CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
WOLLONGONG

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
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:2026/24
Phone:	4222 2403	**Email:**	Helen.bennett@dow.org.au
Date:	19 October 2026	**For weekend:**	24 – 25 October 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 ***REGISTER NOW***	**FORMATION PATHWAY: Watch Your Language! – Words That Shape Culture** Could the words we use be holding back parish renewal? Join us as we explore how everyday language shapes our beliefs, behaviours and parish culture, with practical workshops and an open Q&A on all things parish renewal. **Tuesday 3 November: Campbelltown** **Wednesday 4 November: Wollongong or Zoom** **Time: 7–9 pm** **Register:** dow.sh/fpnov26	
NEW	**Men's Prayer Breakfast, Friday 20 Nov 2026 | 6:30am–8:00am** **Speaker: Robert Haddad "Battle Ready"** **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/MPBNov26 by Wednesday 18 November ***The Men's Prayer Breakfast Series is organised by the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation and menALIVE in the Diocese of Wollongong***	

Status	Bulletin notice	Attachment(s)
NEW	**"Alive" Family Retreat Day** The **MGL Sisters** warmly welcome you and your family to the **"Alive" Family Retreat Day** to unleash the power of the Holy Spirit. Discover as a family your unique mission and how to live with boldness and love! This interactive retreat is designed for all ages to enjoy together. **When:** 9:00am – 4:00pm on **Saturday, 14 November 2026** **Where:** Beginning with **9:00am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish** (Varroville), then moving to the **parish hall** for a day of inputs and activities. **Meals:** Please **bring your own lunch and snacks** to safely accommodate your family's specific dietary needs and preferences. Further information and Registration: trybooking.com?DIDCJ	
NEW	**Diocesan Annual Catechist Mass** All active and retired SRE Catechists and those involved in the Sacramental preparation of children are warmly invited to the **Annual Catechist Mass and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, 21 November at 10am at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong**. Join Bishop Brian Mascord, for this celebration, followed by a light refreshment. To register: visit **dow.sh/cm26** or scan the QR Code or contact helen.bennett@dow.org.au for more information.	
Continuing ***REGISTER NOW***	**Vocaris Youth October 2026** Do you have a high school-aged young person who you would love to see grow in their faith, discover the beauty of the Catholic faith and make like-minded friends? Then they won't want to miss **VOCARIS Youth -** a free, fun and faith-filled day for students in Years 7-12 on **Saturday, 31 October, 10:00am-3:00pm at Wilton Community Centre**, featuring a Cookie Station, Sausage Sizzle Lunch and Ice Cream Topping Bar! **For more information or to register, visit dow.sh/VocarisYouth or scan the QR code.**	
Continuing	**BEACHHOUSE – A Post-School Getaway for Year 12 Graduates** Finishing Year 12 can bring big changes. BEACHHOUSE is a relaxed three-day beach house experience helping school leavers build faith, friendship and community as they begin life beyond school. 📍 Jesuit Villa House, Gerroa 🗓️ 16–18 February 2027 💲 $275 (includes accommodation & meals) 👥 Year 12 graduates ⚠️ Only 20 places available A chance to slow down, connect with other young Catholics and start the next chapter well. More details & registration: dow.sh/beachhouse	

Status	Bulletin notice	Attachment(s)
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.
NEW	**A Vocation View** **Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (25/10/26)** "You turned from idols to serve the living and true God." Destroy the false gods in your life which prevent you from serving the one true God. (1 Thess. 1:10) **Solemnity of All Saints (1/11/26)** God has created us for some definite purpose, for mission, a vocation. Ultimately, we are called to be saints. (1 John 3:1-3) If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at vocations@dow.org.au	
Continuing	**Survey of Catholic Couples** The Australian Catholic Bishops want to hear about the experience of Catholics in their first 10 years of marriage. The information gathered will help inform the development of pastoral responses and resources for this vital stage of married life. Any couple married in the last 10 years, where at least one spouse is Catholic, can contribute their valuable insights via **https://thepmrc.org/survey**. All answers are anonymous and confidential, and participants can contact the researchers directly with any questions via the survey link. Your contributions would be highly valued.	
Continuing	**Understanding the Billings Ovulation Method®** 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 or to postpone pregnancy. 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. For more information or to connect with a trained teacher, please contact: Liz Gandy 0457 298 823 or visit lizgandynaturopathy.au	
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.	

Status	Bulletin notice	Attachment(s)
Continuing	**The Tribunal of the Catholic Church** In 2015, Pope Francis wrote that "charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her." The Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney, which has an Office in the Diocese of Wollongong, is a service of the Church to assist with the pastoral care of Catholics and non-Catholics who are civilly divorced, and who are seeking to remarry or who want clarification of their standing in the Church. The Tribunal also assists remarried persons seeking to have their current marriage recognised in the Church, and remarried persons wishing to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church. Any divorced person, or a divorced and remarried person is welcome to contact the Wollongong Office of the Tribunal to obtain further information, or to have their status within the Church clarified. Brochures are available at the back of the church in the notice board area. The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on 42222409 or tribunal@dow.org.au	
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**  *(Note to Parish Secretaries: To access this image click here)*	

Status	Bulletin notice	Attachment(s)
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	**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	**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.	