



Xavier Centre 38 Harbour Street (PO Box 1239) Wollongong NSW 2500 Australia

T +61 2 4222 2400 F +61 2 4222 2417

www.dow.org.au

BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2021/38
Phone:	4222 2403	Email:	helen.bennett@dow.org.au
Date:	28 September 2021	For weekend:	2 – 3 October 2021

RSVP details are essential for adequate catering, seating, handouts etc. We ask that details are kept in notices where included.

Status	Bulletin notice	Attachment(s)
NEW - URGENT	Urgent - Join in Opposition to Euthanasia in NSW before October 11 The move to make Euthanasia / Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) legal will be introduced into the NSW Parliament in coming days. We are called to stand up for the sanctity of life and oppose 'the culture of death'. Bishop Mascord urges the faithful of the Dioceses to contact their local state MPs without delay, asking them to vote NO. Advocates of Assisted Suicide, are similarly working very hard to influence local MPs and without similar efforts for those who uphold the value of life from conception to natural death, it is likely that this terrible bill will become law. Go to www.dow.org.au/euthanasiabill to receive contact details of your State MPs, as well as speaking points for a phone call which is by far the most impactful form of communication. Emailing is a less impactful, but still valuable option. This is a most urgent call to brave action, with this bill infringing many religious freedoms and worse still the sanctity of human life.	Click to download MP contact details and speaking points
Continuing	Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. Stay informed by subscribing at subscribe https://dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit https://dow.sh/weeklybulletin to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes weekly	

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Continuing	Prayer Seminars: Experience various prayer styles – All Welcome A series of Prayer Seminars, commencing on Tuesday 21 September, and run weekly, 7pm - 8:30pm via Zoom. These are open to anyone in the Diocese to attend any or all of the 12 evenings Each week a different presenter will lead us in a style of prayer that is meaningful to them. The seminars will include information, but also the opportunity to be led by an expert in the prayer experience. You are welcome to come to any or all of the seminars. Registering does not require you to attend every seminar. Please follow the link to register for Prayer Seminars: https://www.dow.org.au/events Tuesday 5th October Frances Tilly will lead us in The Examen prayer, and Tuesday 12th October Sr Sue Barker SGS on Introduction to Lectio Divina. Come and discover the beautiful practice of interior silence using a sacred word and simply rest in the presence of God. Please encourage the faithful to be part of this experience to grow in prayerfulness.	Click to download Prayer Seminar Graphic
NEW	St Mary's Towers Online Retreat Long Weekend, 4 Days, 1-4 Oct The Retreat Team presents "A Simple Prayer Weekend" This retreat is designed to encourage you in your prayer. Jesus teaches us what it means to pray. Daily 9:30 and 4pm reflections. \$200 for all materials and live presentations, \$350 if you'd also like daily spiritual direction. Prices are negotiable. Email Enquiries: contact@towersretreat.org.au . Website https://www.towersretreat.org.au .	
NEW	St Mary's Towers Online Retreat Weekend, 3 Days, 8-10 Oct Sr Jennifer Scally rsj presents "The Hidden Wisdom of Women in the Gospels." This retreat is a chance to allow some of the Gospel women to come alive and speak to us in our lives today. Daily 9:30 and 4pm reflections. \$175 for all materials and live presentations, \$250 if you'd also like daily spiritual direction. Prices are negotiable. Email Enquiries: contact@towersretreat.org.au. Website https://www.towersretreat.org.au	

