




BULLETIN NOTICES

From:	Mr Jude Hennessy	Ref:	JH/hb:2026/13
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Date:	4 May 2026	For weekend:	8 – 9 May 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	<p>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!</p>	
NEW	<p>Formation Pathway: Small Group Community</p> <p>Many people quietly wonder, "If I didn't turn up today, would anyone even notice?" Following on from last month's formation on Meaningful Community, this session will explore how small-group community helps people move from simply attending parish life to being known, supported, formed, and drawn deeper into faith.</p> <p>We will look at why smaller communities matter in parish renewal and explore practical models including Faith Circles, Connect Groups, and faith and life sharing groups.</p> <p>Tuesday 2 June, Campbelltown Wednesday 3 June, Wollongong and Zoom 7:00–9:00pm Register: dow.sh/fpjune2026</p>	
NEW	<p>VOCARIS Young Adult Night (18+)</p> <p>Join us on Saturday 16 May, 6:00–9:30pm at Wilton Community Centre for a soul-quenching evening of faith, community, and fun! Enjoy a practical session on building a prayer life and the sacraments, delicious cinnamon scrolls, and a lively trivia night.</p> <p>To Register dow.sh/VocarisPrayerLife OR via the QR Code to secure your spot!</p>	


Status	Bulletin notice	Attachment(s)
<p>NEW</p>	<p>“Ephphatha: Be Opened!” Calling young men 18-35 years old</p> <p>How can we become more open to discovering God’s plan in our daily lives? How do we know if we are called to marriage, priesthood or religious life? There are many opportunities now available through the Vocations and Youth Ministries of our Diocese, for young people to grow in faith and encourage each other. This is the first young men’s discernment event, for all unmarried young men aged 18-35 to join Bishop Brian Mascord, the priests of the Vocations Team and our Seminarians for lunch, formation, Q&A, one to one chats and Eucharistic Adoration. Register as soon as you can!</p> <p>Where: St Therese Parish, 2 Powell Street West Wollongong When: Saturday 13 June, 12:30pm for 1pm lunch Cost: Free, but registration is essential – through this QR code or go to dow.sh/Ephphatha</p>	
<p>NEW</p>	<p>Join us for the next Catholic Business Connections event which will feature Stan Grant as the Guest Speaker Topic: Privacy of faith and the public nature of its expression</p>  <p>RSVP: Wednesday 17 June 2026 <i>Free admission for CBC Members (\$150 for Non-members (incl. GST))</i></p>	 <p>For Parish Info only: Any enquiries please contact Debbie Gates debbiegates@dow.org.au</p>



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NEW	<p>Mission Mindset Retreat</p> <p>What does it mean to be on mission? To live this out in our everyday lives? We are all called to mission, wherever we are and whatever we are doing. We're blessed to have experts in mission- NET Ministries Australia & New Zealand join us as they lead a time of retreat and reflection to orient us towards mission in the everyday.</p> <p>The retreat will include times of prayer and silence, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass, fellowship and activities. Details: When: Fri 5 June 5pm- Sat 6 June 3pm Where: St Mary's Towers, Douglas Park Cost: \$150 (includes lodging for the night + all meals) For who: Young Adults 18-35 and Year 11-12 students (Saturday only)</p> <p>Spots are very limited. Register here: dow.sh/missionmindset</p>	
NEW	<p>Ignite Conference Sydney 2026</p> <p>Every year, Ignite Youth hosts one of Australia's most powerful Catholic youth conferences. Ignite Conference draws together a network of high schoolers, young adults, ministry leaders, families, teachers, priests and religious from around the country, forming them and sending them out with a passion for mission and authentic faith in Jesus.</p> <p>Catholic Youth Ministry Wollongong will once again lead a cohort of youth and young adults to the conference at a subsidised price. If you'd like to be part of the group or would like more details, please contact youth@dow.org.au or visit igniteconference.com.au.</p> <p>When: Fri 9 July 5pm- Sun 12 June 1pm Where: Light of Christ Centre/St Leo's College, Wahroonga Cost: \$220- subsidised conference ticket, accommodation cost TBC For who: High school aged students & Young Adults (18-35)</p>	
NEW	<p>National Families Week: FREE Parenting Session - Emotion Coaching</p> <p>Join us for a free session to help you support your child through life's changes and better understand their emotions. We'll cover Dr Gottman's Emotion Coaching, the benefits of emotion coaching, and practical emotional regulation examples.</p> <p>Day: Thursday 14 May Time: 5.30pm - 7.30pm Location: Online via Zoom Scan the QR code to register</p>	<p>Click to download flyer</p> 
<i>Join us and Don't Miss out</i>	<p>Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekends</p> <p>Registrations are now open for our next CCFC Weekend planned for Friday 15 - Sunday 17 May. Join with families from across the Diocese for a relaxed weekend of family fun, faith and food! For more information and to register go to: dow.sh/familycamping26</p>	<p>Click here to download poster</p>

