



# ST THERESE PARISH - WEST WOLLONGONG

2 Powell Street, West Wollongong NSW 2500

**Parish Office:** Phone: (02) 4243 9610  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday 8.30am to 1.30pm  
 Parish Secretary: Mrs Lani Perez  
 Email: [westwollongong@dow.org.au](mailto:westwollongong@dow.org.au)  
 Website: [www.sttherese.com.au](http://www.sttherese.com.au)  
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**Parish Priest:** Fr. Duane Fernandez Email: [Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au](mailto:Duane.Fernandez@dow.org.au)  
**Deacon:** Dn. Joseph Nguyen Email: [joseph.vuongnguyen@dow.org.au](mailto:joseph.vuongnguyen@dow.org.au)

## PARISH VISION

*"We are a diverse community united by our love for Jesus and for one another, constantly seeking to grow in this love especially through the Eucharist. We welcome everyone and help each other to discover their unique gifts, joyfully working together as one to bring the overflowing love of Jesus to all people."*

**SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025**

**21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C**

<b>ST THERESE WEST WOLLONGONG</b>	<b>IMMACULATE CONCEPTION UNANDERRA</b>	<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>
<b><u>Weekend Masses</u></b> Sunday: 10am and 5pm	<b><u>Weekend Masses</u></b> Saturday: 5pm Sunday: 8am	<b>St Therese - West Wollongong</b> Saturday: 9.30am – 10.30am Wednesday: 4.30pm – 5.30pm <b>Immaculate Conception – Unanderra</b> Tuesday: 6.00pm – 7.00pm Thursday: 6.00pm – 7.00pm
<b><u>Weekday Masses</u></b> Wednesday: 5.30pm Friday: 7.45am Saturday: 9.00am	<b><u>Weekday Masses</u></b> Monday: 8.00am Tuesday: 5.30pm Thursday: 5.30pm	<b><u>BAPTISMS:</u></b> Notice period: 1 month 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month 12pm West Wollongong 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month 12pm Unanderra
<b><u>Eucharistic Adoration:</u></b> Wednesday 4.30pm - 5.30pm	<b><u>Eucharistic Adoration:</u></b> Tuesday and Thursday 6pm - 7pm	<b><u>WEDDINGS:</u></b> Notice period: 6 months

### MESSAGE FROM FR DUANE



This weekend is our annual St Vincent De Paul Winter Appeal. I take this opportunity to thank our St Vincent De Paul volunteers, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to support those most in need in our community. I will always remember the time I spent volunteering with the St Vincent De Paul Conference in Nowra while I was a seminarian. I remember being struck by the diverse range of struggles that are faced by so many people of all ages and backgrounds in our communities. Equally memorable is the compassionate, non-judgmental and wise support given by the Conference volunteers, and the genuine difference they made to those they visited - not only through their financial support, but equally through the compassionate care, listening ear and encouragement they provided to people who were often isolated and losing hope. The Conference here in St Therese Parish is a wonderful example of the best of what the St Vincent De Paul Society is all about, and is most certainly one of the many ways that we are bringing the overflowing love of Jesus to all people, as stated in our parish vision. This weekend gives all of us in the parish an opportunity to provide much needed financial support to this vital work for our community. New volunteers are also

always welcome to join the local St Vincent De Paul Conference. Thank you again to our current volunteers and to all parishioners for your generosity this weekend, and let us keep our volunteers and those whom they serve in our prayers all throughout the year.

### THANK YOU FROM THE CLOUDS

"We very much appreciated the best wishes that we were offered by the St Therese Parish Community at the 10am mass last Sunday. We wish to thank Brenda Wilson for her kind words about our contribution to the Parish and Fr Duane for his beautiful farewell Blessing. We also thank the many members of the Parish community who offered us their best wishes. We are grateful for the beautiful gift we received and it will be a constant reminder of Wollongong and our time as part of the St Therese Parish Community. We have enjoyed and received much personal fulfilment from being members of the Parish community and being involved in its activities and ministries. We encourage everyone to be actively involved in the Parish and its Ministries as we are sure you will, in return receive the same joy and fulfilment as we have. Kindest regards, Jenny and Terry Clout"





## **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

### **DECEASED FOR WHOM OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED:**

**SICK:** Kerrie Maidment, Lucila Montano, Rachael Wakely, Margaret Beamish, Daniel Hiew

**ANNIVERSARIES OF PARISHIONERS:** Mary Schofield, Hilary Cornell Merle Fitzgerald, Francis Phillips, Betty Henderson, Anne Mackey, Kevin Castles, Olga Brissett, Francis O'Rourke, Victor Collins, Loreto Pe, Brian Barlow, Alexander Smith, Catherine Clifford, John Cleary, Chris Maher, Adam Palak, Maria Leggatt, Sheila Nobbs, Ellen Fitzpatrick, Annie Templeton, Betty Littlejohns, Jean Bartolo, Phyllis Stewart, Valda Beckett, Dorothy Day, Anne Logue, David Colby, Kathleen Livesley, Eileen Jay.