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Continuing	Plenary Council 2021 – 3-10 October From 3 – 10 October, the Church in Australia will commence its fifth Plenary Council – the first in 84 years. 279 members will begin a process of dialogue focusing on 6 themes that were developed from the responses of over 220,000 people. Key moments during the First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia will be live-streamed between October 3 and 10. They will include daily Masses, morning prayer for Plenary Council members and sharing of the fruits of discernment. Visit the Plenary Council website at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au for a calendar of live-streams during the Assembly. Masses will be livestreamed. Opening mass this Sunday Oct 3, 2pm weekday masses are 9.30am, and the closing Mass 11am, Sunday Oct 10. The clergy members from the Diocese of Wollongong are: Most Rev Brian G Mascord DD, Very Rev Bernard L Gordon VG, Very Rev Kenneth Cafe OFM EV, Very Rev Sean Cullen PP EV. Hear from the three lay members of Plenary Council from the Diocese of Wollongong Mr Paul Fleming, Mrs Erin Gillard and Dr Jodi Steel via a short interview that can be accessed at https://dow.sh/plenarychats and which will be released via social media over the next week. DoW in collaboration with ACBC will also be producing a daily podcast of 3 interviews from the Plenary Council form 3-10 October which we will share on our website daily. https://anchor.fm/plenarypodcast including the full interview we did last week with Lana Turvey Collins. The Tuesday Evening Diocesan Prayer Seminar series where we will pray for the Council members can be accessed via	Attachment(s)
	https://www.dow.org.au/events	
Modified	Men's Kickstart Program: Monday Nights 13- September till 4 October 7.30 – 8.30pm There are still two sessions to go for the kickstart program and men can attend any or all of the remaining sessions that engage with some great talks from the National Catholic Men's Gathering (NCMG) presentations. Kickstart is being facilitated by menALIVE for the Diocese of Wollongong, online by Peter Gabauer and Colin Bennett and the menALIVE leaders from the Diocese of Wollongong. To register go to https://www.dow.org.au/events/ancmgkickstart Sessions are short and sharp and a great way for men in lockdown to come together to engage with the theme 'Brothers What must we Do'? • Missioning and Sending: Archbishop Julian Porteous (4 Oct)	

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Modified	Season of Creation The Season of Creation begins September 1, on the designated World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. It concludes on October 4, the Feast of St. Francis. The Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace have created five prayer cards which focus on the themes of the statement. This week's prayer focuses on God is a Trinity of Love	Click to download Social Justice Statement 2021-22
Continuing	Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) 400 Hour Foundational Unit Are you interested in growing in knowledge, understanding, and developing skills that will enable you to offer effective pastoral and spiritual care? Deepening your awareness of Spirituality in your life and of people's needs, hopes, and concerns during times of illness Becoming more aware of your own values, attitudes, and assumptions. CPE Foundational Unit will be offered as a blend of both online and face to face sessions conducted on 2 consecutive days per month, Tuesday and Wednesdays from 9 November 2021 to 27 July 2022. (Limited spaces still available – clinical pastoral placement required) Please contact Carmen Karauda at ckarauda@gmail.com or phone: 0419 430 676 for more information and/or application form. Applications are now open. Please apply early. Applications close 22 October 2021.	
Continuing	Monday, 4 October – Parish of St Michael, Thirroul The annual Blessing of Animals will be held on the long weekend in October, from 9:30am onwards to 11:00am on Monday, 4 October. All animals are welcome. This year, because of social distancing regulations, all animals must keep two paws or two wings apart. You may "walk by" with your pets anytime between 9:30am and 11:00am so as to maintain social distancing (two paws or two wings apart). On 4 October, people all over the world will be celebrating the feast day of the Patron Saint of Animals, Saint Francis of Assisi. It is customary that in remembrance of St Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures, animals are led to churches for a special ceremony called the "Blessing of the Animals." Every year, millions of animals are blessed by priests/friars in a ceremony that touches the hearts of most of those in attendance. The Blessing of Animals will take place at the Parish of Saint Michael, 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul – outside the church – on the Feast of Saint Francis, Monday, 4 October.	

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NEW	The Journey, 3 October 2021 – Your Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast Great show this week as we focus again on Plenary Council with some insights from Dr Jodi Steel and Mrs Erin Gillard as we commence the Plenary Council. Plenty of great music and the regular God spots you've come to expect from the Journey available at www.jcr.org.au.	jcr.org.au
Continuing	Youth Ministry Online Have you seen Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong's (CYMW) online version of LIVE yet? Click on the link below for some great worship and challenges as you explore faith with some very awesome leaders! Enjoy! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTphLF5OdSt8V yo7ZLrVgg	
Continuing	Online Holy Hour for Young Adults CYMW & NET are hosting online Adoration every Thursday from 4-5pm. Join our Holy Hour through Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/cymdow/ or watch via Instagram @net.wollongong – everyone is welcome!	
Continuing	Online Young Adult Bible Study! Are you missing your community? CYMW are hosting an online Bible Study for all young adults aged 17-35 throughout the Wollongong Diocese. Bring your bible and your favourite snack as we journey through scripture together over zoom! Every Tuesday night. 7PM-8PM. Check out @cymdow on Instagram or Facebook for more information or email youth@dow.org.au	
Continuing	Diocese of Wollongong Mass Online For all of the online Mass options- please visit the DoW website https://dow.sh/onlinemass	Online Masses

