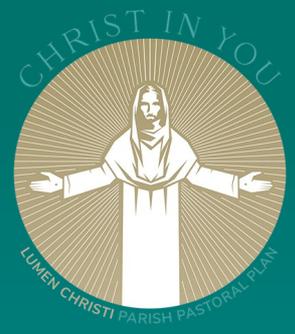


20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, A

20 AUGUST 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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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 ...

Filomena Maruca, Mounir Germanos, Maddalena Celio.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS ...

Bishop Peter Ingham, Nelson Salinas, Margaret Gray, Joan O'Dowd, 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: AUG—OCT 2023

Thu, 24 Aug: Catechist meeting, 11am, Mons Rigney Rm
Sat, 26 Aug: First Holy Communion Mass, 5.30pm, SBG
Sun, 27 Aug: First Holy Communion Mass, 8.30am, SJV
Fri, 1 Sep: Fr Bernard commences sabbatical
Fri, 1 Sep: World Day of Prayer for Creation
Sat, 2 Sep: No Reconciliation will be available
Sun, 3 Sep: Father's Day & Hospitality weekend
Thu, 7 Sep: Parish Lunch, Frat Club Fairy Meadow 12pm
Fri, 8 Sep: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sun, 10 Sep: WYD return of the Pilgrims Mass, SFX 10.30am
Thu, 14 Sep: Feast of the Holy Cross
Thu, 14 Sep: Anniversary of GSFM School (2011)
Thu, 14 Sep: Anniversary of Bishop McCabe's death (1983)
Fri, 15 Sep: Consoling Mass, MDB 11am
Sun, 17 Sep: Bishop's Annual Appeal
Sun, 17 Sep: Marriage Anniversaries Mass, SFX 2pm
Wed, 20 Sep: Baptism Class, SFX 7pm
Sun 1 Oct: Hospitality weekend

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

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

9:30am Tuesday 17 October @ SJV

All parishioners are invited to Mass at St John Vianney Co-Cathedral on **Tuesday 17 October at 9:30am** to pray for all mothers, especially those who preparing to give birth or are experiencing difficulties in their pregnancy. At Mass the



blessing for expectant mothers will be prayed as a sign of our prayerful affection and support.

The blessing is connected to St Gerard Majella who was born on April 6, 1726 in Muro, Italy. He was the son of a tailor who died when Gerard was 12, leaving the family in poverty. Gerard tried to join the Capuchin order but was denied because of his ill health. He was later accepted as a Redemptorist brother serving the Redemptorist congregation as gardener, tailor, fundraiser, peacemaker and spiritual adviser.

He was a man of great depth and insight, prayer and kindness. He was a mystic and a reader of hearts, ever seeking to be perfectly obedient to the will of God. He responded to false accusation, which was later retracted, with great patience. Unfortunately his health was never good. He died from tuberculosis on October 16, 1755 at 29 years of age. His feast day is October 16th.

Gerard Majella is known today as "The Mothers' Saint." The origin of this title comes from an incident that happened in the last months of his short life.

Once, as St. Gerard was leaving the home of his friends, the Pirofalo family, one of the daughters called after him because he had forgotten his handkerchief. In a moment of prophetic insight Gerard said: "Keep it. It will be useful to you some day." The handkerchief was treasured as a precious souvenir of Gerard. Years later the girl to whom he had given it was in danger of death during childbirth. She remembered the words of Gerard, and called for the handkerchief. Almost immediately the danger passed and she delivered a healthy child.

The Redemptorists were not the first to encourage devotion to St. Gerard. The popularity of this devotion is due to all the Italian women and mothers who believed and promoted their confidence and trust in the intercession of St. Gerard. It was Italian mothers who spread this devotion throughout Italy and Italian immigrant women who took the devotion with them to many parts of the world.

Gerard's intercession is requested for children (unborn children in particular), for those experiencing difficulty in childbirth, and mothers (expectant mothers in particular). If you expecting a child you can approach any of the priests for the blessing. Or, come to the Mass and receive the blessing with the prayerful support of our parish community.

Thank you to the Fairy Meadow Catholic Women's League for this beautiful initiative.

St. Gerard, pray for us!

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

In our parish & around the diocese



FATHER'S DAY INTENTIONS

Let us pray for all our fathers. Whether they are living or rest in peace with the Lord, you are invited to join our parish in honouring all fathers.

If you would like to include an Intention on our list for Father's Day, please visit www.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 on **Father's Day Sunday, September 3.**

Please note that the Intention list will close 27th August.

