

## OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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## BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2024/47
Phone:	4222 2403	Email:	<u>Helen.bennett@dow.org.au</u>
Date:	10 December 2024	For weekend:	14 – 15 December 2024

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	<ul> <li>Summit Night: "God, the universe &amp; everything"</li> <li>Join us for a transformative evening of faith formation.</li> <li>Young adults of the diocese, it's time to climb the highest peak and seek truth — and we invite you to do it with us at our Summit Night, a brandnew event designed just for you! Whether you're seeking deeper understanding or simply craving a vibrant community of like-minded young adults, this night is for you.</li> <li>When: 6.30pm-9.15pm Wednesday 29 January 2025</li> <li>Where: The Xavier Conference Centre, next to the Wollongong Cathedral For whom? This is an 18+ event and primarily for young adults</li> <li>We're thrilled to welcome Matt Fradd, renowned Catholic speaker, author, and apologist. Matt will lead us in an inspiring talk on seeking truth through our faith, challenging us to deepen our relationship with God and discovering the fullness of the Gospel.</li> <li>This Summit night is more than just an event — it's a chance to encounter Christ, dive deep into the faith, and be part of a community that is committed to growing together in truth. Whether you're new to faith formation or looking for ways to strengthen your spiritual life, this is the place for open, honest conversations.</li> <li>Bring your friends, bring your questions, and be ready to experience a night that will leave you feeling inspired, encouraged, and closer to Christ.</li> <li>Registration is essential, secure your place ASAP and scan the QR code to register.</li> </ul>	Click to download poster

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NEW DATE CLAIMER	A Women's Opportunity to Experience A Cursillo 3-Day Weekend. A Cursillo weekend will be held at Carmel House, Varroville (Near Campbelltown) from Thursday evening 6 March to Sunday afternoon 9 March 2025. To view brochure and find out more, please scan the QR code, email <u>cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com</u> or ring Margaret on 0417 041 721.	
Continuing	Share Hope This Christmas - Invite Others to Christmas Mass All of us know friends and family who are disconnected from faith. Recent research shows that 37% of people would attend church if invited by close friends and family and 30% are yet to make up their minds (or don't have close friends or family who attend Church) [NCLS, Australian Openness to Invitation, 2020]. That means in practice that if we are courageous enough to invite, there's a good chance you will encounter someone who will say yes or at least be open to considering your invitation. We often think that we need to have all the answers, be a master in apologetics or arguing the faith, or be one of "those types" of Christians. In reality, all that's needed is presence, relationship, willingness to listen, and the courage to say, "hey, this is a bit out there, but I was wondering if you'd like to come to Church with me this Christmas?" Have a look at the helpful tips for inviting others to Church this Christmas and share hope this Christmas.	
Continuing	Catholic Youth & Young Adults Wollongong serves young people in Illawarra, Macarthur, Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven regions. To stay up to date with what is happening around the diocese, head to our social media and scan the code to see to access the youth calendar.	
Continuing	Vinnies South Coast Retail shops - Volunteer Recruitment Vinnies shops are seeking new Retail Volunteers to assist them in supporting their local Community. if you are passionate about people, love to chat and putting a smile on someone's face, then we would like to hear from you. You can scan the QR Code, email us or pop into one of our shops for a chat to find out more.	<u>Click to</u> <u>download flyer</u> <u>Across</u> <u>Wollongong</u> <u>Across</u> <u>Shoalhaven area</u>

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NEW each week	The Journey, 15 December – Your Diocesan Weekly Podcast On The Journey This Week: Fr James McCarthy says that the readings this week encourages giving selflessly without expecting anything in return. Mother Hilda reflects on the power of small gestures, both in human relationships and in how we express love for God. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, and two The Light Advent Series reflections. The Journey podcast available at www.jcr.org.au. (Note to Parish Secretaries: Attached is a jpg file or click to download the file for parishes to display on their digital screen)	<u>www.jcr.org.au.</u> <u>Click to</u> <u>download jpg</u> <u>file</u>
NEW each week	A vocation view Third Sunday of Advent (15/12/24) "What ought we to do?" Let joy and gladness show forth in you. You are called to be the presence of Jesus. (Luke 3:10-18) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at <u>vocations@dow.org.au</u>	
Continuing	<b>Get Connected with what is on around the Diocese</b> 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 <u>dow.sh/stayingconnected</u> or visit <u>dow.sh/weeklybulletin</u> to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes weekly.	
Continuing	Want your community to grow? Try Faith Circles Faith Circles is a weekly resource to help individuals but mainly small groups to come together in Parishes. In doing so it assists in the development of faith and community, a strong desire expressed in our Diocesan feedback from the National Church Life Survey. The weekly Faith Circles resource is available for free to download. It is easy to use with simple questions and prayer points. It is available to download at <u>www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/</u> or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.	Continuing
Continuing	Catholic Bible Study   Thursdays, 7:30-9pm* Xavier Centre, Conference Rooms (behind the Cathedral in Wollongong) Come and explore the Bible with the mind and heart of the Church in an open and friendly environment. All are welcome. Contact Tom Kadmon 0413 927 086 * Thursdays during school term	

