



SAINT JOHN
the Evangelist

CATHOLIC PARISH DAPTO

Come in and sit down, relax, don't stress. I welcome you to our beautiful parish & church. Please feel welcome and tell me if you need anything.

Keep Smiling, Francis Tran PP

St John the Evangelist Parish Dapto

A Living Community

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

20 September 2026

Welcome to St John's



PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon - Closed | Tues - Fri 9am - 4pm

Parish Secretary: Jenny Gibson

24 Jerematta St Dapto NSW 2530

PH: 02 4261 1315

Fr Francis: 0413 449 821

E: dapto@dow.org.au | W: stjohnsdapto.org.au

ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Principal - Mrs Michelle Rodwell

PH: 4261 4611

E: info@sjddow.catholic.edu.au

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,
call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,
to our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth
as my ways are above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is near to all who call him.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:20-24,27

Life to me is Christ; but death would bring me more

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

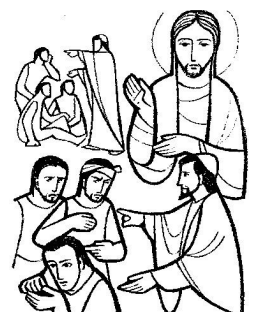
Matthew 20:1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.



Please Pray For the Repose of the Souls of the Faithful Departed—

Recently Deceased: Joe Mateo

Anniversaries & Special Intentions: Albert Rolet,
David Stephens



BAPTISMS

This week we welcome in to the Catholic faith community Brooklyn Towle, Charli & Carter Thompson, Isaac Cooper.

NRL Grand Final

Everyone is welcome.

Sunday 4th Oct, behind the presbytery.

BBQ from 6:30pm. Kickoff at 7:30pm. Come and enjoy the company, the food and the Game.

Contact: Martin 0412101566 or Grant 0419125376



CHURCH ROSTER

Hard copies of the new roster is now available for collection in the foyer of the Church. Roster can also be viewed from our website stjohnsdapto.org.au

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy is a time, within the main church service, that the children get to learn about the Gospel at their level. It is enriched with discussion, song, activities and prayer.

Worksheets, related to the Gospel, will be available in the foyer for children to access if you cannot attend the 9.30am mass.



ST CARLO ACUTIS RELIC AND DISPLAY COMING HERE IN SEPTEMBER!

Our diocese is excited to be hosting the International Carlo Acutis Major Relic Pilgrimage between 14-21 September 2026. The relic will visit the parishes of Oran Park (Mon 14th), Rosemeadow (Tue 15th) Nowra (Wed 16- Thurs 17th), and the Wollongong Cathedral (Fri 18 - Mon 21), with opportunities for veneration of the first-class relic of St Carlo, participating in the sacraments, and visiting St Carlo's own Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition. Everyone, but especially students and young adults will be amazed and drawn into a deep experience of faith in encountering St Carlo's story, relic and the display. Go to <https://www.stcarloaustralia.com/> for more information.



THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL - This weekend

To support the retirement and health of Clergy and the sound and holistic formation of seminarians will be promoted in our diocese during the months of September with a special collection taking place in our parish on the weekend of 19/20 September. "Your donation to this appeal is very much appreciated." + Bishop Brian Mascord To find out more or make a tax deductible donation please visit www.dow.org.au/giving or call (02) 4222 2400 to make a tax-deductible donation over the phone.

NO RECONCILIATION

There will be no reconciliation next Saturday 26 September due to Father attending a Wedding.

POETRY 101

Dear Parishioners, Thank you for supporting the parish and SVDP over the last couple of weeks by ordering Poetry 101.

Donations have raised almost \$1000. Most books were collected last weekend.

About 20 uncollected copies of the book will be retained at the Piety Shop. If you haven't received your book, please approach a member of the St Vincent De Paul Society this weekend. You will be given your copy/copies as per your order.

Also, copies can still be purchased from the Piety Shop in the weeks ahead.

