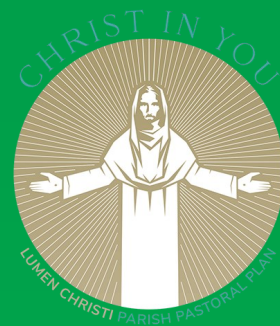


31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

5 NOVEMBER 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 ...

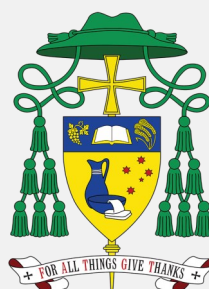
Peito Moala, Brian Bourke, Joe Edward, Thomas Ryan, Rita Creagan, Joan Vaughan, Joseph Carvalho, Ron Mascord, Joseph & Maria Rung Pham.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

Bishop Peter Ingham, Fr David Catterall, Jan Coulson, 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.

HOSPITALITY THIS WEEKEND

Join us for a cuppa after our Masses this weekend after the following Masses: **Fairy Meadow 8.30am, Gwynneville 9am, Balgownie 10am & Wollongong 10.30am.** Thank you to our hospitality teams for making our parish a place of welcome!



In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: NOV—DEC 2023

Sat, 11 Nov: Diocesan Catechist Mass, SFX 10am
Sat, 11 Nov: Wollongong Concert, SFX 4pm
Wed, 15 Nov: Baptism Class, SFX 7pm
Tue, 21 Nov: Australian Brandenburg Concert, SFX 7pm
Sun, 26 Nov: Feast of Christ the King
Wed, 29 Nov: Mass of Anointing, SFX 12.10pm
Sat, 2 Dec: Hark concert, SFX 2pm
Sun, 3 Dec: First Sunday of Advent - Year B
Sun, 3 Dec: Blessing of St Francis Xavier Statue, SFX 10.30am
Sun, 3 Dec: St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal 2023
Sun, 3 Dec: Hospitality weekend
Fri, 8 Dec: Immaculate Conception
Sun, 10 Dec: Second Sunday of Advent - Year B
Sun, 10 Dec: Reconciliation after MDB 10am Mass
Tue, 12 Dec: Reconciliation after SJV 9.30am Mass
Tue, 12 Dec: Finance Council Meeting
Wed, 13 Dec: Diocesan Pastoral Works Mass, SFX 12.10pm
Wed, 13 Dec: Pastoral Council Meeting

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)

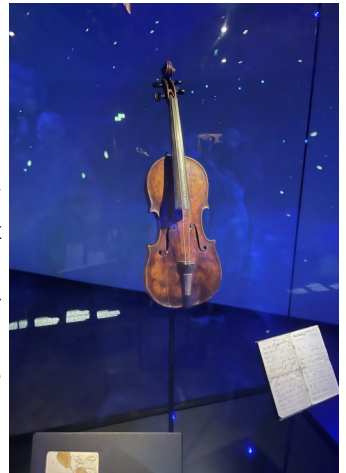
BSB: 066 711 **Account:** 002286

Account Name: Lumen Christi Parish Presbytery

THE VIOLIN

Dear Parishioners,

In Belfast I have been reading about the Troubles, a time of violence and social upheaval in Belfast, Northern Ireland. My eyes are sore from reading books about all the tragedy, pain, bombings and reprisals. As one taxi driver eloquently summed up nearly everyone's sentiments 25 years after the Good Friday Agreement: "We are just thankful they are not shooting each other. All you want is for your children to live and be happy." But more on this theme when I return to Australia's sundrenched shores.



Before Northern Ireland was partitioned from the rest of the island of Ireland in 1921, Belfast was a modern powerhouse with the two great industries of producing fine linen and building grand ocean liners. On the Belfast dockyards the company Harland and Wolff produced hundreds of ships, but most of all the Olympic transatlantic liners, and most of all the Titanic!

I'm not good on remembering measurements, but from what I saw in the Titanic Museum and what I read about the way it was built, this was a gigantic monster of an iron ship!!!

But we all know how nature is a truly powerful force and not to be underestimated. And we all know the tragic story of the Titanic coming off second best in a clash with an iceberg in the North Atlantic ocean in the early morning of 15 April 1912. There were many tragic errors connected to the sinking, for example, the misplacing of binoculars for the sailors on the watch from the front of the ship and the decision not to slow down in such dangerous waters so that there was no time to stop and completely avoid the iceberg.

Other ships in the vicinity received the distress signals of the Titanic and came to save 713 desperate people, but 1,512 people were lost.

Among the articles retrieved, which I saw at the Titanic exhibition in Belfast, was the violin of Wallace Hartley. He was one of the heroic musicians who realising the desperate situation played music to comfort passengers and crew as they faced the worst. The violin was a gift from his fiancée Maria Robertson. His body was recovered ... His violin is revered as a testament to his courage and humanity.

There is always someone, even at greatest personal cost, to give a consoling light in the engulfing darkness.

