

BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2026/17
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Date:	7 July 2026	For weekend:	11 – 12 July 2026

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	Sanctus – Unanderra Join us for Sanctus at Immaculate Conception, Unanderra on Wednesday 15 July 2026 . Sanctus is a monthly adoration night, bringing together youth and young adults for a night of prayer and community! Eucharistic Adoration (inc. Reconciliation & Vespers) on this night will be led by Fr Duane Fernandez from 6.30 – 7.30pm, followed by dinner afterwards at Unanderra Hotel. Come along to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and connect with other young people from the area.	
NEW	How To Raise Up Leaders - 21 & 22 July Every parish has people whom God is already calling and gifting for mission. Our next Formation Pathway session, Raising Up Leaders, will explore practical ways to recognise those gifts, invite people forward, entrust real responsibility, and form confident leaders without relying on the same few people. Participants will learn the difference between recruiting volunteers and raising leaders, along with a simple apprenticeship model for developing others. Join us at Campbelltown Catholic Club on Tuesday 21 July, 7–9pm , or via Zoom on Wednesday 22 July, 7–9pm . Registration is essential dow.sh/fpjuly2026	

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NEW	Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Feast Day Celebration Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Varroville warmly invites parishioners, families, friends, and visitors to join in celebrating their Parish Feast Day with prayer, fellowship, and community. The celebration begins with Novena Masses on 10, 13-17 July, 7:30 pm each evening; 11, 18 July 6:00 pm; 12 July 9:30am & 5:00pm as the parish prepares in prayer and devotion for the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The Solemnity Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, 19 July at 10:00 am, with Bishop Brian presiding. The Mass will be followed by a procession of the image of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and the distribution of the Brown Scapular. Following the procession, all are invited to the Parish Fiesta, featuring an international food festival (free of charge), live entertainment, and parish ministry and community stalls. Come and celebrate as one parish family in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and give thanks for the blessings of the parish community.	Click to download image
NEW	Eucharist28 Update – This is My Body, Given For You The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation. The theme for Eucharist28 is 'This is My Body, Given For You', which invites us to reflect on the words that Christ spoke as he instituted the Eucharistic Sacrifice. At each Mass, the priest repeats Jesus' words from the Last Supper, and the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. This miraculous change does not end with the gifts. As we receive the Body of Christ, we are transformed into the Body of Christ, carrying His presence into our homes, workplaces, schools, parishes and communities. Just as He gave His life for us, we too are called to offer our lives in sacrifice and service to God and to those around us. This national journey to Eucharist28 is an invitation for all of us to share in the breaking of the bread and allow Christ's presence to transform us. The journey begins now, in our own hearts and in our own parishes. For catechetical material to help your parish and community prepare for this moment, head to eucharist28.org/resources.	

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NEW	VOCARIS – Testimony Night: Young adults (18+) are invited to an profound evening of faith featuring the testimonies of a deacon (soon to be ordained priest), a religious sister and a married couple, each sharing the joy of discovering God's unique call in their lives. Join us on Saturday, 15 August, from 6:00pm–9:30pm at the Wilton Community Centre (25 minutes from Macarthur and Wollongong). Go to dow.sh/Vocaristestimony or use the QR code for more information or to register.	
NEW	Great Saints of Italy – Catholic Pilgrimage 21 September 2026 Join Fr Patrick Vaughan on a 12-day pilgrimage journey through Italy. Uncover the sacred heart of Italy — a land where a rich tapestry of faith, history, and culture comes alive. Walk where Saints walked, pray where miracles unfolded, and explore timeless villages nestled among the hills and countryside, each one a thread in this sacred story. Stand in awe before majestic cathedrals, walk beneath the frescoed heavens of the Sistine Chapel, and behold masterpieces born of divine inspiration. Let your soul be captured by the beauty, grace, and wonder of this unforgettable pilgrimage. For more information and bookings, please visit: https://www.harvestjourneys.com/tour/great-saints-of-italy/	
NEW	World Youth Day Seoul 2027 – Diocesan Pilgrimage Applications are now open for the Diocese of Wollongong's pilgrimage to World Youth Day Seoul 2027! If you're interested in joining thousands of young Catholics from around the world for this once-in-a-lifetime experience of faith, community and pilgrimage, visit dow.org.au/wyd27 for information on the itinerary, costs, travel arrangements and FAQs. Not ready to apply just yet? Join our mailing list at dow.sh/wyd27 to receive the latest updates and announcements.	
NEW	Marriage and Relationship Education CatholicCare's Marriage and Relationship Education support couples to strengthen and renew their relationship. Guided by experienced facilitators, you'll build connection through practical tools and shared learning. Choose Prepare for couples planning marriage or Enrich to deepen and strengthen your bond. To learn more or register, scan the QR code or call 1800 967 894	Click to download flyer

