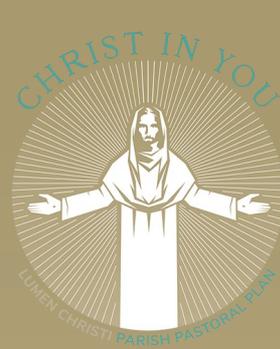


# ASCENSION OF THE LORD , Year A

21 MAY 2023

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Work together for the full unity Christ desires



### 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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### 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.



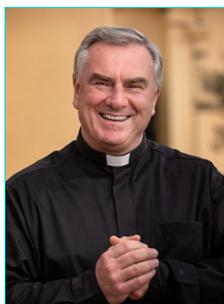
## LUMEN CHRISTI CATHOLIC PARISH

MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE ...

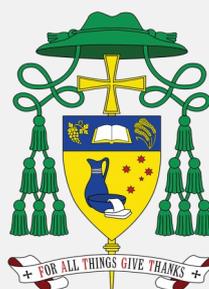
Mgr John Rigney, Paul Gray, Jan Newman.

PLEASE PRAY FOR  
OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

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



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY**  
**Fr B !**



# In our parish & around the diocese

## PARISH CALENDAR: MAY—JUL 2023

**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  
**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  
**Fri, 30 Jun:** School Term 2 concludes  
**Thu, 6 Jul:** Lunch Club, Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow 12pm  
**Wed, 26 Jul:** Sts Joachim and Anne, Grandparents of Jesus

## SACRAMENTS

- ♦ **Baptisms:** By appointment only. Baptism preparation session must be completed. Contact the parish office or book online [lumenchristi.org.au/baptism](https://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](https://youtube.com/massforyouathome)
- ♦ **Mass/Prayer Intentions:** [lumenchristi.org.au/intentions](https://lumenchristi.org.au/intentions)
- ♦ **Light a Votive Candle:** [lumenchristi.org.au/votive](https://lumenchristi.org.au/votive)
- ♦ **Census Form:** [lumenchristi.org.au/census](https://lumenchristi.org.au/census)
- ♦ **Online Donations:** [lumenchristi.org.au/donate](https://lumenchristi.org.au/donate)
- ♦ **Join Planned Giving:** [lumenchristi.org.au/support](https://lumenchristi.org.au/support)
- ♦ **Columbarium:** [lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium](https://lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium)
- ♦ **Sacramental Programme:** [lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental](https://lumenchristi.org.au/sacramental)
- ♦ **Privacy Policy:** [privacy.lumenchristi.org.au](https://privacy.lumenchristi.org.au)
- ♦ **St Brigid's School:** [sbgdow.catholic.edu.au](https://sbgdow.catholic.edu.au)
- ♦ **Good Samaritan School:** [gsfmdow.catholic.edu.au](https://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

## SAVE CALVARY HOSPITAL

I am writing to ask for your assistance in petitioning the ACT Government to reverse a decision to take the ownership and management of Calvary Hospital away from Calvary Health Care – a Catholic operator and give the ownership to the government-run, non-faith-based Canberra Health Services instead.

Calvary Health Care operates hospitals and aged care facilities across the country and has been operating Calvary Hospital for 44 years. It is trusted to provide quality health care to Canberrans regardless of their religious belief.

The ACT Government is trying to ram through a bill that would allow this extreme land-and-assets grab to occur as soon as 3 July 2023. The bill was prepared in secret, with Calvary management and staff only finding out about it the day before it was tabled in parliament, and the government has scrapped the usual inquiry process so that the bill could be law as soon as 31 May.

*There is no time to lose: we must act now.*

It's no secret that the ACT Government want to force Calvary Hospital to provide abortions now, and euthanasia and assisted suicide in the future. Taking the land, buildings and hospital equipment and transferring staff employment across to Canberra Health Services allows them to push their anti-life agenda right through the hospital.

## SIGN THE PETITION

This isn't just about Calvary Hospital. If the ACT Government can do this to a Catholic hospital, what is to stop them from doing it to a Catholic school or aged care facility or welfare agency? What's to stop the same thing happening to institutions run by other faith groups as well?

It's also not just an issue for the ACT. If the ACT Government is successful in this radical action, it could serve as a blueprint for other governments as well.

I'm asking for your help in stopping this nonsensical and anti-faith action.

Please sign the petition at [savecalvary.com.au](https://savecalvary.com.au) and share it with friends. Let the ACT Government know that we want our Catholic hospitals to stay Catholic.

Yours sincerely in Christ

Most Rev. Brian G Mascord  
**BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG**

For more information on bequests please visit: [lumenchristi.org.au/bequest](https://lumenchristi.org.au/bequest)

# In our parish & around the diocese

## REQUIESCAT IN PACE

**Ardell Sharpe** passed away unexpectedly at Wollongong Hospital on Monday 1st May. Ardell was a beautiful and prayerful lady who had a great devotion to her faith. Ardell and Bill have been in the parish for 67 years. Well over 45 years involvement of in Marriage Encounter. Ardell was a well known parishioner who visited the Sick and served as a Eucharistic Minister.

