



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH

Share the GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

23 AUGUST 2026

21ST 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



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

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...

Therese Joseph, Patricia Laura Lennon, Kathleen Patterson.

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

*"You are **Peter**, and on this **rock** I will build my **Church**, and the **gates of Hades** will not prevail against it."*

— Matthew 16:18

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)

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

Proposed Southern Side Columbarium – Eternal Peace Grotto Stage III

To meet the growing need for additional columbarium spaces at the Eternal Peace Grotto, St Francis Xavier Cathedral, a concept has been developed for an expansion on the southern side of the Grotto.

The proposed development would provide a new double-sided columbarium wall with approximately 280 positions, significantly increasing the number of spaces available for families into the future.

A key feature of the concept is the inclusion of a Tree of Life at both ends of the new wall. The Tree of Life is a beautiful Christian symbol of eternal life, hope and our continuing communion with those who have gone before us.

The design aims to complement the existing Eternal Peace Grotto and preserve its character as a peaceful, dignified and prayerful place of remembrance within the Cathedral grounds.

The concept proposal has now been submitted to Bishop Brian Mascord for consideration and approval. No works will proceed until the necessary approval has been received.

In the meantime, positions are still available in Stage II on the northern side of the Eternal Peace Grotto, as well as spaces on the Remembrance Wall.

If you would like further information or would like to view the available positions, please contact Leanne at the Parish Centre during office hours to arrange an appointment.

Further updates regarding the proposed southern side expansion will be provided as the project progresses.

Kevin Galea, GM



Cathedral Works Update

Preparations for the exterior conservation and restoration works at St Francis Xavier Cathedral have now commenced, with works scheduled to begin from 1 September 2026.



Temporary fencing and the project site office will be installed within the Cathedral car park as preparations continue.

During this time, we ask all parishioners and visitors to take extra care and be mindful when driving and walking within the Cathedral precinct, particularly as access and parking arrangements may change throughout the project.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as these important works are undertaken to preserve and renew our historic Cathedral for generations to come.

Further updates will be provided as the project progresses.

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 next weekend.

Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Sacramental Program – Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2026 Sacramental Program for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will close on 31 August 2026.

Families wishing their child to receive these Sacraments this year are reminded to ensure their child is enrolled before the closing date. For further information or to enrol, please visit lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental

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

Priestly Ordination of Deacon Seth Harsh

All parishioners are warmly invited to celebrate the Priestly Ordination of Deacon Seth Harsh, conferred by Bishop Brian Mascord, on Saturday 12 September 2026 at 10:30am at Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Rosemeadow.

Please join us in supporting Seth with your presence and prayers as he gives his life in service to Christ and His Church and begins his priestly ministry.

RSVP is essential by 1 September 2026

Online: rsvp.dow.org.au (preferred)

Phone: (02) 4222 2400

World Youth Day Seoul 2027 – Pilgrimage

One Year to go until World Youth Day Seoul 2027!

Applications are open for the Diocese of Wollongong's pilgrimage. If you're interested in joining thousands of young Catholics from around the world for this once-in-a-lifetime experience of faith, community and pilgrimage, visit dow.org.au/wyd27 for information on the itinerary, costs, travel arrangements and FAQs.

An information night will be held on Wednesday 2 September 2026 from 6-8pm at the Xavier Conference Rooms (38 Harbour St Wollongong) to provide further information and provide a chance for potential pilgrims to meet each other. Anyone looking to apply is required to attend this session.



THIS WEEK'S *Readings & Commentary*

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Psalm 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

First Reading

Isaiah 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:
I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiyah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.
I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 137:1-3. 6. 8. R. v.8

**(R.) Lord, your love is eternal;
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.
On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)
3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans
From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

Communion Antiphon

Cf Psalm 103:13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord;
you bring forth bread from the earth
and wine to cheer the heart.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

What's in a Name?

Jesus had a sense of humour! Simon, son of Jonah, was far from being a rock solid supporter of Jesus. So Jesus gave him the nickname 'Rocky' which in the Greek is Petros. Jesus puns with the nickname: 'You are Rocky and upon this rock I will build my church.' The natural personality of shifting sands was being transformed by the blessing just given (the only blessing bestowed upon an apostle by Jesus). Notice that Jesus only makes promises about 'my church', not a church shaped by human imagination, e.g. modes of Roman Imperial rule or with a Eurocentric mindset. We could pause for a moment to pray that the Risen Lord showers the successor of St Peter with every blessing so that the Church of Jesus the Christ continues to prevail over the forces of death which threaten humanity.

*"Christ in you, the hope of glory."
– Colossians 1:27*

Our Lumen Christi Parish Pastoral Plan – Christ in You calls us to reveal the Light of Christ to the world through our worship, welcome, service and mission.

Come and See. Go and Make.

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). Music and liturgical texts are reproduced and/or streamed with permission under OneLicense A-705872. All rights reserved.