## **PARISH FINANCES**

\$366 First Collection - Clergy Remuneration Fund

\$329 Second Collection – Parish Expenses

\$279 Tap Point – Parish Donations

\$295 Planned Giving Envelopes

\$705 Direct Debits (weekly average for July)

**Direct debits can be contributed weekly, fortnightly or monthly.**

Parishioners who wish to join the planned giving program via envelope or direct debit to assist with our parish expenses, please contact the parish office for further information



## **VINNIES NEWS**

Our Winter Appeal is this weekend. How can you donate? We've got it all covered! Use the envelopes in the pews and return to the collection bags (or take home to complete and return next week). If you have cash, put in the buckets Vinnies members will be holding after mass. An EFTPOS machine will be available at the parish centre after mass. Or you can donate online. Our details are: BSB 062000, Account 19889862, Name SVDP Society NSW Conference. Please add reference for West Wollongong 46426 to ensure it comes to us. Thank you.



## **SUMMIT NIGHT – AN EVENING WITH DR EDWARD SRI**

**For young adults aged 18+**

**6.30 – 9.00pm, Saturday, 30 August**

**Xavier Conference Centre (adjacent to St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong)**

**Free – donations gratefully accepted on the night**

You are invited to our next *Summit Night* — an inspiring evening of truth, formation, and community featuring world-renowned Catholic speaker and theologian **Dr Edward** on *The Art of Living: The Cardinal Virtues and the Freedom to Love*. Discover how growing in virtue helps us love authentically in friendships, dating, marriage, and family life.

The evening includes a wine & cheese reception, Dr Sri's keynote, Eucharistic Adoration, and genuine leather rosary pouch giveaway!

Free event, but registration is essential. Register here: [dow.sh/44csSMR](https://dow.sh/44csSMR)

Follow @CYMDOW on socials for more details.

## **KANGAROO VALLEY JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE**

**Saturday 30 August, 10.30am**

**St Joseph's, Kangaroo Valley (130 Moss Vale Rd.)**

The Parish of Nowra, invites the faithful to a Jubilee Pilgrimage Mass to be Celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord, who will impart the papal blessing, offering attendees the opportunity to gain the Jubilee indulgence under the usual conditions. Don't forget to bring you Pilgrim Passport, and have it stamped as a reminder of your visit.

## **ST TERESE JUSTICE, ECOLOGY AND PEACE GROUP**

For Pope Leo, as for Francis before him, care for creation is framed as justice and environmental protection is an essential part of Christian life. Already, Leo has celebrated the first-ever liturgy under a new Vatican-approved Mass for the Care of Creation and issued his message for the 2025 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, celebrated 1 September. He has spent part of the summer at the papal villa in Castel Gandolfo, and paid visits to the Borgo Laudato Si' sustainable ecology area established by Francis. He also has toured the land where the Vatican is constructing a vast solar farm capable of fully powering Vatican City and making it the first carbon-neutral nation.

## **UPCOMING FORMATION PATHWAY (SEPTEMBER)**

**ONLINE ONLY! Wednesday, 3 September - 7-9pm**

**Foundations: Primacy of Evangelisation (Module 114)**

A renewed parish is built on three things - the primacy of evangelisation, empowering leadership, and moving in the power of the Holy Spirit. Evangelisation is not simply first on the list and equal amongst the other foundations. It should be given prime consideration in the life of a community. A parish that is actively involved in and trying to evangelise will redirect all efforts to reflect this fact.

This formation will explore how we can prioritise evangelisation in our use of time, talent, and treasure, to make sure that the Great Commission doesn't become the Forgotten Suggestion. To register: [www.dow.org.au/events](https://www.dow.org.au/events)  
Note: This formation will only be available online via Zoom.