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NEW	<p>Eucharistic Formation Opportunity</p> <p>Join the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation for Rediscover the Real Presence, a FREE four-part Zoom series exploring Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. Three sessions feature a FORMED.org video series, with a final deep dive into the riches of the Church's teaching on the Eucharist. Each session includes opportunities to reflect on the content and to connect with other participants. This series is a great means to assist you in your journey towards the International Eucharistic Congress 2028. The series will run on Zoom Tuesdays, 7:00–8:15pm, from 26 May to 16 June. Register here: tinyurl.com/RRPZoomSeries</p>	
Register Today	<p>Men's Prayer Breakfast, Friday 22 May 2026 6:30am–8:00am</p> <p>Speaker: Ben Galea, Chief Operating Officer for the International Eucharistic Congress. Topic: Historic Eucharistic Congress 2028</p> <p>Xavier Conference Centre, 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong</p> <p>Join other men for a morning of breakfast, prayer and inspiring input from our Guest Speaker, Ben Galea.</p> <p>Be inspired and strengthened as you connect with others seeking to live as authentic disciples on mission. Cost is just \$20.</p> <p>Book here dow.sh/MPB26 by Tuesday 19 May</p> <p><i>The Men's Prayer Breakfast Series is organised by the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation and menALIVE in the Diocese of Wollongong</i></p>	
Continuing	<p>Mary Help of Christians Walk for Life</p> <p>Friday 22 May & Saturday 23 May 2026</p> <p>We walk to raise PRAYERS for Australia for all life issues - the elimination of abortion, euthanasia, suicide, family breakdown, and to pray for Australia's Government. You are warmly welcome to join us on one or both days. B.Y.O Lunch, snacks, water, hat, money for dinner. Support vehicle provided all the way. Shuttle cars return pilgrims to point of departure on both days.</p> <p>Day 1:</p> <p>Start 9:30am Kiama Catholic Church (Holy Mass)</p> <p>Finish 3:30pm Gerringong Catholic Church (<i>Benediction, confession, all night adoration. Option to sleep in tearoom (girls), or Kiama Hall (boys) or own tent on church grounds, or to go home and return.</i>)</p> <p>Day 2:</p> <p>Start 7:30am Gerringong Catholic Church (Holy Mass)</p> <p>Lunch: 2pm Shoalhaven Heads (<i>then Shuttle bus Crookhaven Heads</i>)</p> <p>Finish 5:30pm Culburra Church (Holy Mass, optional Club dinner)</p> <p>BENEFITS: Mass. Prayer. Hymns. Gregorian Choir. Exercise. Spectacular scenery. Joyful fellowship. Blessings in abundance.</p> <p>For information contact Sue Hill, 0435 336 195, Gabriella De Battista, 0414 205 404</p>	

