

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Year A

12 FEBRUARY 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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LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH

MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE ...

Joyce Hubbard, Tommaso DiMise, Giovanni (John) DiMise, Billy & Edward Dowdall.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

Bishop Peter Ingham, Pat Carr, David Coates, John Parkinson, Joseph Scalia, Bill & Ardell Sharpe, Jan Coulson.

PARISH OFFICE

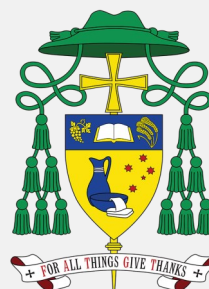
Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9.00am —1.00pm
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CONTACT US

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PARISH STAFF

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,
Diocesan Bishop & Parish Priest
Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,
Vicar General & Administrator
Reverend James Arblaster,
Assistant Priest
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.



CHRIST IN YOU
LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH PASTORAL PLAN

In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: FEB—MAR 2023

Sun, 19 Feb: Christ in You Pastoral Plan
Mon, 20 Feb: Confirmation Parent Evening, SBG 6.30pm
Tue, 21 Feb: Confirmation Parent Evening, GSFM 6.30pm
Wed, 22 Feb: Ash Wednesday Masses, SFX 7am, SBG 9.30am, SJV 11am, SFX 12.10pm & SFX 6pm
Wed, 22 Feb: Episcopal Anniversary of Bishop Brian Mascord
Wed, 22 Feb: Lenten Group commences 1.30pm, Rigney Rm
Fri, 24 Feb: Stations of the Cross, SFX 7pm
Sun, 26 Feb: SFX: Christ in You, 10:30am/Rite of Election, 2pm
Tue, 28 Feb: Finance Council Mtg, Rigney Room, 5pm
Wed, 1 Mar: Pastoral Council Mtg, Rigney Room, 5pm
Thu, 2 Mar: Lunch Club, Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow 12pm
Fri, 3 Mar: Stations of the Cross, SFX 7pm
Sat, 4 Mar: Stewardship Mass, SFX 10am
Sun, 5 Mar: Christ in You Pastoral Plan Survey
Sun, 5 Mar: Hospitality weekend
Fri, 10 Mar: Stations of the Cross, SFX 7pm
Thu 16 Mar: Anniversary Dedication of the Cathedral (2010)

SACRAMENTS

- **Baptisms:** By appointment only (contact the parish office during office hours for details)
- **Marriages:** A preliminary appointment needs to be made at least 6 months prior to Wedding Date (**No Sunday weddings**)
- 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

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)

Dear Parishioners,

I invite you to enter a time of prayerful reflection and discernment to develop our Lumen Christi Parish Pastoral Plan. The aim of the Pastoral Plan is to first recognise all the good we do and then to set ourselves some practical goals to promote the growth of our parish.

The theme I suggest for this time of reflection and discernment is "Christ in You". It is a phrase in St Paul's Letter to the Colossians. Paul writes of the rich presence of Christ in our lives and how it is revealed in a new way of living to build personal relationships.

There are five main areas of parish life that we can consider for our Pastoral Plan:

- ⇒ **Community Life**
- ⇒ **Worship** as a community of faith and service
- ⇒ **Mission** in bearing witness to Christ's truth and love
- ⇒ **Parish Support** through our Parish Staff
- ⇒ **Stewardship** of our facilities and properties

There will be three basic steps for us to take over the next few weeks and over the year to develop our Pastoral Plan:

- ⇒ On **19 February** (7th Sunday in Ordinary Time) and **26 February** (1st Sunday of Lent): the homily will reflect on "the riches of the glory of this mystery, Christ in you".
- ⇒ On **5 March** (2nd Sunday of Lent) a survey on what we can do to develop the five key areas of parish life will be presented by a member of the Pastoral/Finance Councils.
- ⇒ After a process of discussion in the Pastoral/Finance Councils and after consultation with Bishop Brian we will launch our Pastoral Plan on **3rd December**.

Here are some questions to encourage your reflection for the Pastoral Plan:

- ♦ *What gifts do I have?*
- ♦ *How can I help others see their gifts?*
- ♦ *How can we share these riches as a parish?*
- ♦ *How can we support each other in making these gifts shine for our families, friends, and those we meet in our everyday life?*

Thank you for your witness of faith and worship. Thank you for your presence in our parish and your ongoing contribution to our community. You are a blessing to us all.

Fr Bernard

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

In our parish & around the diocese



ASH WEDNESDAY: 22 FEBRUARY

Lent is “a sacred time” for our hearts to be renewed and purified (Preface II of Lent). Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, a day of fast and abstinence when the blessed ashes are placed on our foreheads as a sign of repentance. The Mass timetable for Ash Wednesday, 22 February is:

St Francis Xavier Cathedral

7am, 12.10pm & 6pm

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral

11am (includes Good Samaritan Parish School)

St Brigid's Church

9.30am (includes St Brigid's Parish School)

THE LENTEN OBSERVANCES

Ash Wednesday and **Good Friday** are days of abstinence from meat for everyone over 14 years of age, as well as days of fast for those bound to fast (one full meal and two small meals).

- All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Pastors, teachers, and parents are to ensure that even those who, by reason of their age, are not bound by the laws of fasting and abstinence from meat, are taught the true meaning of penance.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

- Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday (22 February 2023) and Trinity Sunday (4 June 2023) unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year.
- All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year. (See page 1 of the bulletin for scheduled times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There will be extra opportunities advertised as Lent progresses.)

LUMEN CHRISTI LENTEN GROUP

The Lenten Group will be held on Wednesday afternoons at 1.30pm in the Mons Rigney Room. Some vacancies available. Names ASAP to Sue 0422 614 522. Lenten book \$6 available from Parish office.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 77:29-30

They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they craved.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Truth-Telling

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean no. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to use God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an abuse.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person tells the truth.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep all that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20)

TWO NOTES FOR LENT

- The Alleluia is **omitted** at Mass, even in celebrations of solemnities and feasts
- Practise the second form of the Penitential Act:
- **Priest:** Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.
- **Priest:** Have mercy on us, O Lord.
- **People:** For we have sinned against you.
- **Priest:** Show us, O Lord, your mercy.
- **People:** And grant us your salvation.

COME AND JOIN OUR MUSIC MINISTRY

We are blessed to have a dedicated group of parishioners who make up our parish choirs, but more volunteers are needed and most welcome for singing at Sunday Masses, Holy Week, Christmas, etc. If you are interested in joining our teams please contact the parish office or see one of the parish coordinators after Mass.

We look forward to welcoming parishioners and visitors to our parish choirs.

Kathy Uroda, Lumen Christi Music Coordinator



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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 30:3-4

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading

Sir 15:15-20

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments,
to behave faithfully is within your power.
He has set fire and water before you;
put out your hand to whichever you prefer.
Man has life and death before him;
whichever a man likes better will be given him.
For vast is the wisdom of the Lord;
he is almighty and all-seeing.
His eyes are on those who fear him,
he notes every action of man.
He never commanded anyone to be godless,
he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless,
who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will,
seeking him with all their hearts. **(R.)**
2. You have laid down your precepts
to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm
to obey your statutes. **(R.)**
3. Bless your servant and I shall live
and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider
the wonders of your law. **(R.)**
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes
and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law,
to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Cor 2:6-10

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

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him. These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation

See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 5:17-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

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