God bless you all,

Fr Bernard

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

In our parish & around the diocese

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES TRAINING

Readers, Ministers of Communion, Acolytes, and Servers at the Xavier Centre on Saturday 25th November 2023, 9am to 12pm. To register go to: lumenchristi.org.au/refresh2023
Registration closes on Wednesday 15th November 2023.



CONFIRMATION ENROLMENTS 2024

Dear Parents and caregivers, you are now invited to enrol your child in the 2024 programme for Confirmation (Year 6).

You will need to attend a compulsory information session with the Parish Administrator, the School Principal and the Religious Education Coordinator of the Catholic Parish Primary Schools at the commencement of the program. Parents and caregivers of children in other local school systems will also need to attend this information session.

Enrolments close **1 March 2024**.

To enrol your child in the Sacramental program visit the parish website: lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental

GOOD SAMARITAN SCHOOL FAIRY MEADOW

Recently at Good Samaritan School Fairy Meadow, Fr James Arblaster presented a certificate on behalf of Lumen Christi Parish to Jessica Blunden, Jasmine Ianni, Avrielle Masi - McNamee, Max Walsh and Laila Smugreski as the newest Altar servers at St John Vianney. A very special thank you to Fr James and Mrs Shelly for their guidance and support in preparing the children.

Last Friday, Fr James attended the Good Samaritan School P&F Colour Explosion Fun Run to fundraise for the school.

.....*We all know what happened to Fr James!*



Photos by: Good Samaritan School Fairy Meadow

2024 COLUMBAN CALENDARS— ST BRIGIDS

2024 Columban calendars are now available to purchase for **\$10 each** at St Brigid's Church Gwynneville. The Columban Art Calendar is well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information.



MASS COUNTS START THIS WEEKEND

Bishop Brian has asked for parishes across the diocese to conduct Mass counts at all weekend Masses in November. The count will be taken after the First Collection. It will assist the diocese to understand the present state of our parishes. Thank you to those who are kindly assisting with this process.

NOVEMBER MASSES

To have Mass offered for your deceased relatives, friends, and benefactors, please print their names clearly on an envelope. Names will be published in the book of the dead.

You can get envelopes at the church doors and parish office or visit our website at: lumenchristi.org.au/NovemberMass



Please donate for new padding on the kneelers at St John Vianney's Co-Cathedral, St Brigid's and Mater Dolorosa by:

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

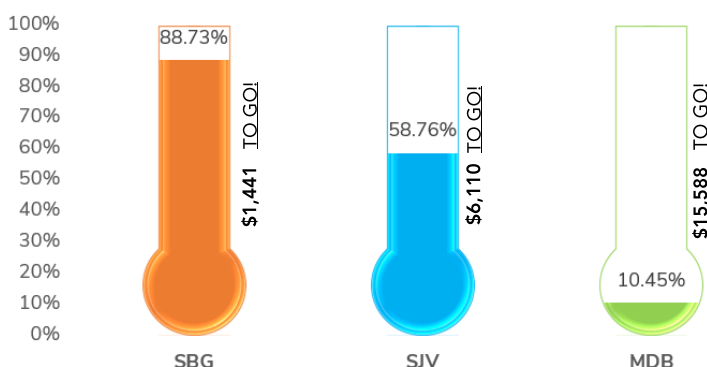
- ♦ **Direct Deposit**

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.

DONATIONS AS OF 3 NOVEMBER 2023



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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 37:22-23

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;
be not far from me!
Make haste and come to my help,
O Lord, my strong salvation!

First Reading

Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10

A reading from the prophet Malachi

You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration. Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 130

(R.) In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

1. O Lord, my heart is not proud
nor haughty my eyes.
I have not gone after things too great
nor marvels beyond me. **(R.)**
2. Truly I have set my soul
in silence and peace.
A weaned child on its mother's breast,
even so is my soul. **(R.)**
3. O Israel, hope in the Lord
both now and for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13

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

We were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our lives as well.

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you.

Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 23:9. 10

Alleluia, alleluia!

You have one Father, your Father in heaven;
you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 23:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They do not practise what they preach.

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 15:11

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Titles and Burdens

There have been periods in the church's history where the burdens placed on the shoulders of people – particularly an exaggerated sense of guilt for certain sins – truly weighed people down, creating a terrible sense of unworthiness, leading to the living of distorted lives.

Our Lord makes it clear that leaders cannot evade responsibility for this by hiding behind honorific titles.

In the Gospels, we find the One who said: 'Come to me all you who toil and are burdened and I will refresh you. Take my yoke upon you and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden light.' (Matt 11:28-30)

If people don't find that the burden laid on them by Church leaders (who often long to be greeted obsequiously) leads to refreshment and rest for their souls, then it is right to question the burden, and to question the leaders who impose such burdens.

Perhaps we could pause for a moment to pray for Pope Francis whose favoured titles are simply: 'Bishop of Rome', 'Servant of the Servants of God'.

THANK YOU LUMEN CHRISTI PARISHIONERS!

You gave \$5,208.00 to our Mission Appeal! Your support is greatly appreciated. Catholic Mission Australia.

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