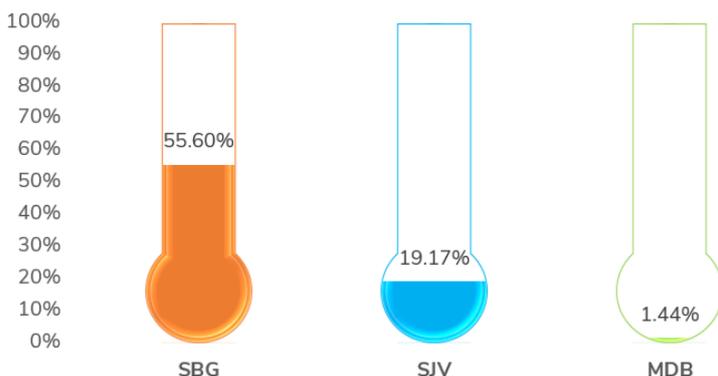


SAVE OUR KNEES APPEAL

Please donate for new padding on the kneelers at St John Vianney's Co-Cathedral, St Brigid's and Mater Dolorosa by:

- ◆ completing a pledge form online at: www.lumenchristi.org.au/kneelers
- ◆ **Direct Deposit**
BSB: **066 711** Account #: **008056** Ref: **Your Name-SOK**
Cheques Payable to: **Lumen Christi Parish**
- ◆ Or by collecting an envelope from the church door (mark it **"Kneelers Donation"**) and place it inside the collection bag, collection boxes, or hand it in at the parish office.

DONATIONS AS OF 16 AUGUST 2023



ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE

Bishop Brian Mascord will be ordaining Lawrence Burns and Rodney Mackrill to the permanent Diaconate on Saturday 2 September 2023 at 10.30am at St Francis Xavier Cathedral. Light refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the ceremony in the Xavier Conference Room.

ANNUAL CONSOLING MASS @ MDB

The Diocesan Catholic Women's League invites you to the Mass of Consoling held at Mater Dolorosa Church, Balgownie on **Friday 15th September at 11am** followed by light refreshments in the Mater Dolorosa Meeting Room. In this Mass we pray for our loved ones who have died in tragic circumstances and we ask God to strengthen our families who grieve such loss.



Everyone is welcome!

On Thursday 14th September, we mark **RU OK Day**. We remind ourselves to be especially concerned for one another, making sure to ask another person, particularly if they seem down, about how they are travelling. A kind word can bring light to someone's darkened heart. A sincere question can lift a person's spirit because he or she feels that someone else cares enough to ask.

The Church gives us a very simple and powerful gesture that emphasises our concern for each other in the Eucharist. In the Rite of Peace, after the Our Father, we pray for peace and unity for our Church community and "for the whole human family". We express to each other by the Sign of Peace our "ecclesial communion and mutual charity before communicating in the Sacrament" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 82). It is a moment of confirming our brothers and sisters, who may feel in the dark, with the light of our kind attention in the Lord Jesus.



In this spirit of charity, let us pray for anyone who has taken their life when their heart felt burdened by the pain we did not see. Let us also pray for all people who do not feel OK that God will console them and give us the compassion to help them.

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

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 83:10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield;
and look on the face of your anointed one;
one day within your courts
is better than a thousand elsewhere.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1,6-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest. Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 11:13-15. 29-32

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Woman, you have great faith.

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, 'Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.' But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. 'Give her what she wants,' they said 'because she is shouting after us.' He said in reply, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.' But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. 'Lord,' she said 'help me.' He replied, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the house-dogs.' She retorted, 'Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.' And from that moment her daughter was well again.

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 129:7

With the Lord there is mercy;
in him is plentiful redemption.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

On Catholic Dogs

A pagan woman approaches a Jewish man and she begs Jesus to heal her daughter.

Jesus gives a dismissive answer to the woman: 'It is not fair to take the children's bread and throw it to the house dogs.' The children are obviously the Jewish people.

This remarkable pagan woman stands her ground and engages in a verbal joust with Jesus! She argues: 'Yes, Lord, but even the house dogs get the crumbs that fall from their master's table.'

Jesus recognises her faith and the daughter was healed. This story was put in the Gospels to show how Jesus extended his saving mission to non-Jews in Pagan territory.

That is Good News for billions of non-Jewish people over the course of history since then and into the future. That is why we are truly 'Catholic', which, as you know, is the Greek for 'world-wide'.

We could pause for a moment to celebrate this Canaanite woman as the first 'Catholic'!

DAY OF PRAYER FOR CREATION

In his message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on 1 September 2023, Pope Francis calls us to a change of heart and "the renewal of our relationship with creation so that we no longer see it as an object to be exploited but cherish it instead as a sacred gift from our Creator." Pope Francis encourages us to avoid waste and to promote practices that promote care for our environment and the earth's resources for future generations.

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