

Contact us

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Mass times

Diocese of Wollongong Mass Online

For all of the online Mass options- please visit the
DoW website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>



ALPHA Launch night set for August 3 will be postponed until the Church has opened again.
At the moment, we are hoping October will be suitable.

CONFIRMATION Classes have been postponed until the church has opened again. The date for Confirmation will be set when the Bishop is available. The families who have registered will be notified by email.

THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

Pope Francis on 8 December 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde (With a Father's Heart)*, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. You are encouraged to visit the ACBC year of St Joseph page at <https://www.catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

THE CHOSEN – A TV Series about Jesus – watch during lockdown!

The Chosen is a new 'free to view', television program that creatively presents the life of Christ and his followers. The shows are of the highest quality and is receiving acclaim around the world across denominations. Go to <https://watch.angelstudios.com/thechosen> to watch or get the free app for use on your phone / laptop via *The Chosen app*

CATHFAMILY

CATHFAMILY brings you a selection of activities, prayer rituals, crafts and recipes from their website to assist parents and grandparents in being the first educators in faith for their kids. Don't miss CathKids <https://cathfamily.org/activities/>

YEAR AMORIS LAETITIA FAMILY, 19 March 2021 – 26 June 2022

Pope Francis is encouraging the Church to enrich your understanding of the vocation marriage and the core role of family in the mission of the Church at <http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia.html>

Prayer intentions

For the sick & homebound: Carol Gonzales, Christabelle Adina, Gloria Gonzales Prudente, Allan & Kelvin Marquinez, Amelia Jimenez, John Ingster, Elizabeth Moore, Nelia Balingit, John Morgos, Greg Watson, Joe Spinnato, Susan Mella, Ron Allen, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Gabriel Gonzales, Francisco Carmona, Doreen Gribbons, Clayton Diack, Emily Rose Pavicin, Pat & Denise Furner, Tracey Bokor, Lily Pereira, Doris Wahhab, John Kajdrys, Erlinda Hermes, Aurelia Vertucio, Ofilia Mawson, Mary & Frances Raithi, Marie Atkins, Jeanna San Diego, Hugo Garzotto, Eileen Butcher, Josephina Duefries, Austin Taylor, Marisa Aguirre, Joan Wilson.

May they experience the saving power of the risen Lord amidst their pain & affliction.

For our recently dearly departed: Carter Por, Fr Peter Caruana, Claude Fricot, Uncle Leo McInerney

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Jeff Randal, Anne La Spina, Damien Champion, Frazer Toweel, Isabelo Sitjar,
Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.



YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021



Bulletin Notices



Can't find anything to watch on television?

Try a good book.

The Our Lady of Mount Carmel Book Club recommends:

Source and Summit – Joel Giallanza
\$9.95 from Pauline Books and Media or St Paul's Publications
Father Giallanza writes about the Eucharist using the ideas of 6 great spiritual guides from different periods.

Lectio: Evangelisation Course with Dr Mary Healy Beginning Thursday September 2 at 7:30pm- 9:00pm via Zoom. Using the Lectio Divina approach of reading, reflecting, responding, and contemplating, Dr. Mary Healy combines insightful biblical study with Church teaching and practical advice to show how modern Catholics can effectively impact their world for Jesus Christ. She explores topics such as the call of Jesus to evangelize, the power of the Sacraments, the role of charisms for building up the Body of Christ, techniques from St. Paul for reaching a secular culture, and more.

Using the Formed website, this course offers a fantastic opportunity to explore and deepen your faith through videos and small group sharing. Please contact: Donna Ransom, Alpha and Discipleship Coordinator donna.ransom@dow.org.au

ADORATION PRAYER with the Carmelite Missionaries
GOD BLESS US ALL IN OLMC PARISH! During the lockdown, this is our community's response to the request of the PPC to participate and deepen their prayer life through Adoration. You are invited to join **ADORATION PRAYER with the Carmelite Missionaries every Sunday at 6:30-7:30 PM.** Contact the parish office for the zoom link.

An invitation to join electronic parish planned giving. Given that none of us are able to attend Mass in our church, many who support our parish planned giving envelope program have asked how they can continue to financially support the parish. So, we respectfully encourage all parishioners to join our electronic parish planned giving program to help us ensure that we limit the financial pressure this current situation will impose on our parish. **Please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving/> to learn of the two simple ways you can give to our parish electronically.** This link has the bank account details for the Parish (second collection) and also the Carmelite Friars (first collection).

Importantly, we are mindful that some of our parishioners will sadly be experiencing a change in their financial circumstances. Please contact the **Parish Office on 0434705176** if you need to decrease/discontinue your planned giving contribution, but mainly to let us know how we can support you.

Caritas Australia: Your support is needed to help families caught up in the following crisis:

As the situations in Afghanistan and Lebanon deteriorate, In Afghanistan people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water,

shelter, and protection. In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine, and food.

Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights.

Haiti has bit hit and devastated by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake. Over 1,400 people have died, and thousands more left injured. Homes, churches, and schools have been damaged in the quake, and reports indicate that more than 30,000 families have been left homeless. The country also continues to grapple with COVID-19, poverty, and ongoing political instability and violence. There is immediate and urgent need for food, water, shelter, hygiene kits and first aid on the ground.

To provide support, you can donate to Caritas Australia's Emergency Response Appeal at <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/> or by calling 1800 024 413 toll free.

The Journey, Weekly Podcast: Greta to have Fr Mark De Battista breaking open the Gospel this week, a new segment from Fr Mike Delaney from Tasmania and a wonderful interview with Dr Sandie Cornish from the ACBC's Social Justice Council on this Year's Social Justice statement, "Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor". The Journey podcast available at www.jcr.org.au.

Plenary Council 2021: With just 39 days to Assembly One of the Plenary Council, you can keep up to date by accessing the Plenary Post on the Plenary Council website <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au> Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the first Assembly will be delivered online. Keep the up-to-date **PLENARY COUNCIL JOURNEY 2020-2022.**

CatholicCare - Have you thought about becoming a foster carer? We need foster carers who provide love, care and support to help these children thrive and reach their full potential. Carers receive comprehensive support from the Fostering Futures team to ensure they have a full range of resources and networks to nurture their forever home. Our team have over 30 years' experience helping carers give vulnerable children a loving home and a brighter future. You can find out more by calling **0418 783 956**, email fosteringfutures@catholiccare.dow.org.au or go to <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au> more information.

We're always here, if you ever need...

These are challenging times for everyone and CatholicCare are here to support you and your family to navigate the uncertainty. We offer confidential online and phone counselling to support you with the frustration of managing family emotions, relationship pressures and employment changes. To find out more about CatholicCare's counselling service call us on 4254 9395 or email intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au

Marriage Enrichment Weekend

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 September 10 - 12, 2021** for a Virtual Marriage Encounter Weekend via Zoom. Open to married couples, priests & religious. Book online at www.wvme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry

Holy Gospel according to Mark 7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.
The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.'

He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Gospel Reflection for Social Justice Sunday

There are many today who do not accept hard truths, who promote false news, and whose main concern is for their own power, comfort, gain, notoriety, celebrity, image, or profit. Truth is replaced with versions of reality that serve an agenda, or interpretations of events that make people less uncomfortable about their attitudes and choices. People, animals, and the earth can be rationalised as commodities to exploit, use, abuse, and discard. The desire to possess, dominate and consume disrupts the delicate balance and harmony needed to sustain healthy communities and ecosystems. Countries are increasingly referred to as economies, and the values of an often-grasping marketplace push to replace the intrinsic value and uniqueness of each integral part of God's sacred creation.

A sacramental vision of a dynamically connected, diverse, and inclusive universe is one that is rooted in the truth, goodness, and beauty of the Kingdom and Reign of God. As Christians, we are called to open and form our hearts in this radical and counter-cultural vision that expresses God's true law as part of a mutual and loving covenant relationship. Moses reminds the people of Israel and us today that there is wisdom and understanding in following God's law. Those who have opened and shaped their hearts to God's law of love see, hear, speak, and live the truth of this way of being and acting in the world every day. This contributes to God's Kingdom breaking through in the here and now.

The psalmist encourages people to stand firm in God's truth and to act justly in dealing with people in their daily lives, including their business dealings. God's presence is found in integrated and right relationships with people, characterised by detachment from material gain, especially when it comes at the hurt and expense of others. This psalm highlights an ongoing temptation in our world for people to seek material riches and social advantage as false markers of blessedness and success. God is not interested in status as defined by worldly standards but completely subverts and rejects any system or behaviour that seeks to exploit, disadvantage, or harm anyone or anything.

James gets to the heart of things in calling people to listen to the God who dwells within them and to take action to defend those most defenceless and vulnerable as a visible marker of their true identity in Christ. God's goodness never changes and never ends. We are called to embrace and foster this in ourselves, doing our part to come to the aid of all who most need our help. God has created each with purpose and value, just as they are.

Jesus calls out the hypocrisy and self-serving behaviour of anyone, especially leaders, who would seek to absolve themselves from the real work of conversion of heart and life. Hiding behind the details of traditions, rules, and the finer points of external rituals alone is not what is called for in faithfully following Christ. Our beautiful Christian traditions, prayers, liturgies, and rituals point us to the gift and glory of God and God's beloved creation. Our faith is built on who we are following, what we believe, and how we relate to others in Christ. Relationships of compassion, mercy, and forgiveness are direct encounters with God's amazing grace alive and active in our hearts and lives. This is where we are asked to focus, and to live.