**Jan Newman** passed away on Sunday 7th May. Jan married to Robert (Bob) was a faithful parishioner of our Lumen Christi Parish and attended Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral. Jan was an active parishioner in our parish and a lector and member of the St Vincent de Paul.

Ardell and Jan will be missed by all of us at Lumen Christi. We pray for their families and their partners. May God comfort and strengthen them.

May Ardell and Jan rest with Christ and rise with him in glory!  
*Requiescat in pace et in amore!*

## COME AND JOIN THE CWL

Next Sunday 28th May the Catholic Women's League are inviting new members to come join the CWL. The CWL are dedicated to building a culture of life; advocating for the respect of human rights, promoting the teaching of Christ and his Church concerning the dignity, integrity and freedom of the human person. If you wish to join the Wollongong or Fairy Meadow branches please see Jo Clark for Wollongong Branch or Margaret Mc Mahon for Fairy Meadow Branch.

Thank you to the members of the CWL for your ongoing committed support.  
Kevin Galea, GM

## 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 RSVP to: Diane 4284 9719; Lynne 0423 754385 or Margaret 4283 4091.

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

We might pause for a moment to stop staring into Heaven, to ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit as at Pentecost in order to be 'The Church which is His Body.'

## PARISH APPOINTMENTS

### LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH CHOIR DIRECTOR

Mrs Annette Griffin, has stepped down from this role due to health reasons. We give thanks to Annette for her many years of hard work and dedication to the parish and diocese.

The commitment that Annette has brought to the group for many years is very much appreciated by everyone. We understand the difficult decision Annette has made to step down, and we wish her well during this time.

The Lumen Christi Parish leadership team have decided to appoint **Mr Tola Mataele** as the **Lumen Christi Parish Choir Director**. Ms Kathy Uroda will continue in the role of coordinator, managing the parish rosters and helping to organise major liturgies with the parish.

### LUMEN CHRISTI FINANCE COUNCIL

**Mrs Vicky Davidson** has been appointed a **member on the Lumen Christi Finance Council**. Vicky is a well respected active member of our Lumen Christi Parish and Principal in our diocese at St Francis of Assisi Warrawong.

Our Finance Councils are advisory bodies to the Administrator to assist in running the parish in the best possible way. Vicky eagerly accepted this role effective from July 25.

## OUR PARISH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

**GOOD SAMARITAN** | Welcome back to Mrs Toni Sillis, Principal of Good Samaritan Fairy Meadow who has been on long-service leave. We pray that Toni had a restful time away with family overseas. A big thank you to Catherine Hailstone, Acting Principal, Mrs Natalie Shelly, Acting Assistant Principal and Mr Sergio Ambrosi, Acting REC for filling the roles during this time.

**ST BRIGID'S** | Ms Kathy Uroda will be taking renewal leave from 1 June to 21 July. The purpose of professional renewal is to create an opportunity for Principals to take time for personal and professional reflection and to action professional opportunities to develop knowledge and effectiveness as leaders, and/or strengthen their own spirituality in order to authentically lead Catholic School communities.

Fr Bernard Gordon and Mrs Natasha O'Donoghue (Head of People and Culture - CEDoW) have approved these acting appointments during Ms Uroda's absence.

Acting Principal Mrs Nicole Benoit, Acting Assistant Principal Mrs Sarah O'Donnell, Acting REC Mrs Anna Arthur-Worsop.

Please pray for our school leaders to be guided with the help of our loving God.

Kevin Galea, GM

For more information on our Columbarium please visit: [lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium](http://lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium)

### Entrance Antiphon

Acts 1:11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?  
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven  
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

### First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has  
been taken into heaven.*

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands,  
cry to God with shouts of joy!  
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,  
great king over all the earth. (R.)
2. God goes up with shouts of joy;  
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.  
Sing praise for God, sing praise,  
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)
3. God is king of all the earth.  
Sing praise with all your skill.  
God is king over the nations;  
God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

### Second Reading

Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.*

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

### Gospel Acclamation

Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

Mt 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

### Communion Antiphon

Mt 28:20

Behold, I am with you always,  
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

### Sunday 21 May 2023

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

#### Where is the Body?

Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ could have continued to appear to groups of followers, century after century – until now!

But, he didn't, because the disciples had to be weaned of his Risen-mode of appearance among them lest they think that the victory over Death is meant for human beings alone.

But, as St Paul says, the Risen Lord is the One who 'fills all creation' with His power radiating out from his Risen Humanity.

However, dis-appearance is not the same as absence. We believe that Our Risen Lord is present in many modes, including as St Paul says '... the Church which is His Body'.

That is why the figures in white rebuke the disciples: 'Why do you stand looking into Heaven?'

The Disciples had, rather, to ready themselves to be the Spirit-filled body of Jesus Christ in their own time and place. As we do.

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