## **CATECHIST CREATIVE STORYTELLING AND CRAFT MORNING IN-SERVICE**

**Monday 8 September, 10am-1:30pm**

**Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour St. Wollongong**

**Morning Tea will be provided.**

Build up your confidence in storytelling and create anticipation in your lessons using simple visual items and techniques. We'll draw from the spirit of Advent and our upcoming Saints as role-models to guide us. To register: <https://dow.sh/45ne1hV>

Enquiries: Sue Clark Ph: 0457 427 583

## **BEING AT HOME IN THE UNIVERSE STORY**

**Jamberoo Abbey, 5 - 7 September**

**Speaker: Sr Mechtild Crawford OSB**

You are invited to a gentle retreat which will expand our minds and hearts to the unfolding mystery of the universe, helping us to see our place as human beings within this sacred unfolding. There will be times for listening and learning and times for personal reflection and creativity. Register and pay for this weekend retreat Ph: 4236 0011 ext 114 or email

[cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au](mailto:cottageretreats@jamberooabbey.org.au)

### **HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP - "REVIVE YOUTH"**

**Meets fortnightly 7-9pm, St Therese Parish Centre**

**Next meeting: 5 September**

Come along and enjoy fun games, some snacks and meet awesome people. It's also a great way to learn more about our faith. We'd love to see you there!

Contact [reviveyouth25@gmail.com](mailto:reviveyouth25@gmail.com) for more information.

### **COMPASS: "BUSH" FAMILY CAMPING WEEKEND**

**Friday 12 – Sunday 14 September 2025**

**Guntawang - Wooglemai Catholic Camping Facility**

These weekends bring Catholic families of all ages, including couples with or without children, single parents and grandparents, together to celebrate the incredible gift of family life. Enjoy shared meals, games, music, prayer, and Mass together. To secure your spot, register now.

[dow.org.au/events/compass-bush-family-camping-weekend](https://www.dow.org.au/events/compass-bush-family-camping-weekend)

Cost: \$50 per adult or \$100 per family

**RSVP: Monday 8 September**

### **HEAR FROM POPE LEO XIV**

**Sunday Echo** is a **limited-release resource** containing 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.

### **A VOCATION VIEW:**

Will you help gather people to be a part of the reign of God? Pay to be open if God calls you to serve as priest, deacon, brother or sisters. (Isaiah 66:18-21)

If you want to talk about your vocation, please contact the diocesan vocations director, Fr Duane Fernandez at [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au)

### **MINISTRY OF THE TRIBUNAL**

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 from the church foyer or notice board area. The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on Ph: 4222 2409 or [tribunal@dow.org.au](mailto:tribunal@dow.org.au) or visit [www.tribunal.dow.org.au](http://www.tribunal.dow.org.au)

### **NEWMAN LECTURE 2025**

**"THE LEGACY OF POPE FRANCIS"**

**2pm, Saturday 6 September**

**Xavier Centre, Wollongong / Live-streamed nationally**

**Guest Speaker: Bishop Brian Mascord**

Hosted by the Bulli Branch of the Knights of the Southern Cross (KSC)

40-minute presentation

- Q & A session following the lecture
- Open to all parishioners and friends across the Diocese
- Live-stream link to be advised closer to the lecture
- For free bookings, use:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DDQBT>

For further information, contact: Denis Bristow 0412699929

### **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](http://www.jcr.org.au) and we will send it to you each week.



### **UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

First Fri. of month, Parish Grounds, 5.30pm	Environmental Stations of the Cross
Mondays, 5pm Parish Centre	Christian Meditation Group Monica Ph: 0418 172072
Last Tue of month Parish Centre, 6.30pm	Parish Pastoral Council <a href="mailto:ppc@sttherese.com.au">ppc@sttherese.com.au</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu of month, 7.30pm Parish Centre	West Wollongong Vinnies Conference <a href="mailto:louise.pinson@vinnies.org.au">louise.pinson@vinnies.org.au</a>
Saturdays, 8.30am St Therese Church	The Rosary
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat of month 10.00am Parish Centre	Ladies' cuppa and chat contact Elaine 0410692973

### **Revive Youth (12-18yrs)**

Fortnightly on Fridays 7-9pm, Parish Centre

**September Dates: 5 & 19**

Contact [reviveyouth25@gmail.com](mailto:reviveyouth25@gmail.com)

### **STIC Young Adults (18-35yrs)**

In recess during August



## First Reading: Isaiah 66:18-21

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.



The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Responsorial Psalm: Ps 116

**R. Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**

O praise the Lord, all you nations,  
acclaim him all you peoples! **R.**

Strong is his love for us;  
he is faithful forever. **R.**

## Second Reading: Hebrews 12:5-7. 11-13

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews*

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation: John 14:6

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.**

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel : Luke 13:22-30

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.*

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.



'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from the east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

English translation of *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, ICEL; the English translation of *The Roman Missal* © 1973, *Clip Art for Feasts and Seasons, Celebrations and Service* © 1996, LITURGICAL PRESS. Sunday, weekday and other readings from the Jerusalem Bible © 1966, 1967, 1968, Darton Longman and Todd Ltd. Used by permission. Psalm texts from *The Psalms: A New Translation* © 1963, The Grail (England). Used by permission.

DEAR God

Remind me  
that winners  
do not always  
come first.

Amen

