



LUMEN CHRISTI
CATHOLIC PARISH

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION

5 JANUARY 2025

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, C



MASS TIME TABLE

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 JOHN VIANNEY CO-CATHEDRAL, FAIRY MEADOW

Tuesday Mass: 9.30am
 Thursday Mass: 9.30am (Italian)
 Sunday Mass: 8.30am, 10am (Italian), 4.30pm (Vietnamese)

MATER DOLOROSA, BALGOWNIE

Sunday Mass: 10am

ST BRIGID'S CHURCH, GWYNNEVILLE

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



SUPPORT
OUR PARISH



PARISH CENTRE

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

linktr.ee/lumenchristiparish

GOSPEL

*We have come from
the East to worship
the king.*

Matthew 2:2-12

MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE...

Members of the Gray family, Esther & Jim Rowles.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS...

Fr David Catterall, Ken Clark, Judith James, Dianne Hukins, Matthew Johnson, Pat Carr, John Gauci, Joseph Scalia.



*Our Sacraments
& Helpful Links*

SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEB PORTAL

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.



WELCOME TO LUMEN CHRISTI PARISH

PARISH CALENDAR: JAN 2025—FEB 2025

- Thu, 16 Jan: Anniversary of Dedication of St Brigid's Church
- Sat, 25 Jan: Chamber Philharmonia Cologne Concert
- Sun, 26 Jan: Australia Day, Masses as usual
- Wed, 29 Jan: Pastoral Council Meeting, Rigney Room
- Thu, 30 Jan: Catechists Meeting, Rigney Room 10am
- Sat, 01 Feb: Feast of St Brigid, Patroness of Gwynneville
- Sun, 02 Feb: Presentation of the Lord
- Sun, 02 Feb: Hospitality weekend resumes

HOME BLESSING FOR EPIPHANY

The Epiphany is an ancient liturgical feast (circa 4th cent.) which celebrates the Magi coming from the East to do homage to the newborn King of the Jews. The Epiphany is a joyful celebration of the beauty and light of God revealed in Jesus who is the Saviour of all the nations. Please take a piece of blessed chalk this weekend and pray the following blessing in your home.

As you are writing the symbols 20 + C + M + B + 25 on the lintel over your front door the following prayer is said:

In the year of our Lord, two thousand (write the 20 at the front) and twenty-four (write the 25 at the end), May (write the C) Christ (write the M) bless (write the B), this home, (in Latin: Christus Mansionem Benedicat). Through the intercession (write the first +) of Caspar (write the second +) Melchior (write third cross) and Balthasar (write the fourth cross). Then the following is prayed:

Sacred is this threshold of our home and holy is this door. This is the meeting place of friend, neighbour, and stranger. May it be a bridge for our comings and goings. Whenever we stand in its sacred circle, may our eyes be granted new vision, so that we can see in friend or stranger the God of ten thousand disguises. May this threshold be a sacred space where we come to celebrate the Sacrament of Hospitality. May the spirits of evil never cross this threshold, and may the Name of the All-Holy-One protect our home from harm. May God's angels stand guard at the right and the left of this opening to grace our comings and goings. May we who live in this home guard the sacredness of this doorway. May our hearts be always alert to the danger of falseness and pretence as we greet those who come to our door. Let our affection be graced with honesty and reverence, and may the oil of truth burn in the lamp of our eyes. Help us to remember that our ancestors were strangers and exiles in Egypt, that Joseph and Mary came knocking at a door like this, weary and in search of kindness. May we receive all at this door as Godly guests. May the blessing of God, and peace and grace of the All-Holy-One, surround this threshold and rest upon all who shall pass across it.

R. Amen.

PARISH STAFF

Most Reverend Brian G Mascord,
Diocesan Bishop & Parish Priest
Very Reverend Bernard L Gordon,
Vicar General & Administrator
Reverend Cang Tran,
Assistant Priest
Kevin Galea,
General Manager
Leanne Burlin,
Parish Secretary
Patricia Di Leva,
Administration Assistant

WOLLONGONG HOSPITAL

Emergency Calls: 0475 815 506

PASTORAL & FINANCE COUNCILS

Lisa de Paiva,
Chair of the Pastoral Council
Vicky Davidson,
Chair of the Finance Council

PARISH SCHOOLS

Kathy Uroda,
Principal, St Brigid's Gwynneville
Pauline Chrostowski,
Principal, Good Samaritan
Fairly Meadow

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

COLUMBARIUM SALES

lumenchristi.org.au/columbarium

NEWS IN BRIEF

JUBILEE DINNER 2025

Join us for this special celebration as we come together to mark the Jubilee Year: *Pilgrims of Hope* with an evening of fellowship, delicious food, and joyful memories.

