



SAINT JOHN  
the Evangelist  
CATHOLIC PARISH DAPTO

# St John the Evangelist Parish Dapto

## *A Living Community*

2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A

1 March 2026

### Welcome to St John's

*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*



#### 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](mailto:dapto@dow.org.au) | W: [stjohnsdapto.org.au](http://stjohnsdapto.org.au)

#### ST JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Principal - Mrs Michelle Rodwell

PH: 4261 4611

E: [info@sjddow.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@sjddow.catholic.edu.au)

#### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.  
It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;  
hide not your face from me.

#### FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4

**All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you**

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:  
I will curse those who slight you.  
All the tribes of the earth  
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

#### SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:8-10

**God calls and enlightens us**

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

**His face shone like the sun**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

#### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

This is my beloved Son, with whom  
I am well pleased;  
listen to him.



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

**Recently Deceased:** William Shannon, Monica Nolan

**Anniversaries/Special Intentions:** Joseph Formosa, Tony & Tania Formosa



**BAPTISMS**

This week we welcome in to the Catholic faith community Oscar & Oliver Perry, Scarlett Bennett, Noa Fenech & Colby Rivera

**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.



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

All parishioners are invited to attend the World Day of Prayer – Friday 6 March at Dapto Uniting Church (opposite Woolworths) . 10am morning tea followed by 11am service. The prayer service has been prepared by the women of Nigeria. The Theme is 'I will give you rest: Come'

**LENTEN REFLECTION**

When we encounter the wilderness in our own lives, may we experience the companionship of Jesus "who knows the barren places better than we do." When we are spending time with wild beasts—those circumstances beyond our control that terrorize us—may we recognize the angels God sends to minister to us in our pain and bewilderment. And may we always embrace the truth of who we really are: a "precious, beautiful, and wholly liberated" child of God. *Sr Melannie Svoboda*

**BECOME A VINNIES MEMBER**

If you would like to join Vinnies and help the disadvantaged in our local area please contact Denis on 0413 589 896



**ON ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY**

All who are 14 years or older are obliged to abstain from meat All who are 18 to 59 are obliged to fast (Canon 1252) Pastors, teachers, parents are to ensure that even those who, by reason of their age, are not bound by the law of fasting and abstinence from meat, are taught the true meaning of penance.

**PASCHAL PRECEPT:**

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday (18 February 2026) and Trinity Sunday (31 May 2026) unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

**LENTEN GROUP**

Every Friday during lent, the CWL will be running a Lenten discussion group after Friday morning Mass in the Chapel. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

Stations of the Cross in the Church at 6pm every Friday during Lent. Everyone welcome to attend.

**POT LUCK DINNER**

Everyone is invited to attend the next Pot luck dinner on Friday 6 March at 6pm at the back of the presbytery. Cook your favourite dish, bring a plate/meal/drinks to share.

**LOVING WELL PROGRAM – Supporting Healthy Relationships**

CatholicCare is offering Loving Well, a new FREE four-session pilot program for anyone who has experienced relationship change and is seeking guidance, healing, and healthier ways of relating moving forward. Rooted in compassion and personal growth, the program explores understanding relationship patterns, building self-awareness, navigating life's changes, and fostering positive, healthy connections with others.

Participants will also receive a small wellness pack and be entered into a draw for a \$50 movie voucher. To learn more or register, please visit CatholicCare's website: <https://tinyurl.com/392tswzb>

## OPEN INVITATION TO ALL

2025 was a busy year regarding the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. The parish has supported over 20 people, mostly adults, to receive instruction in our faith and who then entered the sacramental life of our church.

The foundation of parish instruction in the RCIA program has been the series *Catholicism* presented by Bishop Rober Barron. His [Word on Fire Ministry](#) has reached millions of people around the world. **In 2026 we open the invitation to all parishioners to gather and view his videos. This invitation is extended also to all parents of primary aged school children in our parish. The parish and school share the same mission of our Church, and this initiative is one of co-operation.**

Bishop Barron is well qualified and instructs with the full authority of the Catholic Church. If you would like to explore our faith at a deeper level this might be for you. We will gather fortnightly to view 10 videos. There will be opportunities to discuss the content during and after the conclusion of each video in a relaxed informal manner with a cup of tea or coffee.

The sessions, about 1 hr in duration, will be held fortnightly on **Tuesday evenings, commencing Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm in the Joseph Hall (the mini hall).** The topics covered are *The Identity of Jesus, the Beatitudes, the case for God's existence, Mary, the Holy Spirit, Peter and Paul and the missionary adventure, the mystical union of Christ and the Church, saints, the mystery of the Liturgy and the Eucharist, prayer and life of the spirit, death and judgement.* Much of his video content is filmed on location in the Holy Lands. For those who may be unable to attend the sessions the playlist of all of 10 videos can be found on YouTube via this link

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWVDdVfADnBFca\\_uPVj57XaG5FO8AZ8os](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWVDdVfADnBFca_uPVj57XaG5FO8AZ8os)

You may have family and friends, interested in the Catholic Church, who would also like to attend the evening sessions.

**If you wish to register to attend the evenings, please leave your contact name and phone number, and the number attending, on the form in the church foyer over the next few weeks.**

I would like to thank school Principal Mrs Rodwell for her cooperation in this initiative.

Steve Leonard

## GUADALUPE: Mother of Humanity | Special Film Screening

**Office of the Bishop, Xavier Centre Conference Rooms Wollongong, Wednesday 11 March 2026 at 6:30pm**

You're invited to a special community screening of the acclaimed documentary film *Guadalupe: Mother of Humanity*. In 1531, on a quiet hill near Mexico City, a heavenly apparition changed the course of history. To this day, the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe remains perfectly intact after 5 centuries, defying time, science, and logic and contains an entire codex of hidden messages, has survived an acid spill and even a bomb blast. Come and join us for a screening of the acclaimed movie about this Marian apparition and the extraordinary events and miracles that have followed. Because some miracles refuse to fade! Light refreshments and finger food will be provided on the night and merchandise available for purchase.

Tickets \$10 - Book and pay now to secure your ticket(s) [dow.sh/Guadalupe](http://dow.sh/Guadalupe)

Light refreshments and finger food provided on the night and merchandise available for purchase.

## FORMATION OPPORTUNITY FOR PARISHES - Welcome & Hospitality

### Upcoming formation opportunity

This session on Hospitality is for members of your Welcome and Hospitality teams, parishioners, and parish leaders — anyone who wants to help shape a parish where people feel safe, expected, and able to belong. Together we'll explore how the experience someone has — from the car park to the pew to the coffee table — shapes what they believe about your parish, and whether they return.

You'll leave with:

- Practical tools you can apply immediately at Mass and parish events
- A simple framework for forming the right beliefs in guests and in our parish community
- Greater confidence in creating welcoming, dignified interactions
- A shared vision for how we can build a culture of belonging together

If you care about the future of your parish, this is not a night to miss.

WOLLONGONG & ZOOM - Wednesday 4 March - 7-9pm

To register: [dow.sh/fpmar2026](http://dow.sh/fpmar2026)



**STAY CONNECTED WITH THE PARISH**



Facebook search: **St John's Catholic Parish Dapto**

Instagram search: **St John's Parish Dapto**

*Church Roster - Those offering their time - Thank you*

7/8 March	1st reader	2nd reader	Extraordinary Minister	Counters
Sat 5pm	C Honeysett	T Kadmon	T Kadmon, P Portelli, C Daly	M Harnett A Harnett D Errington
Sun 7.30am	D Barry	D Clegg	Ru Gilmore, G Teixeira, E Brennan	
Sun 9.30am	S Iverson	L Negro	M Nicholson, L Foy, S Iverson	
Sun 6pm	J Knowles	H Knowles		

**EDMUND RICE COLLEGE – Open Day Tuesday, 3 March 2026**

9:00am – 3:30pm, 112 Mount Keira Road, West Wollongong

**Try Year 7 for a day** - Year 5 & 6 Boys 9:30am-3:30pm  
Experience a day of high school and enjoy a range of subjects and activities. After the day, families are welcome to explore the College Expo (3.30pm – 5.30pm).

Register now:

[edmundricecollege.nsw.edu.au/enrolment/try-year-7-for-a-day/](http://edmundricecollege.nsw.edu.au/enrolment/try-year-7-for-a-day/)

**MASS TIMES**

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

**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

**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.

**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*