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Continuing	<p>Sanctus – Unanderra</p> <p>Join us for <i>Sanctus</i> at Immaculate Conception, Unanderra on Wednesday 20 May 2026.</p> <p>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.</p>	
Continuing	<p>Ascend – A night of Worship and Encounter</p> <p>Join us for an evening of incredible music, singing, prayer and praise. Led by experienced worship leader Louisa Daniels. Adoration, Prayer Ministry and Reconciliation will be part of the night. Everyone is invited!</p> <p>When: Saturday 16 May 2026 Time: 7pm - 9pm Where : St John the Evangelist Campbelltown Hall FREE ENTRY: A pay-it-forward collection will be taken on the night. To Register: Ascendworshipnight</p>	
Continuing	<p>Corpus Christi Retreat – Sunday 7 June</p> <p>As we prepare for the Eucharistic Congress, join with people from across the Diocese for a retreat to deepen your love of the Eucharist. St Joachim Hall, Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow from 11:00am–3:30pm (Following 10:00am Mass / Lunch provided) Open to adults (ages 14–17 with parent/guardian). For more information or to register go to dow.sh/corpuschristi26</p>	
Continuing	<p>Billings Ovulation Fertility for Medical Professionals and Students</p> <p>Short Course introducing participants to the science underpinning the Billings Ovulation Method®. Attendance at 2 day Short Course (11 CPD hours total) will give participants sufficient knowledge to give women an overview of the Billings Ovulation Method® of natural fertility regulation.</p> <p>Fri 15 & Sat 16 May</p> <p>Register at https://events.humanitix.com/billings-ovulation-method-short-course</p> <p>CALL: 1800 335 860 for further information</p> <p>EMAIL to: jennykelly@thebillingsovulationmethod.org</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>	www.jcr.org.au

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Continuing	<p>OneSydney Together in Christ - A Historic Celebration As One Sunday 14 June 2026 Sydney Opera House (Concert Hall)</p> <p>You are invited to be part of an ecumenical evening of prayer and unity. Christians from Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Anglican, Protestant, Evangelical and Pentecostal traditions will gather as one on Australia's most iconic stage — the Sydney Opera House. programme includes Dr Mary Healy, Matt Maher, Fr Rob Galea, and many more.</p> <p>Click here for more information and to register</p>	<p>Click here to download flyer</p>
Continuing	<p>Spiritual & Pastoral Care Training</p> <p>Interested in growing your capacity to be fully present to others? An Introductory 40 Hour Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) course is being offered online via Zoom and would be suitable for kind and caring people wanting to learn more about providing holistic spiritual and pastoral care to patients in hospital, residents in aged care facilities, attendees at school or people in the parish.</p> <p>Applications are currently being taken for this 40-hour course commencing on Thursday, 18 June 2026, comprising 6 sessions ending on 23 July 2026. Times are 9.30 am to 4 pm. Dates are June 18, 25, July 2, 9, 16, and 23.</p> <p>For more information about this course and future courses please contact Carmen Karauda at ckarauda@gmail.com or phone: 0419 430 676</p>	<p>Click to download flyer</p>
NEW	<p>Caritas Australia Lebanon Emergency Appeal</p> <p>The situation in Lebanon remains extremely fragile, and civilians urgently need humanitarian support. More than 2,000 people have been killed and over 1.1 million people displaced nationwide, including more than 390,000 children. Our partners Caritas Lebanon continue to deliver emergency food, water, shelter and health support across the country, maintaining humanitarian convoys to hard-to-reach areas in southern Lebanon.</p> <p>Stand with the people of Lebanon today. Learn more or make a donation today at www.caritas.org.au/lebanon</p>	
Continuing	<p>Marriage Enrichment Weekend</p> <p>We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 19-21 June 2026 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Mount Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney.</p> <p>Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au</p>	

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Continuing	<p>Medjugorje Pilgrimage - Vatican Approved Harvest Journeys</p> <p>COMMENCES MONDAY 31 August 2026</p> <p>Queen of Peace - 8 Days / 7 Nights.</p> <p>Medjugorje (7 Nights) • Dubrovnik day. Optional 4-night post-tour extension to Rome. Accompanied by: Fr Joseph Photehnpampil</p> <p>For full details, including itinerary and booking information, please Click to download brochure</p>	<p>Click to download brochure</p>
Continuing	<p>Catholic Chaplaincy at UOW</p> <p>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.</p> <p>See @uowcathsoc on social media to find out more.</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="384 1615 1139 1977" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">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><i>(Note to Parish Secretaries: To access this image click here)</i></p>	

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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. Operating hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10am – 2pm Entry via 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. 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> <div data-bbox="384 1265 1267 1424" style="text-align: center;">  <p>STAY UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND THE DIOCESE: cymw.org.au</p>  </div>	
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>	