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Continuing	Ageing with Confidence What's age got to do with it? Join CatholicCare for a free community event with Dr Emily Steel (Australian Human Rights Commission) exploring ageism, dignity and practical ways to age well at home and in community. For older people, families and carers. Campbelltown: Friday 22 July 9am–1pm at Campbelltown Catholic Club, 20/22 Camden Road, Campbelltown NSW 2560 Free event – registration essential	Click to download flyer
DATE CLAIMER	Men's Prayer Breakfast, Friday 21 August 2026 6:30am–8:00am Speaker: Peter Gilmore "The Power of Vision" Xavier Conference Centre, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong Join other men for a morning of breakfast, prayer and inspiring input from our Guest Speaker, Peter Gilmore. Be inspired and strengthened as you connect with others seeking to live as authentic disciples on mission. Book here dow.sh/MPB26 by Tuesday 18 august <i>The Men's Prayer Breakfast Series is organised by the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation and menALIVE in the Diocese of Wollongong</i>	
NEW	Homecoming Silent Retreat 28 – 30 August Carmel House, Varroville <i>"His father saw him, ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." Lk 15: 20</i> Your heavenly Father waits for you to come away with him for a weekend of silently soaking in his great love for you. Embrace this opportunity for encountering deep peace and serenity. This retreat is for men and women aged 18+. Hosted by the MGL Sisters. Choose from a weekend retreat or extend your time with a 5-day retreat option. w/e: https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBK extended: https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBU	Click to download flyer
NEW	Cursillo Diocesan Women's Encounter, Thursday 10 September to Sunday 13 September 2026 Carmel House Varroville Cursillo is a life changing experience providing a method to support and nurture our faith journey and enable us to live vibrant Gospel oriented lives. The weekend will include talks, discussions fostering friendship, daily Mass, spiritual direction, good music, fun and laughter. Cost: \$320 (payment options available) covers all meals, accommodation, resources and activities. Enquiries: Shirley Parker 0431 513 109 cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com dow.sh/cursillo	

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Continuing	2026 Significant Marriage Anniversaries Mass If you are celebrating 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or over 60 years of marriage this year, you are warmly invited to the Significant Marriage Anniversaries, celebrated with Bishop Brian Mascord on Sunday 6 September 2026 at 2pm at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong. Mass will be followed by light refreshments in the Xavier Centre Conference Room. Registration is essential and must be completed online at dow.sh/ma26 by no later than Monday, 17 August 2026. Any enquiries please email Helen Bennett helen.bennett@dow.org.au	
UPDATED	Jubilee of St Francis Warrawong and Thirroul parishes warmly welcome pilgrimage groups to visit them during the Jubilee Year of St Francis. A plenary indulgence is available, under the usual conditions, to all the faithful "who, with a heart detached from sin, participate in the Year of Saint Francis by visiting, in the form of a pilgrimage, any Franciscan conventual church or place of worship anywhere in the world dedicated to Saint Francis" (Decree, 10 January 2026). Both parishes will be celebrating the Feast of St Francis with speciales Mass on Sunday 4 October 2026. Please contact the parish/es to arrange a time for your group's visit.	
Continuing	The Journey – Your Diocesan Weekly Podcast 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.	www.jcr.org.au
Continuing	Caritas Australia Ukraine Emergency Appeal Caritas Australia is urging the Australian community not to look away as the war in Ukraine continues for a fifth straight year. As violence escalates in other parts of the world, Ukraine is slipping from headlines, but for millions of people the suffering has not stopped. In 2026, an estimated 10.8 million people in Ukraine will require humanitarian assistance. Caritas Australia's local partners in Ukraine are providing emergency shelter, water, food assistance, psychosocial support and cash assistance to displaced families. Learn more or make a donation today at www.caritas.org.au/ukraine	
Continuing	Catholic Chaplaincy at UOW UOW students and staff are warmly invited to become involved with the UOW Catholic Society. Join us for Mass and lunch, 12:30pm Thursdays during semester in the Building 11 Clubs Room. See @uowcathsoc on social media to find out more.	

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Continuing	Medjugorje Pilgrimage - Vatican Approved Harvest Journeys COMMENCES MONDAY 31 August 2026 Queen of Peace - 8 Days / 7 Nights. Medjugorje (7 Nights) • Dubrovnik day. Optional 4-night post-tour extension to Rome. Accompanied by: Fr Joseph Pothenparampil For full details, including itinerary and booking information, please Click to download brochure	Click to download brochure
NEW	A vocation view: Make your heart ready to receive the Word of God sown through the Mass and Sacraments in the Church. (Isaiah 55:10-11) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au	
Continuing	Counselling at CatholicCare Feeling overwhelmed or finding things difficult? CatholicCare's team of counsellors are here for you. Our caring counsellors support children, adults, couples, and families through life's challenges. Appointments are available in-person, online, or by phone.	Click to download flyer
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 www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles/ or have it sent to you each month via email subscription.	
Continuing	A Gift to the Church in your Will.... will help A gift to the Church in your will ... <i>will help!</i> 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. 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. 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 ►  (Note to Parish Secretaries: To access this image click here)	

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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	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 	
Continuing	Go Deeper in your Faith with popular & FREE Catholic Podcasts 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 Bible in a Year Ascension Press is running the global hit Catholic Bible in a Year Podcast featuring Fr Mike Schmitz. It is the world's leading religious podcast, now with over 1 billion downloads worldwide. A new episode is released every day, but you can listen entirely at your own pace! It is never too late to catch up or start your journey. Sign up to download your free reading plan at Ascension Press BIY.	