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Continuing	An invitation to join electronic parish planned giving Given that some parishioners are unable to attend Mass in our church, many who support our parish planned giving envelope program have asked how they can continue to financially support the parish. So, we respectfully encourage all parishioners to join our electronic parish planned giving program to help us ensure that we limit the financial pressure this current situation will impose on our parish. Please visit https://www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving/ to learn of the two simple ways you can give to our parish electronically. Importantly, we are mindful that some of our parishioners will sadly be experiencing a change in their financial circumstances. Please contact the Parish Office (insert phone number/email) if you need to decrease/discontinue your planned giving contribution, but mainly to let us know how we can support you.	Click here to download
Continuing	Divine Renovation Australasia Virtual Conference 2021 Called to Discipleship Saturday 20 November 2021 9:00am-12:30pm Join us for a spirit-filled time od prayer, live keynotes, inspiring panel sessions. The virtual conference will aim to support priests, parish teams and individuals in their journey of parish renewal, while encouraging and equipping you in your Catholic faith. For more and information and registration: https://www.divinerenovation.org/dr-aus-called-to-discipleship-conference	Click to download Flyer
Continuing	The Chosen – A TV Series about Jesus – watch during lockdown! The Chosen is a new 'free to view', television program that creatively presents the life of Christ and his followers. The shows are of the highest quality and is receiving acclaim around the world across denominations. Go to https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen to watch or get the free app for use on your phone / laptop via The Chosen app (download)	
Continuing	The Year of St Joseph Pope Francis on 8 December 2020 published an Apostolic Letter <i>Patris corde</i> (<i>With a Father's Heart</i>), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. You are encouraged to visit the ACBC year of St Joseph page at https://www.catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph	

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Continuing	Year Amoris Laetitia Family, 19 March 2021 – 26 June 2022 Pope Francis is encouraging the Church to enrich your understanding of the vocation marriage and the core role of family in the mission of the Church at http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia.html On July 25 th the first celebration of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be held near the liturgical memory of Saints Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus.	
NEW	A Vocation view Children come to believe those they love. We pray for married couples that they may be rooted in Jesus and share their love with their families. The call to married life is a special vocation. If you want to talk about your discernment, please contact the Diocesan Vocations Director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au	
Continuing	Wollongong Diocesan Resource Centre The Diocesan Resource Centre is in transition to its new premises. Resources are still available to borrow during this transitional period. For more information or request for resources, please contact Anne Russell on 0427 072 363. Resources can be collected and returned at the Catholic Education Office, 86-88 Market Street, Wollongong. For Catechist in the Macarthur and Southern Highlands — Contact Cindy on 4640 8550 or cindy.oliver@dow.org.au for more information.	
Continuing	Formed (Free for DoW parishioiners) Join hundreds of other families around the Diocese of Wollongong in nurturing your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED.org is a large Faith Formation Resource library website containing thousands of faith formation documentaries, courses, movies, audio and books covering all aspects of our Catholic faith. Materials for both adults and children. Sign-up for Free using our Diocesan Subscription by contacting darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au or	

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Continuing	Faith Circles—free small group resource: During this period of Pandemic isolation, you are encouraged to spend time in prayer and spiritual reading and faith Circles is one way that you can do this. The weekly Faith Circles resource is available for free to download. It is easy to use and could easily be done in your household or even by skype / phone with others at this time, with its questions and prayer points. It is available to download at https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/ or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.	
Continuing	CatholicCare - Have you thought about becoming a foster carer? We need foster carers who provide love, care and support to help these children thrive and reach their full potential. Carers receive comprehensive support from the Fostering Futures team to ensure they have a full range of resources and networks to nurture their forever home. Our team have over 30 years' experience helping carers give vulnerable children a loving home and a brighter future. You can find out more by calling 0418 783 956, email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or go to http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au more information.	
Continuing	We're always here, if you ever need These are challenging times for everyone and CatholicCare are here to support you and your family to navigate the uncertainty. We offer confidential online and phone counselling to support you with the frustration of managing family emotions, relationship pressures and employment changes. To find out more about CatholicCare's counselling service call us on 4254 9395 or email intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au	
Continuing	CAthramily Cathramily brings you a selection of activities, prayer rituals, crafts and recipes from their website to assist parents and grandparents in being the first educators in faith for their kids. Don't miss Cathkids https://cathfamily.org/activities/	