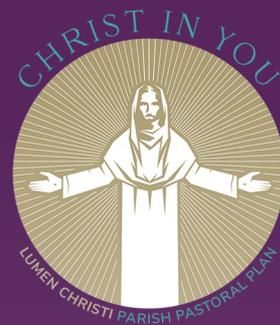


1ST SUNDAY OF LENT, B

18 FEBRUARY 2024

COMMUNITY LIFE

And over all these put on love



MASS TIMETABLE

St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong

Monday	Mass: 7am
Tuesday	Mass: 7am
Wednesday	Mass: 7am
	Confessions: 11:00am
	Mass: 12.10pm
Thursday	Mass: 7am
Friday	Mass: 7am
	Adoration: 11:30am
	Confessions: 11:00am
	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
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
Vicky Davidson, Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

Kathy Uroda, Principal, St Brigid's Gwynneville
Lisa Tyson, Acting 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 ...

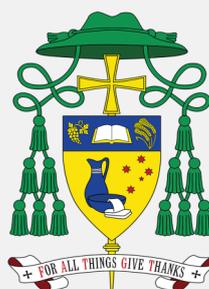
Jeanette Cristafi, Secondo Mancini, Margaret & Paul Gray.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR
OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...**

Bishop Peter Ingham, Fr David Catterall, Joan O'Dowd, Alan Curtis, Matthew Johnson, Suzy May Gellel, Pat Carr, John Parkinson, Joseph Scalia, Bill Sharpe, Ron Cooper.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2024

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations.



In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: FEB—MAR 2024

Sun, 18 Feb: First Sunday of Lent

Sun, 18 Feb: Rite of Election, SFX 2pm

Wed, 21 Feb: Baptism Class, SFX 7pm

Thu, 22 Feb: Episcopal Anniversary of Bishop Mascord (2018)

Fri, 23 Feb: Reconciliation & Stations of the Cross SFX 5.30pm

Sun, 25 Feb: Second Sunday of Lent

Thu, 29 Feb: Staff Development Day, Parish Office Closed

Fri, 01 Mar: Reconciliation & Stations of the Cross SFX 5.30pm

Sat, 02 Mar: Stewardship Mass, SFX 10am

Sun, 03 Mar: Hospitality weekend

Mon, 04 Mar: CWL Fairy Meadow Branch Mtg, MDB 2pm

Tue, 05 Mar: Education Mass, SJV 6pm

Tue, 05 Mar: Finance Council Mtg

Wed, 06 Mar: Pastoral Council Mtg

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 COMPASSIONATE FATHER

On the First and Second Sundays of Lent new holy cards will be distributed to help us pray the Rite of Reconciliation. At the top of the holy card is a picture of the wayward son described in St Luke's Gospel, Chapter 15. It is a beautiful depiction of that moment when the returning son is compassionately embraced by his father.



(The Return of the Prodigal Son, 1667/1670, Spain—Bartolomé Esteban Murillo)

We all need that embrace and we are all called to welcome someone else from the isolation of failing to do right. The mercy of God softens our hearts to make us ministers of Christ's forgiveness and reconciliation.

The Rite of Reconciliation provides a prayerful order for us to enter the experience of confession and absolution of our sins. It guides us through the experience of penance which is a grace-filled change, renewing our hearts in God's love. It is the channel of new life and growth as God's beloved friend.

The holy card contains an act of contrition by which we bear witness to our sorrow for our sins and a renewed commitment to live the teaching of the Lord. It is based on Psalm 51 which asks for the joy of salvation through the renewal of our heart that we might live in God's presence:

"Lord God, in your goodness have mercy on me: do not look on my sins, but take away all my guilt. Create in me a clean heart and renew within me an upright spirit."

These new cards will be given to everyone after Mass and they will be given to the children in our parish as they prepare for their First Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

Please take two of these holy cards home. Give one to the person who may need help to better understand the blessing of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We all struggle with our weaknesses and faults. Let us pray with trust and confidence in our gentle Father whose heart is filled with mercy for us.

