

BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2025/44
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Date:	17 November 2025	For weekend:	22 – 23 November 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 formation courses, youth events, walks, camping and jubilee events – too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin to see everything that is on around our Diocese!	
Don't Miss Out – Be Part of the Launch	Diocese of Wollongong Men's Prayer Breakfast Launch Friday, 28 November 6:30am-8am Guest Speaker: Peter Abela Xavier Conference Room, 38 Harbour St Wollongong Enjoy a breakfast buffet, prayer and inspiring guest speaker input Be supported and inspired by other men, seeking to be authentic disciples on mission. RSVP: Monday, 17 November dow.sh/mpb25 Cost: \$20 <i>The Men's Prayer Breakfast Series is organised by the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation and menALIVE in the Diocese of Wollongong</i>	Click to download flyer
UPDATE	Australian Catholic Youth Festival- update All formation sessions for both diocesan and school groups have now wrapped up as our pilgrims head into the final stage of preparation for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival- being held in Melbourne this year. There are over 6000 people from all over Australia registered for the festival and around 150 attending that will be representing the Diocese of Wollongong. Please keep our pilgrims and group leaders in your prayers as we embark on this journey of faith, hope and being immersed in the wider Catholic community. Please follow @CYMWDOW on the socials if you would to see regular updates.	

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Continuing	Formation For Instituted Ministries of Acolyte and Lector will take place at the Xavier Conference Centre Wollongong on 30 November 2025 from 9.30am to 1pm including the celebration of Eucharist in the Cathedral at 10.30am. To register: dow.sh/im25 .	
NEW	<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 Registrations close 23 Dec, early-bird prices finish 30 November</p>	Click to download flyer
NEW	<p>2025 Advent Retreat - From Eden to Bethlehem 9am - 5pm Saturday 13 December 2025 at Holy Family Parish Ingleburn - Parish Meeting Room Ret Retreat Facilitator: Charbel Raish</p> <p>From Eden to Bethlehem is a retreat day based on The Great Adventure Bible Timeline™ Learning System. The Bible Timeline™ Learning System ties all of Scripture together by following God's "family plan"... from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. With its unique color-coded system, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. A Life-Changing Approach to Scripture!</p> <p>Cost: Free (A donation for the retreat facilitator will be appreciated)</p> <p>Please contact the parish office for more information or visit hfi.org.au</p>	Click to download flyer
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 Enquiries: 02 4236 0011 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri) Abbey Shop open: Mon–Sat, 9.30am–3.30pm</p>	Click to download flyer

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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>	www.jcr.org.au
Continuing	<p>Advent Retreat – Pilgrims of Hope (30 Nov – 3 Dec 2025)</p> <p>All are invited to a prayerful retreat at the newly refurbished Milton Parish Guesthouse, facilitated by Fr Michael Dyer and the Milton Parish Formation Team. A beautiful way to prepare for Christmas and a prayerful conclusion to the Jubilee Year of Hope.</p> <p>Cost: \$300 (single), \$200 pp (twin share), \$30 (day only, no accommodation).</p> <p>To register and further details: Milton Parish 4455 1313 or milton@dow.org.au</p>	
Jubilee Year Event	<p>Jubilee Pilgrimage Day: Our Souls and Prayer</p> <p>The parish of Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow invites everyone to our final Jubilee Pilgrimage Day. The day will include a catechesis that will explore God’s plan for creation, the structure of the soul, and the essential role of prayer in leading us into the innermost chamber of our souls, where Christ our Bridegroom dwells.</p> <p>Taking place on Saturday, 6 December, the day begins with Mass at 10:00am, followed by the catechesis led by Elise Duval, a time of Eucharistic Adoration with opportunity for confession, and concludes with Benediction at 3:00pm.</p> <p>Please BYO lunch. Come and be renewed in God’s mercy and hope!</p>	
Jubilee Year Event	<p>Cathedral Jubilee Pilgrimage and Feast Day Celebration Saturday 6 December 2025 St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong</p> <p>As part of the Jubilee Year 2025, all are warmly invited to gather at the Cathedral for this special celebration. The revised program is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.00am – 12:00pm – Veneration of Relic of St Francis Xavier and Reconciliation • 12.10pm – Mass of St Francis Xavier Feast <p>See updated event details here: https://lumenchristi.org.au/celebrations/pilgrimage-and-feast-day Come, walk in faith and be renewed in hope.</p>	

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Continuing	<p>Advent Retreat - St Mary's Towers: 415 Douglas Park Drive, Douglas Park, 9:30am – 3:30pm Saturday 13 December 2025</p> <p>You are invited to a day of calm contemplation amongst the beautiful surroundings of St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre in Douglas Park. This is a day of embracing a slower pace, rekindling our inner journey, and enjoying time with like-minded others. The day will include sensory prayer walks, lectio divina, breathing meditation and praying through walking the labyrinth.</p> <p>Morning tea and lunch are included. Cost: \$60 (meals included)</p> <p>RSVP by 3 December: contact 0422 725 438 or christabelhoneysett@barnabasministries.org.au</p>	Click to download flyer
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
Continuing	<p>Caritas Australia's Global Gifts are Christmas Cards with purpose! Every card you buy helps build brighter futures for children, women and men experiencing hardship and poverty. By putting your compassion into action and shopping for the Global Gifts of your choice you will bring hope and joy to the world's most vulnerable and communities, while giving your loved ones a meaningful Christmas card.</p> <p>View the range of Global Gifts: caritas.org.au/global-gifts</p>	
NEW	<p>A vocation view:</p> <p>Our Lord Christ the King (23/11/2025)</p> <p>The Church needs shepherds. Pray that the bishops will lead us well and rely on the power of God. (2 Samuel 5:1-3) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au</p>	

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Continuing	<p>Understanding the Billings Ovulation Method®</p> <p>The Billings Ovulation Method® helps couples understand the natural signs of fertility and infertility. Through this knowledge, couples can plan their families in a way that is fully consistent with Catholic teaching—whether to achieve, space, or avoid pregnancy, or to improve their chances of conceiving if they are trying for a baby.</p> <p>This natural method encourages deeper communication and mutual respect within marriage, while supporting reproductive health through a simple, science-based approach that honours God’s design.</p> <p>For more information or to connect with a trained teacher, please contact: Liz Gandy 0457 298 823 or visit lizgandynaturopathy.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>A Gift to the Church in your Will.... will help</p> <div data-bbox="381 1520 1163 1917"> <p>A gift to the Church in your will ... <i>will help!</i></p> <p>The Church has been present at most of the important milestones in your life: your Baptism, your First Holy Communion, at times of great celebration and at times of great sadness. Its many ministries are far-reaching, life-giving and life-saving.</p> <p>By leaving a gift to the Church in your will, you will be leaving a legacy of faith to help ensure that the mission and pastoral outreach that has been important to you will continue, both for today's needs, and for those of our children, our grandchildren and beyond.</p> <p>For information about leaving a gift in your will to your local parish or a ministry of the Church, please visit dow.sh/legacy, call the diocesan representative on 4222 2446, or scan the QR code here ►</p>  </div> <p>(Note to Parish Secretaries: To access this image click here)</p>	

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NEW	Social Justice Points “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>	
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	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 Continuing or restart your monthly gift at any time. Please visit https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/parishgiving/ to learn of the four simple ways you can support our parish electronic	
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.	



STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS
HAPPENING AROUND THE DIOCESE:
cymw.org.au



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