



BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2025/48
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Date:	15 December 2025	For weekend:	19 – 20 December 2025

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	What's on around the Diocese? Check out upcoming Diocesan events and courses - too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop dow.sh/stayingconnected about what's happening around our Diocese!	
NEW	Close of the Jubilee Year You are invited to commemorate the official close of the Jubilee Year of Hope in our diocese. A special Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord: 10.30am Sunday 28 December, St Francis Xavier Cathedral. <i>"May the power of hope fill our days, as we await with confidence the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and glory, now and forever." (Pope Francis, Spes Non Confundit)</i>	
NEW	Outdoor Created-Centred Masses - Mollymook Beach Reserve Fr Michael and the Milton Parish Liturgy Team will again lead an outdoor creation centred Mass at 5 pm on all Sundays in January 2026. Location: Mollymook Beach Reserve 200 metres north of Mollymook Beach Surf Club. For years these Masses have attracted locals and visitors and proven popular especially in view of the urgent need as <i>Laudato Si</i> and <i>Laudato Deum</i> declare to care for our common home when it is in peril. Please come along and stay afterwards if possible for a BYO picnic	

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NEW	<p>Looking for Quality Vacation Care This School Holidays?</p> <p>CatholicCare offers safe, fun, and engaging Vacation Care programs at 11 schools across our Diocese. Children enjoy exciting activities, make new friends, and are cared for by experienced staff—giving parents peace of mind and kids a holiday to remember.</p> <p>Secure your child's spot today: Call (02) 4227 1122 OR visit http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au for locations and enrolment details.</p>	
Continuing	<p>Caritas Australia: Be a light in the darkness for families facing adversity this Christmas.</p> <p>This Christmas, we are inviting Australians to “be a light in the darkness” for families who are living through the trauma of war, displacement, and poverty. The intensity of the conflict in Ukraine has increased and more people are experiencing displacement and poverty. But with your support, we can bring hope to these families. Our partner, Caritas Ukraine are on the ground working hard to prepare food kits, emergency shelter kits and psychosocial assistance to families facing adversity.</p> <p>Donate today at https://www.caritas.org.au/christmas-appeal/be-the-light-in-darkness/</p>	<p>Click to download Parish Bulletin and Powerpoint slide</p> 
Continuing	<p>Caritas Australia: Global Gifts Christmas Cards - these are a great sustainable gift idea that will help to build a brighter future for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty www.globalgifts.org.au</p> <p>Please order your cards before 5 December for delivery of cards before Christmas. Our e-card are available to be ordered anytime.</p>	<p>Click to download flyer</p>
Continuing	<p>Shalom World: A Global Catholic Media Hub – Your One-Stop Destination for True Peace!</p> <p>No matter where you are on your faith journey, Shalom World invites you to dive into inspiring content, faith-filled adventures, uplifting news, and deep prayer—anytime, anywhere!</p> <p>https://shalomworld.org/</p>	
NEW	<p>Annual CatechistNET magazine is available this weekend at no cost. Please note that active Catechists and Life Members will receive their own copy by post. Please grab one and get a sense of the great work by catechists.</p>	

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Continuing	<p>The Art of Dying Well – Four-Part Series</p> <p>Clergy and parish communities are invited to attend The Art of Dying Well, a free four-week Saturday series presented by Bruce Missen, Managing Director of Willow Tree Funerals.</p> <p>Dates: Commencing Saturday, 10 January 2026</p> <p>Time: 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM</p> <p>Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Varroville</p> <p>Details: Light refreshments provided. Please scan the QR code on the attached flyer to register.</p> <p>For more information: 02 8776 1667 or www.willowtreefunerals.com.au</p>	Click to download flyer
Continuing <i>Express your interest now!</i>	<p>World Youth Day – Seoul 2027</p> <p>World Youth Day is returning in August 2027- and this time it's heading to Seoul, South Korea! WYD is an unforgettable celebration of faith with millions of young Catholics from around the world, and we're excited to begin preparing a diocesan pilgrimage. If you (or someone you know) will be 18–35 years old in August 2027 and would love to experience the vibrancy of the universal Church, a new culture, and a life-changing encounter with Christ, we'd love to hear from you.</p> <p>Register your expression of interest: dow.sh/wyd27</p> <p><i>Let's start the journey!</i></p>	
NEW	<p>Seeking Peace and Healing? CatholicCare Counselling Can Help</p> <p>Life's burdens can feel heavy, but you are not alone. CatholicCare offers professional counselling rooted in compassion and guided by the values of faith and hope. Whether you are facing family challenges, relationship struggles, grief, or personal concerns, our counsellors walk with you on the path to healing and renewal.</p> <p>Reach out today and let us walk with you: Call (02) 4254 9395 or visit http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au</p>	
Continuing	<p>Wollongong's Old RC Burial Ground Revisited</p> <p>After 20 years of exhaustive research, Wendy Nunan's 720-page, hard covered book on Andrew Lysaght Park (Wollongong's original RC Burial Ground) will be published early 2026. Read about the history of the former cemetery, now mostly beneath WIN Stadium and Entertainment Centre, and the lives of the 400 Pioneers believed to have been buried therein, most between 1830 and the late 1870s. Pre-publication orders are now being taken at a discount price of \$110 (RRP \$125). For more details contact Wendy on wich53@gmail.com or on 42570042.</p>	

