5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER, Year A

7 MAY 2023

PARISH VISION

We are called to reveal the Light of Christ to the world

MASS TIMETABLE



St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong

Mass: 7am Mass: 7am Wednesday

Mass: 7am

Adoration: 11:30am Confessions: 11:30am

Mass: 12.10pm

Confessions: 11am—12pm Mass: 7am, 10.30am & 5pm

St Brigid's, Gwynneville

Mass: 9.30am Saturday Vigil Mass: 5.30pm Mass: 9am Sunday

St John Vianney Co-Cathedral, Fairy Meadow

Mass: 9.30am

Mass: 9.30am (Italian)

Mass: 8.30am Sunday

Mass: 10am (Italian)

Mass: 4.30pm (Vietnamese)

Mater Dolorosa, Balgownie

Mass: 10am

PARISH OFFICE

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.



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE ...

Yan Bocok, F. Gray, Paul Gray, Armando Dellapina, Ardell Sharpe.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

Bishop Peter Ingham, Bernard Carroll, Alan Curtis, Matthew Johnson, Suzy May Gellel, Pat Carr, John Parkinson, Joseph Scalia, Bill Sharpe, Therese & Noel Rouse, Grace Zammit.

In our parish & around the diocese

PARISH CALENDAR: MAY—JUN 2023

Sun, 14 May: Mother's Day

Wed, 17 May: Baptism Class, SFX 7pm Sun, 21 May: Ascension of the Lord Wed, 24 May: Our Lady, Help of Christians

Sat, 27 May: Illawarra Choral Society Concert, SFX 2pm

Sun, 28 May: Pentecost Sunday

Wed, 31 May: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Thu, 1 Jun: Lunch Club, Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow 12pm

Sun, 4 Jun: Trinity Sunday Sun, 4 Jun: SVdP Winter Appeal

Sun, 11 Jun: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ SFX Adoration 3-5pm followed by Mass at 5pm

Tue, 13 Jun: Fairy Meadow CWL 50 year Anniversary Mass

Fri, 16 Jun: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Sun, 18 Jun: Patronal Feast Immaculate Heart of Mary

Wed, 21 Jun: Baptism Class, SFX 7pm Sat, 24 Jun: The Nativity of St John the Baptist

Thu, 29 Jun: Saints Peter and Paul

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



THE ARMED MAN: A MASS FOR PEACE

Dear Parishioners

The Illawarra Choral Society is sending out a Call to Peace with a new and truly moving concert at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Saturday 27 May 2023, 2pm.

"The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" was commissioned by the Royal Armouries at the end of last century to mark the transition from one millennium to another. It reflects on the passing of 'the most war-torn and destructive century in human history'.

The composer, Karl Jenkins, dedicated this piece to the victims of the Kosovo crisis. It is a powerful and poignant reminder of the cost of war and the importance of peace.

The Mass for Peace was specifically chosen by Dr Carlos Alvarado, ICS Musical Director and Parishioner of our Lumen Christi Parish, to bring us all together and to look forward with hope to a more peaceful future in our world. Dr Alvarado spent many years in Russia at the Tchaikovsky Institute, married a Russian violinist and has a Russian son married to a Ukrainian woman. So this music has tremendous significance for him due to his Russian and Ukrainian connections and the recent conflict.

"The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" is essentially an anti-war musical composition and is based on the Catholic Mass which Jenkins combines with other sources.

What makes the work distinctive are the lyrics drawn from many parts of the world and from diverse religions and cultures. The music too is cosmopolitan in its inspiration. We hope you will find inspiration and hope in this performance.

The Mass for Peace calls us all to consider the fundamental importance of building good will across our various cultural and religious backgrounds.

Please invite your family and friends, especially those of different faith and cultural perspectives, to listen and celebrate with us this truly beautiful gesture of musical welcome.

Go to: **www.illawarrachoralsociety.com** to purchase your tickets today!

Fr Bernard

In our parish & around the diocese

APPEAL FOR THE PEOPLE OF SYRIA

Bishop Brian Mascord has asked us to give to an appeal for the Syrian people. Nearly two million people are internally displaced because of the recent earthquake disaster and a decade and more of civil war in Syria. The Christian population has been particularly devastated with little aid and support getting to Christian areas.