Fr Bernard

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

In our parish & around the diocese



CHRIST IN YOU
LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH PASTORAL PLAN

"To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in You, the hope of glory"

Colossians 1:27

As bearers of Christ's love called to Come and See, Go and Make disciples, our Lumen Christi Parish seeks to reveal the Light of Christ to the world through ...

COMMUNITY LIFE

"And over all these put on love"

Colossians 3:14

Nourishing each other in Christ's compassion, kindness and patience, appreciating our differences and being bound together in perfect unity, reaching out to others in welcome.

Action Plan - Establish a Community Life Leadership Group.

Suggested Strategies to take us forward:

- Acknowledge and promote quality practices that currently build community life.
- Review, appreciate and expand our welcoming and hospitality practices.
- Develop practical initiatives to foster a greater sense of belonging to the parish community.
- Create a culture of including others in parish reflection and action.
- Adopt individual and collective habits of welcome and communication with others.
- Offer opportunities for inviting and inducting new volunteers.
- Encourage our congregations to welcome fellow parishioners and visitors at all parish gatherings.
- Encourage parishioners to confidently work together for the flourishing of our parish community life, mission and service.
- Developing a culture of joyful welcome for families with children and promoting a positive understanding of Christian family life.

The Christ in You Pastoral Plan will set our direction and goals for the growth of our life together as a parish community.

There are other possible strategies that can be discussed as the Pastoral Plan is developed. Please provide your response to the abovementioned strategies or recommend any further strategies to our pastoral plan group by email:

lc.pastoralplan@dow.org.au

Lent at Lumen Christi Parish

"Your faithful await the sacred paschal feasts"

(Preface I of Lent)

- Lent is a gracious gift from God each year
- We more eagerly pray and do works of charity
- We participate in the mysteries by which we are reborn
- We are led to the fullness of grace God bestows on us

RECONCILIATION & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Reconciliation and Stations of the Cross will be offered at St Francis Xavier Cathedral every Friday of Lent.

Reconciliation 5.30pm

Stations of the Cross 6.30pm

EXTENDED WEEKDAY RECONCILIATION TIMES

During Lent at St Francis Xavier Cathedral there will be extended Wednesday and Friday Reconciliation times.

Wednesday & Friday 11am to 12pm.

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENTS 2024

Parents and caregivers of children in Year 6 are now invited to enrol their child into the 2024 programme for Confirmation.

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

N.B. Enrolments close **1 March 2024**.

FR CANG LEARNING AUSTRALIAN



As Fr Cang has been concelebrating Mass at Lumen Christi I have introduced him to our congregations. Fr Cang is living with us to deepen his knowledge of English and the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy in English. He will continue a course at the Seminary of the Good Shepherd in Homebush called Clearspeak which assists seminarians and priests from overseas to improve their pronunciation of more difficult English sounds. Fr Cang has told me that he is very happy to be with us and to have this opportunity to learn English in such a welcoming parish.

There are at least ten parishioners and staff directly involved in Cang's formation. Thank you for your generosity and care for Fr Cang!

Fr Bernard

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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 90:15-16

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

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

First Reading

Genesis 9:8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. *(R.)*
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. *(R.)*
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. *(R.)*

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused

to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

Mark 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Creed is said.

Communion Antiphon

Matthew 4:4

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

The Rainbow

The Rainbow is God's signature to a treaty with humankind. On God's part, material forces will never be sent to annihilate human beings as a punishment for wrongdoing. On our part, as humans made in the likeness of God, we are to image God's rainbow relationship to nature.

This is the Divine Treaty basis of our responsibility for the environment. We undertake not to engage in practices or support policies which could severely damage the fragile ecology which supports life on our planet. The deforestation of the slopes of the Himalayas, leading to floods which kill thousands, is a catastrophic example. And, gazing at the rainbow, we can pray for our planet, for the human beings and all other creatures who inhabit it, and quite often for ourselves at a deep personal level. For we know that, just as after a storm and dark clouds, light penetrates the misty sky and the beautiful bow of colour appears, the same phenomenon can occur in our own lives.

We could take a moment to pray that the rainbow will appear, perhaps for ourselves, perhaps for others we know who are going through a stormy time.

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