Millicent Flynn
Misha Valic
Nash English
Noah Maxwell Merenda
Nova Muskett
Olivia Masi
Parker Payne
Patrick Di Pietro
Phoebe Rose Lawrence
Rhea Elias
Riva Zedras
Robertson Alfred Berroya Morla
Rose Crocco
Roxanna O'Connor
Ruby Mastroianni
Ryan Crofts
Sibylla Fraticelli
Spencer Murphy
Stella Martiniello
Taj McWatters
Taj North
Thomas Barlow
Thomas Doyle
Xavier Woods
Zachary Roeder
Zoey Carusi
Zoey Stevens

Communion Antiphon
Psalm 72:28
To be near God is my happiness,
to place my hope in God the Lord.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate
Befriending Time
God's plan for human happiness is mostly frustrated by a good person burying his or her personality traits, what one might call one's talents, which is really to bury oneself and to become invisible.
In the old language of my schoolboy catechism, we should be concerned not just with sins of commission, but with sins of omission – failure of courage, failure to take risks, failure to put everything on the line with the personality and the moment in time given to you and to me.
As Shakespeare says in Julius Caesar:
'There is a tide in the affairs of men
which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;
omitted, all the voyage of their life
is bound in stillness and in miseries.'
The Divine Tide is flowing through human history. We should trust ourselves to that tide which can carry us to the shores of Heaven. Failure to take risks leads to Hellish stillness and miseries.
We could pause for a moment to pray that we might use our talents so as to hear: 'Well done, good and faithful servant … come and join in your Master's happiness.'

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.

Celebrating Our Dedicated Catechists

Next Saturday, 21 November 2026, four of our dedicated parish catechists will be recognised for their outstanding service and commitment to sharing the Catholic faith with young people at the Catechist Mass. Congratulations to:

Laraine Fikkers – 15 Years of Service, Bishop's Award

Julia Walsh – 25 Years of Service, Mary MacKillop Medal

Patricia Calabro – 30 Years of Service, Life Membership

Margaret Frew – 50 Years of Service, Special Award

These remarkable milestones reflect many years of faith, generosity and dedication to nurturing the spiritual lives of children in our local schools.

On behalf of our parish community, I extend my sincere gratitude and congratulations to each of these wonderful women. Their commitment to passing on the faith is a beautiful example of Christian service and witness. Thank you to all our parish catechists who generously give their time each week to share the Good News.
Fr Bernard

THIS WEEK'S Calendar Readings & Commentary

The Parish Calendar

Tue, 10 Nov: GSFM Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance
Reconciliation after Mass, 9.30am SJV
GSFM Retreat Day

Wed, 11 Nov: Pastoral Council Meeting, Rigney Room 5pm
Wollongong CWL Meeting, Xavier Ctr 10am

Thu, 12 Nov: SBG Year 3 Parish Mass Attendance
SBG Reconciliation for Candidates after 9.30am Mass
SBG Retreat Day
Sacramental Program Session 3, SFX 3.45pm

Fri, 13 Nov: Good Samaritan, Feast of All Benedictine Feast
Aid to the Church in Need Mass, SFX 12.10pm

Entrance Antiphon
Jeremiah 29:11,12,14
The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.
You will call upon me, and I will answer you,
and I will lead back your captives from every place.

First Reading
Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31
A reading from the book of Proverbs
Give her a share in what she has worked for.
A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 127:1-5. R. v.1
(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. (R.)

2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table. (R.)

3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
in a happy Jerusalem
all the days of your life. (R.)

Second Reading
1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians
The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.
You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.
But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel Acclamation
John 15:4. 5
Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Gospel
Matthew 25:14-30
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
Because you have been faithful over a few things, enter into the joy of the Lord.
Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir", he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth."'

Community Life

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

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