



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

Share the GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

16 AUGUST 2026

20TH 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



OUR

Sacraments

SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEB PORTAL

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...

Rosario Borg, Secondo Mancini, Filomena Maruca, Clem Gallagher.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Mario Saverimuttu, Duc Trong Nguyen, Maureen Harrison, Lorraine Cook, Jacek McLaurin, Angela Mosley, Brian Mattock, Jim Lyon, Teresa George, Chiara Sirianni, Joyce Milan, Noel Meddows, Dianne Hukins, Matthew Johnson, Pat Carr, John Gauci, Joseph Scalia, Liesl Caibal

"For my **house**
shall be called a
house of prayer
for **all peoples**."

— Isaiah 56:7

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.



Welcome to LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH

Parish Calendar

Thu, 03 Sep: Parish Lunch, The Builders Club Wollongong 12pm
 Sun, 06 Sep: Marriage Anniversaries Mass, SFX 2pm
 Sun, 06 Sep: Father's Day
 Sun, 06 Sep: Hospitality weekend
 Mon, 07 Sep: Fairy Meadow CWL Meeting, MDB 2pm
 Tue, 08 Sep: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 Wed, 09 Sep: Wollongong CWL Meeting, Xavier Ctr 10am
 Thu, 10 Sep: Catholic Mission Launch
 Mon, 14 Sep: Good Samaritan School Fairy Meadow (2011)

Accessibility Parking Changes at St Francis Xavier

To improve accessibility and prepare for the upcoming St Francis Xavier Cathedral Exterior Renewal Project, changes will be made to the Cathedral car park from Monday, 24 August 2026.

Three dedicated accessible parking spaces will be relocated to the left-hand side as you enter the Cathedral grounds. These new spaces have been designed and marked in accordance with current accessibility standards.

As part of these works, the existing accessible parking spaces will be decommissioned, particularly in preparation for the Cathedral restoration works commencing on 1 September 2026.

New signage identifying the accessible parking spaces will be installed, and these locations will become the permanent accessible parking bays for the Cathedral precinct.

Further changes to parking and traffic flow will be introduced as the restoration project progresses. We thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation as we undertake these important works to preserve our Cathedral for future generations.



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

WOLLONGONG HOSPITAL
Emergency Calls: 0475 815 506

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

HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Wollongong Public/Private
Phone: 0475 815 506



Pastoral Council Summary

- The Sacramental Program is progressing well, with strong participation and families making commitments to attend Mass.
- Children's Liturgy continues to grow as a welcoming and engaging ministry held on the third Sunday of each month. The program supports children's faith formation through prayer, Gospel reflection, community, leadership opportunities and family involvement. The Council acknowledged the success of the Children's Liturgy at Mater Dolorosa Church.
- The parish is blessed with two thriving Catholic schools with both schools at kinder classes at capacity for 2027.
- Members were encouraged to attend the Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit, supporting the Bishop's Come & See, Go & Make vision and our pastoral plan Christ in You.
- Fr Joseph Pothenparampil shared his experiences as Hospital Chaplain, highlighting the importance of bringing Christ's presence, hope and the Sacraments to those who are sick, elderly and nearing the end of life.
- Preparations continue for the Eucharistic Congress 2028, with parish resources, reflections and videos being developed to deepen our understanding of the Eucharist and strengthen our parish community. (Also discussed at Finance Council Meeting)
- The council approved stewardship grant applications for St Brigid's Catholic Primary School and Good Samaritan Catholic Primary School for \$1,000 from each school was donated to the Cathedral Renewal Appeal.
- The 2027 Appreciation Mass will be held at Mater Dolorosa, Balgownie. Date TBA.

Finance Council Summary

- Cathedral Appeal continues to grow, with more than \$38,000 raised.
- The Finance Council has unanimously endorsed a proposal to expand the Cathedral Columbarium with 280 additional niches, subject to the Bishop's and then Council approval.
- Cathedral accessibility improvements will be implemented in late August.
- The parish remains committed to fostering a welcoming community where everyone belongs, encouraging faith, service and personal encounter with Christ.



Father's Day Intentions

Let us pray for all our fathers. Whether they are living or have been called to eternal life, you are invited to join our parish in honouring all our fathers.

If you would like to include an Intention on our list for Father's Day Go to: lumenchristi.org.au/fathersday or collect a Father's Day envelope from the doors of the church or at the parish office.

The names of the fathers given to us will be published in the Bulletin on **Father's Day Sunday, September 6.**

Please note that the Intention list will close 31 August.

Relics of St Carlo Acutis Coming to St Francis Xavier Cathedral

The Relics of St Carlo Acutis will be welcomed to St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong, from **18–21 September 2026.**

This pilgrimage of grace offers us a unique opportunity to venerate the relic of one of the Church's newest and most inspiring saints. Throughout the pilgrimage there will be Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, opportunities for personal prayer, veneration of the relic, and an exhibition on the life of St Carlo Acutis. A special Blessing for **Teenagers** will also take place during the **10.30am Mass on Sunday 20 September 2026 at St Francis Xavier Cathedral.**

We warmly invite all parishioners, families, schools and visitors to be part of this grace-filled occasion.

For the full pilgrimage program and event details, visit:

lumenchristi.org.au/stcarloacutis

Clergy Retreat 17–21 August

Please note that the Diocesan Clergy Retreat will take place this week on Monday 17 August to Friday 21 August 2026.

There will be the following changes to weekday Masses:

No Mass at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow on Tuesday, 18 August at 9.30am.

No Mass at St Brigid's Church, Gwynneville on Thursday, 20 August at 9.30am.

Thank you to Fr Anthony Ha who will offer the Masses at St Francis Xavier Cathedral.

Our Parish Renewal is of Welcome

Lumen Christi is a parish of welcome.

"Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

— Romans 15:7

THIS WEEK'S *Readings & Commentary*

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 83:10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1.6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**

2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**

3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 129:7

With the Lord there is mercy;

in him is plentiful redemption.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

On Catholic Dogs

A pagan woman approaches a Jewish man and she begs Jesus to heal her daughter.

Jesus gives a dismissive answer to the woman: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the house dogs.' The children are obviously the Jewish people.

This remarkable pagan woman stands her ground and engages in a verbal joust with Jesus! She argues: 'Yes, Lord, but even the house dogs get the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

Jesus recognises her faith and the daughter was healed. This story was put in the Gospels to show how Jesus extended his saving mission to non-Jews in Pagan territory.

That is Good News for billions of non-Jewish people over the course of history since then and into the future. That is why we are truly 'Catholic', which, as you know, is the Greek for 'world-wide'.

We could pause for a moment to celebrate this Canaanite woman as the first 'Catholic'!

First Reconciliation and First Communion

Enrolments are now open for the First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program.

To enrol your child and view the program information, please visit: lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental

