



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*

4th Sunday of Easter

11 May 2025

**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 | Fax: 02 4262 1527

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

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

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

### FIRST READING

Acts 13:14,43-52

**'We must turn to the pagans'**

Paul and his friends carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly. 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

I have made you a light for the nations,  
so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'  
It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.  
But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

### SECOND READING

Apocalypse 7:9,14-17

**The Lamb will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water**

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

John 10:27-30

**I know my sheep and they follow me**

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'



### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

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

**Anniversaries & Special Intentions:**

Rose Spiteri & Josephine Formosa, all departed Mother's.



**BAPTISMS**

This week we welcome in to the Catholic faith community Alessandro & Marco Favaro, Luther & Cillian Cowley

**PRAYER FOR POPE LEO XIV**

*Faithful God,  
You guide us on the path of life  
and your goodness is our constant companion.*

*Be with our new Shepherd, Pope Leo XIV,  
in his service of the Church.*

*Fill him with the power of your Spirit,  
the peace of your presence  
and the compassion of Christ.*

*May he walk with you,  
in wisdom and humility,  
and lead us, together with all God's people,  
to embody your love for the world.  
Amen.*

**CHURCH ROSTER**

The new church roster is now available for collection in the foyer of the church. It is also available to view on our website.

**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.



**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



***Happy Mother's Day***



Let us give thanks to God for the mothers and mother figures in our lives, who guide, and love us with grace.

May we honour all mothers, not just today, but with our actions and words throughout the year. We remember and honour our mothers who have passed before us.



While their physical presence may be gone, their love and influence continue to inspire us.

**CWL MEETING**

Catholic Women's League, Dapto Branch, meeting will be on Monday 12 May, 2025 commencing at 10.00 am in the meeting room at the Parish Presbytery. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

**FR FRANCIS' 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION CELEBRATIONS**

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of Fr Francis's Ordination. As a community, we will celebrate this monumental occasion on **Saturday, 28th of June**. This occasion will be marked with a Mass at 11am, followed by a community lunch under the COLA.

All parishioners and community members are invited to celebrate this occasion with Father Francis.

RSVP is required for the lunch for catering, this can be done after Mass in the foyer. Members of the Parish Council will be available to take your RSVP, dietary requirements, and provide you with a ticket for the luncheon. **There is no cost for this event. RSVPs will close on the 8th of June.**

A present is being organised to commemorate this occasion. If you would like to contribute towards a present for Fr Francis, there will be a lockbox in the foyer for cash donations. Donations can also be made to the following account for this purpose.

Acc Name: Dapto Parish Gifts/Donations  
BSB: 066 711  
Acc : 003 134

The Parish Council looks forward to seeing you all and celebrating this special occasion with Fr Francis.



## GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY / WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Our Christian vocation or “calling” begins in our baptism, lived out either in single life, marriage, ordained ministry or consecrated life. The motto Pope Francis chose for himself as Bishop and Pope, *miserando atque eligendo*, means “having mercy, he called him”, and the Pope constantly reminded us of the joyful message he experienced in his own life: in spite of our weaknesses and sins, Jesus, our Good Shepherd, has looked upon us with perfect love and mercy and called us to follow him. Each year the Pope writes a message to the whole Church for this day. In his final message for this day Pope Francis wrote:

“Dear friends, the world pushes you to make hasty decisions and bombards you with a constant blare that prevents you from experiencing a silence that is open to God who speaks to the heart. Have the courage to pause, to listen to what your heart tells you, and to ask God about his dreams for you. The silence of prayer is indispensable if we are to learn how to hear God’s call amid the specific circumstances of our lives and to respond consciously and freely.” <https://dow.sh/gss25>  
Fr Duane Fernandez, Diocesan Vocations Director, would love to speak with you to help you to discern God’s call in your life. Contact him at [vocations@dow.org.au](mailto:vocations@dow.org.au)

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE WALK FOR LIFE

Join pilgrims from around the Diocese from Fri 23 May-Sat 24 May for all or part of the walk for life along the stunning South Coast from Kiama to Culburra. Pope Francis has urged us in this Jubilee Year to build a culture of life, where every human life is cherished and protected.

Day 1: From Kiama to Gerringong, followed by dinner with Bishop Mascord & overnight adoration.

Day 2: Gerringong to Culburra, finishing with mass and dinner.

For more information go to [dow.sh/WFL](http://dow.sh/WFL) or contact [jude.hennessy@dow.org.au](mailto:jude.hennessy@dow.org.au) 4222 2407



## ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Tuesday after the 5pm Mass in St John’s chapel – from 5.30pm –6.30pm.

## BENEDICTION

Every Thursday straight after the 9.30am mass. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## AGEING WITH CONFIDENCE – a CatholicCare initiative Friday 13 June 10am – 1pm The Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow.

Join Robert Fitzgerald AM, Age Discrimination Commissioner, as he explores the critical issues facing older Australians today - including elder abuse and ageism - while offering practical insights and strategies for ageing with dignity, purpose and positivity.

To register for this free community event including morning tea, please use the QR code or call 02 422771122 or follow the link below.

<https://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/get-involved/events-calendar/ageing-with-confidence-2025-wollongong/>

For any other information, please contact Jane Hollier on 0417 018 152 or [janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au)



## THE MARRIAGE COURSE – Via Zoom

Want to build a strong, better marriage? The Marriage Course is for any couples married for 2 -102 years. Over 1.5 million couples have done this amazing course. It runs over 7 sessions covering topics such as resolving conflict, impact of family and the art of communication. It's a great way to strengthen your marriage, learn practical tools to deepen your connection from specialists starting Mondays 26 May - 7 July at 7.30pm.

Register now at: <https://app.tickets.org.au/DOW/Marriagecoursedow>

## FORMATION PATHWAY MAY 2025

5 Systems of a Renewed Parish, presented by Tomas Juszczak, Regional Lead for Australasia for Divine Renovation.

Campbelltown - Tuesday, 6 May

Wollongong/Zoom - Wednesday, 7 May

REGISTRATION: [HTTP://dow.sh/fpmay2025](http://dow.sh/fpmay2025)

As the old saying goes, how do you eat an elephant? One mouthful at a time. When it comes to parish renewal, with all the complexity and systems of a living breathing community, it can be overwhelming to try to think of renewing a whole parish community. That's why we don't!

Instead, we look at a parish as being the sum total of five important systems. When we do this, like eating the elephant one mouthful at a time, we can start to see a path forward. Note: Please don't eat an elephant. If you'd like to attend, please register as soon as possible! And invite your friends.



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

17/18 May	1st reader	2nd reader	Extraordinary Minister	Counters
Sat 5pm	P Farrugia	M O'Connor	P Portelli, C Daly, T Kadmon	L Negro S Parker
Sun 7.30am	D Barry	D Clegg	Ru Gilmore, G Teixeira, E Brennan	
Sun 9.30am	L Foy	P Stephens	M Fleming, L Negro, L Foy	
Sun 6pm	L Burns	E 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	

**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 Stork - 0475 815 506 or hospitalchaplain@dow.org.au

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

**CATHOLIC BIBLE STUDIES | Thursdays, 7:30-9pm**

Xavier Centre, Conference Rooms (Come and explore the Bible with the mind and heart of the Church in an open and friendly environment. All are welcome.

A missionary work of the Disciples of Jesus. Contact Tom Kadmon 0413 927 086

\* Thursdays during school term

**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*