

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, B

10 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

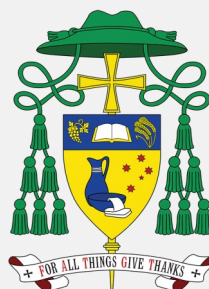
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8.30am — 2.00pm
(Closed for Lunch 12pm—12.30pm)
36 Harbour St, Wollongong NSW 2500

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 ...

Madeliene Smith, Margaret Gray, Paul Gray.

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.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY FR JAMES!

This weekend we joyfully celebrate the first anniversary of Fr James Arblaster's ordination to the priesthood. May his continuing ministry be filled with abundant grace and joy!



In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: DEC 2023—JAN 2024

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
Mon, 1 Jan: Mary Mother of God, SFX 9am
Mon, 1 Jan: Lumen Christi Parish Anniversary (2022)
Sun, 7 Jan: Epiphany & Blessing of the Chalk
Mon, 8 Jan: The Baptism of the Lord

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

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 MASS TIMES

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



BLESSING OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER STATUE

A heartfelt thank you to Bishop Brian Mascord for joining us last Sunday, on the Feast of St Francis Xavier. It was a truly beautiful and spiritually uplifting moment.

To all the parishioners and visitors who gathered for this special occasion, your presence added joy to the celebration. Let's cherish the shared memory of this blessed day together.

A special THANK YOU to the Catholic Women's League for organising a cuppa following the blessing. Your efforts are very much appreciated, and the fellowship shared over a cup of tea was the perfect way to round off the day.

Together, we create a community filled with faith, love, and shared moments. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this day memorable!

Kevin Galea, GM

FAIRY MEADOW—CWL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



Fairy Meadow CWL will be selling Christmas raffle tickets after each Mass both this weekend and next weekend at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral and Mater Dolorosa Church. Tickets are 3 for \$5 to help support the Fairy Meadow CWL.

Thank you for your support!

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 bring any items you have for our SVDP Christmas Hampers on these two weekends. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



Communion Antiphon

Baruch 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Two Gospels

John immersed, baptised, his followers in water, symbolising the washing away of the sins of the past. But he could not empower people by drenching them in the dynamic life of God. John anticipates 'Someone' (not named!) who does have the power to inundate, baptise, people with the Holy Spirit.

From the heading of St Mark's Gospel, we know that that 'Someone' is 'Jesus Christ, Son of God' who came to flood our lives with that Divine Power which can effect a completely new future for humanity. That is why St Mark took the term 'gospel' (good news) which was used on inscriptions announcing an Emperor's birth or victory, and used it to describe his inspired rendering of the mission of Jesus Christ, which was to inaugurate the 'Kingdom of God', overcoming the pretensions of all Emperors of any kind throughout history. We could pause for a moment to thank God for the Good News of our being baptised with water in the 'Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

ROSE SUNDAY

Next weekend will be the third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday from the first word of the Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice!

Gaudete Sunday emphasises the joy as we look forward to celebrating at the birth of Jesus, our Saviour. The grace of Christian joy in love and all that is good is symbolized in the third advent candle which is colored "rose" and rose coloured vestments are worn. The colour rose is a mixture of violet, which signifies a time of preparation calling us to change and open our hearts to God's grace, and the white of the Christmas festivities.

Don't forget to wear something rose next Sunday!

KNEELER APPEAL

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 John Vianney—\$ 5,010 to Go!

Mater Dolorosa—\$15, 588 to Go!

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

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Isaiah 30:19,30

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

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

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Prepare the way for the Lord.

'Console my people, console them'
says your God.
'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem
and call to her
that her time of service is ended,
that her sin is atoned for,
that she has received from the hand of the Lord
double punishment for all her crimes.'
A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness
a way for the Lord.
Make a straight highway for our God
across the desert.
Let every valley be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
let every cliff become a plain,
and the ridges a valley;
then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed
and all mankind shall see it;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'
Go up on a high mountain,
joyful messenger to Zion.
Shout with a loud voice,
joyful messenger to Jerusalem.
Shout without fear,
say to the towns of Judah,
'Here is your God.'
Here is the Lord coming with power,
his arm subduing all things to him.
The prize of his victory is with him,
his trophies all go before him.
He is like a shepherd feeding his flock,
gathering lambs in his arms,
holding them against his breast
and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. (R.)
2. Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth

and justice look down from heaven. (R.)

3. The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. (R.)

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St Peter

We wait for new heavens and a new earth.

There is one thing, my friends, that you must never forget: that with the Lord, 'a day' can mean a thousand years, and a thousand years is like a day. The Lord is not being slow to carry out his promises, as anybody else might be called slow; but he is being patient with you all, wanting nobody to be lost and everybody to be brought to change his ways. The Day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then with a roar the sky will vanish, the elements will catch fire and fall apart, the earth and all that it contains will be burnt up. Since everything is coming to an end like this, you should be living holy and saintly lives while you wait and long for the Day of God to come, when the sky will dissolve in flames and the elements melt in the heat. What we are waiting for is what he promised: the new heavens and new earth, the place where righteousness will be at home. So then, my friends, while you are waiting, do your best to live lives without spot or stain so that he will find you at peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:4. 6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

Look, I am going to send my messenger before you;
he will prepare your way.

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

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