

BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2026/18
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Date:	20 July 2026	For weekend:	25 – 26 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!	
REGISTER ASAP	Renewed & Sent: Parish Renewal Summit Bishop Brian Mascord invites you to the Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit, to be held at St Gregory's College, Campbelltown, from 1–3 October 2026. Join clergy, religious, lay leaders, ministry volunteers and parishioners from across the Diocese of Wollongong for three days of inspiring keynote presentations, practical workshops, prayer, and opportunities to connect with others who share a passion for the future of our parishes. This opportunity aligns with Bishop Brian Mascord's <i>Come & See, Go & Make: A Vision for Parishes</i>, helping us to grow as communities where people encounter Jesus, become his disciples, and are sent to share the Gospel. Whether you come on your own or as part of a parish team, you'll leave encouraged, inspired, and equipped with practical ideas to help your parish grow in faith, mission, and community. For the full program and registrations, visit renewedandsent.com.au.	

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NEW	National Vocations Awareness Week – and <i>Vocaris</i> for Young Adults National Vocations Awareness Week takes place from 2 - 9 August: a time for every one of us to be renewed in our commitment to living out our Christian vocation or “calling”, which begins in baptism and is then lived out through ordained ministry, religious life, marriage or the single life. The next <i>Vocaris</i> event will provide a unique opportunity for young adults (18+) to learn more about responding to the call of Jesus, on Saturday August 15th from 6:00pm–9:30pm at the Wilton Community Centre, 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. Go to dow.sh/Vocaristestimony or use the QR code for more information or to register. <i>If you would like to discuss your vocation, contact Fr Duane Fernandez, Vocations Director, at vocations@dow.org.au</i>	
NEW	Catechist Creative Resource Days - In-service Build up your confidence in storytelling and create anticipation in your lessons using simple visual items and techniques. Join us to "Have fun with Felt" and share resources for Mary MacKillop's Feast and much more. Morning Tea will be provided. WOLLONGONG: 27 July Mon 10am to 1:30pm, Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour St ROSEMEADOW: 31 July Fri 10am-1:30, Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Meeting Room, 80 Demetrius Rd click here to register for either venue of the creative resource day	
NEW	CCD Level 1 Catechist Course (Term 3) via Zoom starts on Monday 3 August for five Mondays. Dates: Mondays, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, August (via Zoom) Time: 9:30am - 1:30pm. Beginning and experienced SRE Catechists are invited to register by following these links: click here for CCD Level 1 Course Aug 2026 Please note the first day of the training includes Safeguarding and Classroom Management training updates that must be revisited by SRE Catechists every three years. click here for Safeguarding Update 3 Aug 2026 Enquiries: Contact Sue Clark at support@ccdwoollongong.com.	

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NEW	The Confessions of St Augustine – A Timeless Spiritual Classic The Milton Parish Formation Team warmly invites parishioners, friends and members of the wider Diocese to participate in a special four-part presentation series on The Confessions of St Augustine, led by Bishop David Walker. Bishop David has generously agreed to lead these sessions and, as a specialist in Christian classics, has facilitated inspiring workshops and retreats on these works for many years. Participants will be blessed by Bishop David's knowledge, wisdom and prayerful reflection as he explores this timeless spiritual classic. The presentations will be held via Zoom on Wednesday evenings throughout August from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm: 5, 12, 19 and 26 August At the first session, Bishop David will introduce The Confessions. Between each Zoom gathering, participants will be invited to read sections of the text with the guidance of weekly handouts. Those who would like to gather together for the Zoom sessions are welcome to attend at the Parish Guest House, followed by a simple pot-luck dinner. Alternatively, participants may choose to join from the comfort of their own homes. All are warmly invited to participate and to extend this invitation to family, friends and members of other parishes. There is no registration fee. Copies of The Confessions are available for purchase (\$30). To enrol and receive the weekly Zoom links, please contact: Lynne Kelly Email: lmkelly40@bigpond.com Phone: 0407 540 263 or contact the Milton Parish Office milton@dow.org.au 4455 1313	
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>	

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NEW	EUCCHARIST28 – Adore & Pray In preparation for the International Eucharistic Congress 2028, join us for an overnight prayer vigil before Jesus, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, at St Joseph's Parish, Bulli. Friday, 14 August 7.30 pm – Vigil Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary • Taizé Chant (led by Gabriella) • All-night Prayer Vigil with Jesus Youth, including Rosary, Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross and quiet prayer. • Supper will be available in the parish hall. Those wishing to do so are welcome to bring a plate to share. Saturday, 15 August 7.30 am – Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. <i>Everyone is warmly invited to join us for all or part of the vigil.</i>	
Continuing	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/	
Continuing	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.	

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Continuing	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
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	
Continuing	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	
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.	

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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	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.	
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
Continuing	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
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.	

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Continuing	A Gift to the Church in your Will.... will help  <i>(Note to Parish Secretaries: To access this image click here)</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	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.	