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Continuing	<ul> <li>Want Netflix for Catholics? Get 'FORMED' Free for DoW Parishioners</li> <li>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?</li> <li>FORMED is a fantastic 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.</li> <li>To register for FORMED: <ul> <li>Go to www.formed.org and click 'Formed for Individuals' button.</li> <li>Enter your email address and Submit.</li> <li>Type 'Wollongong' into the box then click the Diocese's name and address (38 Harbour St) which will appear. Click Next.</li> <li>Enter your name and email address. You'll get a confirmation email asking you to sign in and then follow the prompts – and get formed!</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Continuing	The Chosen – A TV Series about Jesus – Season 4 The Chosen is a new 'free to view', series, now in its fourth season, that beautifully and creatively presents the life of Christ and his followers. The shows are of the highest quality, and it continues to receive acclaim around the world across denominations. Go to <u>watch.thechosen.tv</u> to watch on your own, or better still with family and friends or as a parish!	
NEW each week	Social Justice Points I consider it essential to insist that "to seek only a technical remedy to each environmental problem which comes up is to separate what is in reality interconnected and to mask the true and deepest problems of the global system". [34] It is true that efforts at adaptation are needed in the face of evils that are irreversible in the short term. Also, some interventions and technological advances that make it possible to absorb or capture gas emissions have proved promising. Nonetheless, we risk remaining trapped in the mindset of pasting and papering over cracks, while beneath the surface there is a continuing deterioration to which we continue to contribute. To suppose that all problems in the future will be able to be solved by new technical interventions is a form of homicidal pragmatism, like pushing a snowball down a hill <i>Laudate Deum – Pope</i> <i>Francis - To All People of Good Will on The Climate Crisis</i>	

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Continuing	An invitation to join electronic parish planned giving from your Parish Finance Council An electronic regular gift provides many benefits. You will find it a secure, convenient and efficient way to regularly support your parish, while also reducing our administration costs. It will also help us to confidently forecast and plan, as we know that we can rely on your support. You can increase, decrease, discontinue or restart your monthly gift at any time. Please visit <u>https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/parishgiving/</u> to learn of the four simple ways you can support our parish electronically.	
Continuing	A Gift to the Church in your Will will help	
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Continuing	Cathedral Books & Gifts Wollongong	
	Cathedral Books & Gifts shop has a wide range of gifts for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Missals, books, rosaries, medals, statues, plaques, cards for various occasions, holy cards etc. Operating hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10am – 2pm Entry via 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. For any enquiries, please contact 4222 2484.	
Continuing		
	CAtHFAMILY 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 <a href="https://cathfamily.org/cathkids-faith-unlimited/">https://cathfamily.org/cathkids-faith-unlimited/</a>	

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Continuing	Go Deeper in your Faith with popular & FREE Catholic Podcasts	
	<ul> <li>Bible in a Year</li> <li>Ascension Press will again run the Catholic Bible in a Year Podcast featuring Fr Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins in 2024. It remains one of the world's leading podcasts with over 400 million downloads. While a new podcast is released daily, you can do it at your own pace signing up at www.ascensionpress.com/biy and it's not too late to catch up or simply work through at your own pace.</li> <li>Catechism in a Year</li> <li>This year, Ascension Press will also again run the Catechism in a Year podcast which will slowly and prayerfully read through and break open the Catechism over 365 days. It's not too late to catch up, and the daily podcasts can be listened to at your own pace. It is available at www.ascensionpress.com/ciy</li> </ul>	