Many thanks, Steve Leonard

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, call 1800 967 894

FAITH & FRIES – WOLLONGONG

Wednesday 23 September | 4:30pm–6:30pm, Grill'd Wollongong, Crown Street

Calling all high school students! Faith & Fries is a relaxed afternoon bringing together teenagers from across the Diocese of Wollongong for good food, new friendships and honest conversations about faith and life. Grab dinner at Grill'd, hear a real-life faith story and join a live Q&A panel, the topic for the night is Dating & Relationships. Whether you're involved in your faith, 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 12 September to go into the draw for our giveaway! A Sony Premium Noise Cancelling Wireless Headphones & a \$100 Grill'd voucher to be won. (More details via the CYMDOW instagram). Bring your mates, youth group or others from your school. Register now: dow.sh/fries

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - Monday, 5 October at 9:30am

As usual, the Blessing of Animals will take place on the Monday of the long weekend, 5 October at 9:30am at the Parish of Saint Michael, 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul. The blessing takes place in the courtyard next to the church. All animals under 800kg and their carers are welcome, though please keep the larger crocodiles on a tight leash.

The feast of St Francis of Assisi is celebrated with special Masses on Saturday, 3 October at 5:30pm and on Sunday, 4 October, at 8:00am – pets are welcome at both Masses.

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

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!

World Youth Day Seoul 2027 – Diocesan Pilgrimage One Year to go until World Youth Day Seoul 2027!

Applications are open for the Diocese of Wollongong's pilgrimage. 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. An information night will be held on Wednesday 2 September 2026 from 6-8pm at the Xavier Conference Rooms (38 Harbour St Wollongong) to provide further information and provide a chance for potential pilgrims to meet each other. Anyone looking to apply is required to attend this session. Join our mailing list at dow.sh/wyd27 to receive the latest updates and announcements.

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 special Mass on **Sunday 4 October 2026**. Please contact the parish/es to arrange a time for your group's visit.

THE WOLLONGONG DIOCESAN CHOIR

The Wollongong Diocesan choir warmly invites people across our parish communities who love to sing and might enjoy the opportunity to share their gifts through music and worship. It would be wonderful to welcome some new voices into our Diocesan Choir and to help more people discover the joy of singing. The choir prepares music for major Diocesan Masses and celebrations, where parishes from across the region gather in prayer and celebration. It is a way to contribute to the liturgy while connecting with others who share a love of sacred music.

Rehearsals take place on Monday evenings in the lead up to Diocesan events, and usually run from 7:00pm - 8:30pm at St Francis Xavier Cathedral in Wollongong. If you would like to be involved, please contact Diocesan Choir Director Katrina Hannaford with your name, email address and parish: hannafordk02@dow.catholic.edu.au

Church Roster - Those offering their time - Thank you

26/27 SEPT	1st reader	2nd reader	Extraordinary Minister	Counters
Sat 5pm	A Harnett	M Harnett	L Mammone, S Druery, D Kadmon	D Croft E Caruana D Ritter
Sun 7.30am	A Peeyer	Ri Gilmore	Ru Gilmore, G Teixeira, E Brennan	
Sun 9.30am	P Udeh	M Rodwell	M Nicholson, L Foy, S Iverson	
Sun 6pm	E Burns	L Burns	G Knowles	

MASS TIMES

Tuesday	Mass	5pm
Wednesday	Mass	9.30am
Thursday	Mass Followed by Benediction	9.30am
Friday	Mass	9.30am
Saturday	Reconciliation Rosary Mass	11am - 12pm 4.30pm 5pm
Sunday	Mass Baptisms	7.30am 9.30am - (Children's Liturgy) 6pm Every Sunday 11am

Baptisms – Sundays 11am. Bookings through parish office.

Marriages – Please contact Priest 6 months prior to wedding date.

Nursing Home Masses :

St Luke's NH: 1st Tue of month at 10.45am

William Beach NH: 2nd Wed of month at 2pm

Hammond Care: 3rd Thursday of month at 11am.

Sick Calls – Please contact Fr Francis or the parish office.

Wollongong Hospital Chaplain – Fr Joseph - 0475 815 506

West Dapto Catholic Cemetery - Plots are for sale.
Please contact the Parish Office.

THE ORDER OF THE MASS - QR CODE

Anyone who would like to follow the mass which is generally is available from the cards and the end of the pews at the entrance of the church, can now scan the QR code and follow the mass using your device.



Welcome to St John's!

Are you new to our Parish? Have you registered at the office that you attend our church?

Please feel free to inform us of your arrival in our Parish as we would love to know that you are here and get to know you.

Please feel free to complete this form and return it to the office or place it in one of the collections at mass.

NAME/S:.....

CHILDREN:.....

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE:.....MOBILE:.....

EMAIL:.....

Would you like to join in planned giving to support our Parish? **Yes / Not now**

Please see Fr Francis or contact the office on 4261 1315

Thank you for making a difference to our Parish