To support this appeal a **leaving collection** will be held after all Masses this weekend (6-7 May).

Please continue to pray for the people of Syria who are still affected by this earthquake disaster.

AGEING WITH CONFIDENCE

CatholicCare, with the assistance of the Committee for the Aged, will be holding a FREE information session for Parishioners. Guest speakers will include representatives from My Aged Care, CatholicCare, a local funeral director and a solicitor. The Wollongong session will be held at the Xavier Centre on Wednesday 24th May 9.00 – 12.30pm. Morning Tea will be provided. To register call: 02 4227 1122 or go to: www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/events

50 YEARS OF FAIRY MEADOW CWL!

The Fairy Meadow Catholic Women's League Branch are celebrating 50 years of joyful and significant service in Fairy Meadow.

To give thanks to God for all the women who have served our community in the Fairy Meadow CWL, Mass will be offered by Fr Bernard Gordon at Mater Dolorosa Church on Tuesday 13th June at 9.30am followed by refreshments.

Please join us for this wonderful event and pray for all the members of the Fairy Meadow CWL as they rejoice in this Golden anniversary.

Please note that on this day the usual Fairy Meadow 9.30am Mass will be transferred to Balgownie.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS

Last Saturday, many young parishioners from our parish and state schools were confirmed by Bishop Brian at St Brigid's Gwynneville (2pm) and St John Vianney's Fairy Meadow (6pm). On behalf of Lumen Christi Parish, thank you to everyone involved in preparing these newly confirmed young people, especially Natalie Shelley, Tim Condon, Jason Harrison, Ornella Apolloni, Serge Ambrosi, Kathy Uroda & everyone who helped with music, Sarah O'Donnell, Alysha Lavelle, Tess Roche, Fr James Arblaster, Kate Jennett, and Lisa de Paiva. Congratulations to all who were confirmed and their parents and families!

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Mutual Indwelling

The disciples are full of premonitions that their beloved leader was about to be cruelly done to death, leaving them abandoned. Yet he tells them: 'Let not your hearts be troubled.'

Why shouldn't their hearts, our hearts, be troubled by the disappearance of Our Lord's physical presence? The answer is because there is a purpose to his passage through death. It was to bring about a situation where our Risen Lord could share his life in ever more intimate fashion with his followers.

How does this come about?

At every Mass, after the gifts are brought to the altar, I pour a little water into the chalice of wine, saying: 'By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.'

What a powerful verb! By grace, we can participate in the Divine Life of the Risen Lord.

As the Greek saints of the early church used to say in very daring fashion: 'God became human so that humans might become God.' We anticipate this at every Holy Communion when, as Pope John Paul II used to say: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

We could pause for a moment after Communion to reverence the Divine Life dwelling in us, a truly Holy Communion! Alleluia!

MOTHER'S DAY

"Her children rise up and call her blessed"

(Proverbs 31.28).

All parishioners are invited to place a flower at the statue of



our Lady in honour of their own mother for Mother's Day. In the Cathedral, some flowers will be placed in front of the statue of the Mother of Jesus for you to present to her while praying for

your mother. Or, you may wish to bring your own flower and present it to Mary for your mother.

Please invite your mother, grandmother or that person who has supported you with a mother's love to Mass that they may receive the Mother's Day blessing. Whether your mother is living or now rests in peace with the Lord, you are invited to join our parish in honouring all mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, spiritual mothers, and those women who have given us a mother's love by their affection, guidance and support.

If you would like to include an Intention on our list for Mother's Day, please visit www.lumenchristi.org.au/mothersday or collect a Mother's Day envelope from the doors of the church or at the parish office. The names of the mothers given to us will be published in the parish bulletin on the weekend of Mother's Day Sunday 14 May.

Please note: the Intention list will close this Sunday 7th May.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32:1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

- 1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
- 2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
- The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Pt 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring

men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 14:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you.

I am now going to prepare a place for you,

and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me;

so that where I am

you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.

No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too.

From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father,

so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"?

Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly,

whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself,

he will perform even greater works,

because I am going to the Father.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Jn 15:1,5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

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