Date: **Friday, 25th July 2025**

Venue: The Fraternity Club, Fairy Meadow

Time: **6:00 pm**

Tickets: Adults: \$70 per head
Children: \$35 per head



To purchase tickets please visit our parish website.
Go to: lumenchristi.org.au/jubileedinner

AUSTRALIA DAY MASS 2025



Australia Day falls on **Sunday, 26th January 2025**. All Masses will proceed as per the regular Sunday timetable, with no changes to the usual schedule. Masses on this day will be offered in celebration of Australia Day, and white vestments will be worn. The readings and prayers will reflect the occasion, focusing on unity, gratitude, and blessings for our nation.

We warmly invite you to join us in prayer and thanksgiving for the many gifts we share as Australians. Let us come together as a parish to give thanks to God for our country and its people.

DIARY DATE FOR CATECHIST MEETING

The first 2025 Lumen Christi Parish Catechist Meeting will be held on **Thursday 30th January 2025 at 10am** in the Mgr John Rigney Room. Catechists are required to attend to receive their resources for the year. Please RSVP your attendance via email to our Coordinator Patricia Calabro by email: patricia.calabro@dow.org.au.

ST BRIGID'S SCHOOL GWYNNEVILLE

Mr Mark Boss has been appointed to the position of Acting Assistant Principal at St Brigid's Catholic Parish Primary School, Gwynneville, for the 2025 school year.

Mark has worked at St Brigid's, having previously served as a Middle Leader from 2018 to 2021. We look forward to the contributions he will bring.

Please join me in warmly welcoming Mark to this role.

Fr Bernard

do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

DECEMBER BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES

THE NEWLY BAPTISED | Van Roux, Eyana Jayasundara, Amelie James, Elodie Dunster, Maya Chin, Maeve Dark and Noah Schweaiger.

May the Sacrament of baptism bring joy, peace, and blessings to their Parents, Godparents, family and friends.

THE NEWLY MARRIED | Maria Kyriakoudes & Jacob Cordina.

May God bless your homes with love, joy, and a lifetime of happiness.

Please note that due to privacy reasons not all names are published in the parish bulletin.

BISHOP'S PASTORAL VISITATION

In accordance with Canon Law §396.1, Bishop Brian Mascord has recently communicated his plans for his parish visitation to Lumen Christi Parish. The Bishop has scheduled his visitation from **Friday, 25th July 2025**, to **Sunday, 27th July 2025**, then **Sunday, 3rd August 2025**. As part of this visitation, the Bishop will meet with representatives and parishioners from various groups within our parish and will offer Mass at each of our churches followed by a chance to meet and greet. The Bishop's Pastoral Visitation schedule will be published soon.

PILGRIMS OF HOPE CONCERT

Chamber Philharmonia Cologne presents an evening of timeless classics featuring the works of Vivaldi, Bach, and Paganini performed by a world-class soloist all the way from Germany.

St Francis Xavier Cathedral Wollongong

Saturday, 25th January 2025, 8pm—9.45pm

Join us for this unforgettable concert as part of the Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope celebrations.

Ticket sales online only: www.trybooking.com/CXAQY

THIS WEEK'S READINGS & COMMENTARY

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Malachi 3:1; 1 Chr 29:12

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come;
and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.

The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.

Lift up your eyes and look round:

all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.

At this sight you will grow radiant,

your heart throbbing and full;

since the riches of the sea will flow to you;

the wealth of the nations come to you;

camels in throngs will cover you,

and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;

everyone in Sheba will come,

bringing gold and incense

and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13, R. see v.11

(R.) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East;
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

We have come from the East to worship the king.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,
for out of you will come a leader
who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Communion Antiphon

Cf Matthew 2:2

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control this infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons

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