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Continuing	<p>New Study Opportunities at the Notre Dame Study Centre, Oran Park</p> <p>The University of Notre Dame Australia is now offering a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Primary Education through the Notre Dame Study Centre at Oran Park.</p> <p>The Reach Higher Program supports students from rural, regional, and remote areas with scholarships, flexible study options, and community engagement opportunities.</p> <p>For more information, please refer to the flyers or contact education@nd.edu.au</p>	<p>Click to download flyer</p> <p>Bachelor of Primary Education</p> <p>Bachelor of Commerce</p>
Continuing	<p>Immaculata Mission School 2026</p> <p>What is it? A wonderful opportunity to grow in faith through daily Mass, Adoration and times of prayer, fantastic Catholic speakers (including international speakers Steve and Katey Norman from Renewal Ministries), share groups, fun activities, friendship and lots more.</p> <p>What is the theme? "Our Father" - join us and go deeper in God's goodness and love!</p> <p>When is it? 1-7 Jan for youth and young adults (14 years and up); 1-5 Jan for married couples and families (includes children's ministry)</p> <p>Where is it? Armidale, NSW</p> <p>For costs, more information and to register visit www.immaculata.org.au/ims</p> <p>Registrations close 23 Dec, early-bird prices finish 30 November</p>	<p>Click to download flyer</p>
Continuing	<p>The Journey – Your Diocesan Weekly Podcast</p> <p>The Journey is the weekly podcast for parishioners in the Diocese of Wollongong. Each week it brings you great music, formation in faith, with an array of fantastic presenters from our Diocese and around Australia. Just go to www.jcr.org.au and we will send it to you each week.</p>	<p>www.jcr.org.au.</p>
Continuing	<p>Jamberoo Abbey Crafts & Gifts this Advent</p> <p>Prepare your hearts and homes for the coming of the Lord with beautiful Advent candles and wreaths handmade by the Benedictine Nuns of Jamberoo Abbey.</p> <p>Their Abbey Candles Online Shop offers a range of Advent wreaths, carved candles, as well as a variety of spiritual and liturgical resources — perfect for personal devotion or parish use. By purchasing from Jamberoo Abbey, you support the prayerful life and work of the Sisters.</p> <p>Shop online: jamberooabbey.org.au/shop</p> <p>Enquiries: 02 4236 0011 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri)</p> <p>Abbey Shop open: Mon–Sat, 9.30am–3.30pm</p>	<p>Click to download flyer</p>

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DATE CLAIMER	<p>Stouthearted men's program- coming in 2026</p> <p>Stouthearted is a new Jesus centred men's program designed to meet a desperate need in men. It's an 8-week program that draws from well-known experts, shares powerful teachings and models real world conversations. Stouthearted fosters learning, discussion, prayer, reflection, healing and builds essential practical strategies. In addition to the main sessions, there are short daily reflections that include video input, bible study, and self-reflection.</p> <p>The Stouthearted program will be running in Wollongong in 2026, starting on Monday 2 February and finishing on the last Monday of March. Register now: dow.sh/stouthearted</p>	Click to download brochure
NEW	<p>A vocation view: Mary trusted that the Lord's words to her would be fulfilled. Step out in faith and God will be there to guide you. (Luke 1:39-44) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au</p>	
Continuing	<p>Hear from Pope Leo XIV</p> <p>Sunday Echo is a limited-release resource the Diocese has developed that contains, using the Holy Father's most recent homily or reflection and accompanying discussion questions. Each issue will be released the day after Pope Leo XIV gives a homily or reflection on the most recent Sunday Gospel readings go to https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/ to access or sign up to have sent straight to you.</p>	
Continuing	<p>Want your community to grow? Try Faith Circles</p> <p>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 www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/ or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.</p>	
Continuing	<p>Social Justice Points</p> <p>"Embrace forgiveness. Focus on forgiveness and reconciliation. Highlight the sacrament of Penance as a pathway to spiritual healing and renewal." - <i>Spes non Confundit</i></p>	

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Continuing	<p>A Gift to the Church in your Will.... will help</p>  <p>(Note to Parish Secretaries: To access this image click here)</p>	
Continuing	<p>Cathedral Books & Gifts Wollongong</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Operating hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10am – 2pm</p> <p>Entry via 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong.</p> <p>For any enquiries, please contact 4222 2484</p>	
Continuing	<p>An invitation to join electronic parish planned giving from your Parish Finance Council</p> <p>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 Continuing or restart your monthly gift at any time.</p> <p>Please visit https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/parishgiving/ to learn of the four simple ways you can support our parish electronic</p>	
Continuing	<p>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.</p>  <p>STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND THE DIOCESE: cymw.org.au</p> 	

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Continuing	<p>Go Deeper in your Faith with popular & FREE Catholic Podcasts</p> <p>Catechism in a Year</p> <p>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</p> <p>Bible in a Year</p> <p>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</p>	