

Celebrating the Feast of St Francis of Assisi

Today, we gather to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, a man whose life and teachings continue to inspire us to deepen our relationship with God and to embrace our role as stewards of His creation. St. Francis, known for his love of nature and his humble spirit, exemplified two fundamental truths that we must reflect upon in our own lives.

First, the importance of our relationship with God over worldly possessions. St. Francis renounced the wealth and comforts of his youth to follow Christ more closely, understanding that true fulfillment comes not from material goods, but from a loving relationship with God. He recognized that the treasures of this world are fleeting, while the love of God is eternal. In our own lives, we often find ourselves caught in the web of worldly distractions—our jobs, our possessions, and our ambitions. Yet, St. Francis teaches us that the most profound joy comes from living in accordance with God's will and embracing His mission for us.

As we reflect on our own priorities, let us ask ourselves: Are we investing in our relationship with God? Do we seek His presence in our daily lives, or are we too consumed by the demands of the world? Like St. Francis, may we learn to detach ourselves from material concerns and instead focus on the call to love, serve, and live in harmony with God's creation.



Second, the profound connection we share with our planet. St. Francis referred to the earth as our Mother and spoke of the sun as our brother and the moon as our sister. This beautiful imagery reminds us that we are not separate from creation; rather, we are an integral part of it. Each element of nature reflects the Creator's glory and serves a purpose in the divine tapestry of life.

In today's world, we are faced with environmental challenges that call us to action. St. Francis' love for all creatures urges us to become caretakers of our planet. We have a responsibility to protect the environment and to ensure that future generations inherit a world that is healthy and vibrant. Caring for our earth is not merely an act of stewardship; it is an expression of our love for God, who entrusted us with this beautiful

creation.

As we celebrate today, let us commit ourselves to being good stewards of the earth. Let us remember that every act of kindness towards our environment—whether it be reducing waste, conserving resources, or caring for animals—is a reflection of our love for God and our acknowledgment of His presence in all of creation.

In conclusion, let us take inspiration from St. Francis of Assisi. May we prioritize our relationship with God above all else and embrace our role as guardians of this planet we call home. Let us strive to live in harmony with creation, recognizing that we are all interconnected in this beautiful journey of life.

Parish Notices

Friendship Group will be held on **Tuesday 6 October** at 9.30am after morning Mass. Theme is spring. Please bring a plate.

Samoan Mass will be held this Sunday at midday.

St Francis of Assisi Jubilee – Three Presentations – October 2026

As part of the Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi, the Parish of St Michael, Thirroul, is hosting three presentations exploring the life, spirituality and legacy of Saint Francis on October 8, 15; 22, 7.30pm-9pm. Presented Franciscan Friars — Andrew Granc OFM, Paul Rout OFM and Ken Cafe OFM — the evenings will offer an opportunity to reflect more deeply on the Franciscan tradition and its relevance for our lives today. The presentations will be held live at St Michael's Parish Hall, Thirroul, but you can also participate via Zoom. For full details, including presentation topics, dates and Zoom information, please go.sh/sfjform.

Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekend Registrations are now open for our next Weekend planned for Friday 16—Sunday 18 October. 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.

FAITH& FRIES– CAMPBELLTOWN Wednesday 14 October

4:30pm–6:30pm, Grill'd Macarthur Square, 200 Gilchrist Street Dr. Calling all high school students! Faith&a relaxed afternoon bringing together teenagers from across the Diocese of Wollongong for good food, new friendships and honest conversations about life. Grab dinner at Grill'd, hear



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a real life faith and join a live panel, topic for the night is; Relationships. Whether you're involved in your, just curious or somewhere in between, you're welcome! Free to attend, with a special \$15 burger and chips deal available to purchase. Register by 5 October to go into the draw for our giveaway! (More details via the CYMDOW instagram) your mates, youth group or others from your school. Register: [.sh/fries](https://dow.sh/fries)

The Sacrament of Reconciliation – The sessions will begin on the 24th October 26 4-6pm. The ceremony will be 21 November 2026 at 4pm. If you would like to register your child please contact the Parish Office.

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 don'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! more information or to register, visit: [//dow.sh/VocarisYouth](https://dow.sh/VocarisYouth)

For the sick and homebound:

Myka Mangos, Kevin Cloran, Karen Browne, Reg Gardner, Barry Atkins, Carol & Gabriel Gonzales, Amelia Jimenez, Susan Mella, Sean Finnerty, Rose Levoune, Doris Wahhib, John Kajdrys, Pat Stewart, Allan Marquinez, Vladdy Mher Peralta, Mercy Espiritu, Stephen & Kathleen Mitrovics, Jadwiga Doornalewska, Bill Scibberas, Bernie Briscoe

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

For our recently departed

Stephanie Benney Liliana Jaroveski,
Fr Rick McCann, Vlado Leko

Anniversaries that occur at this time

Joseph Farrell, Christian Boudan, Gladys Bergicourt

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.



Holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:



It was the stone rejected by the builder that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

Contact Us

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