



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*

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

13 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](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

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true.

Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

### FIRST READING

**Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9**

**Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you; and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven**

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

### SECOND READING

**Romans 14:7-9**

**Alive or dead, we belong to the Lord**

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia.

### GOSPEL

**Matthew 18:21-35**

**To be forgiven, you must forgive**

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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

**Recently Deceased:** Joe Mateo, Jose Da Rocha & Aldina Gomez



**Anniversaries & Special Intentions:** Betty Callaway, Maya Borja, Patricia Bellinato, Anthony Spiteri, Joseph & James Formosa, Margaret Hall, Philip & Paul O'Connor, Reynaldo Ordonez



#### BAPTISMS

This week we welcome in to the Catholic faith community Dominik Terzic, Billie Walsh, Valentia Calderon

#### POETRY 101 COLLECTION

will be at all Masses next weekend to distribute the book at the end of each Mass. I will also have some extra copies if you decide to purchase one. Many thanks, Steve

#### 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



#### ST CARLO ACUTIS RELIC AND DISPLAY THIS WEEK AROUND OUR DIOCESE!

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), Unanderra (Fri 18), 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 [dow.sh/acutis](http://dow.sh/acutis) for the full public itinerary.

NOW TAX DEDUCTIBLE

**THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL**  
In support of the retirement and health of clergy and the sound and holistic formation of seminarians



SCAN ME

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO DONATE VISIT [DOW.ORG.AU/GIVING](http://DOW.ORG.AU/GIVING)

#### THE BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

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](http://www.dow.org.au/giving) or call (02) 4222 2400 to make a tax-deductible donation over the phone.

#### NO PARISH MASS - 9.30AM WEDNESDAY 16 SEPT

This year St John's is hosting the Launch of Catholic Mission Month on Wednesday 16 Sept, so there will be no weekday mass on this day.

#### WOLLONGONG OFFICE OF THE TRIBUNAL

The Tribunal of the Catholic Church 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 at the back of the church in the notice board area. The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on 42222409 or [tribunal@dow.org.au](mailto:tribunal@dow.org.au) or visit [www.tribunal.dow.org.au](http://www.tribunal.dow.org.au)

## 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 won'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! For more information or to register, visit <https://dow.sh/VocarisYouth>

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## 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.

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## JUBILEE OF ST FRANCIS

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 [dow.sh/sjfform](https://dow.sh/sjfform)

## 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](http://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](https://dow.sh/wyd27) to receive the latest updates and announcements.

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## 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](https://dow.sh/fries)

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## GENTLE REMINDER

**Just a gentle reminder, we understand life**



**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*

| 19/20 SEPT | 1st reader | 2nd reader | Extraordinary Minister        | Counters                              |
|------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sat 5pm    | P Farrugia | M O'Connor | T Kadmon, P Portelli, C Daly  | M Harnett<br>A Harnett<br>D Errington |
| Sun 7.30am | D Barry    | D Clegg    | E Brennan, D Clegg, M Whatman |                                       |
| Sun 9.30am | P Stephens | L Foy      | L Foy, E Gill, M Fleming      |                                       |
| Sun 6pm    | H Knowles  | J Knowles  | G Knowles.                    |                                       |

### MASS TIMES

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