Our Lady of Lourdes

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC PARISH WAUCHOPE
ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, BEECHWOOD &
ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, LONG FLAT

17th & 18th October 2026 - Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A



Parish Events

No Thurs Mass

MISSION SUNDAY
18 OCTOBER 2026

Bundaleer Mass 11am
Fri 23rd October 2026

Sat 24th October 2026
Mens BBQ Breaky, 8am
Family Mass, 6pm

Baptism Preparation Meeting
11th November 2026

Parish 9am Mass & Brunch
Sunday 29th November 2026

Parish Misson Statement

We are created by God, called through Baptism to be followers of Jesus Christ in his church. As the Catholic community of Wauchope we are called to live according to God's plan, growing towards a deeper faith and love for one another. We rejoice in his Holy Spirit, who enables us to use our gifts, bringing Christ to each other and the community as a whole.

Parish Priest: Fr Anselm Okeke
Deacon: Rev Shane Hyland
Parish Secretary:
Lisa McPherson & Lyn Murphy
Parish Office Hours:
9am-3pm, Tues, Thurs | 9am-2pm Fri
Phone: (02) 6585 1464
Email: admin@ololwauchope.com.au
Website: www. ololwauchope.com.au
Facebook: @ololwauchope
St Joseph's Primary School
Principal: Nigel Toole
School phone: (02) 6585 1745

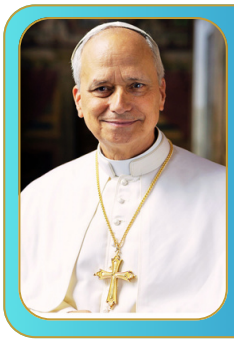
Parish News





Joke of the Week -A wealthy but notoriously stingy parishioner was attending Sunday Mass. The priest was giving a passionate homily about the building fund, explaining that the church's roof was falling apart and desperately needed repairs. Moved slightly by the homily, the stingy man walked up to the altar during the collection, reluctantly pulled out a $50 note, and dropped it into the basket. Just as he turned around, a piece of loose plaster detached from the ceiling, tumbled down, and smacked him right on the head. Stunned and terrified that it was a sign from above, the man quickly fell to his knees, opened his wallet again, and yelled, "Father! Father! I change my mind! I'll donate $5,000!"
The priest looked up at the ceiling, smiled, and prayed, "Lord, hit him again!"





October

For mental health ministry

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

Remember in Prayer

Recently Deceased

Betty Hollis

Anniversaries

Leo & Ruby Carney

Other Intentions

Pope Leo, and

Sick members of the Parish Community

Announcements

World Mission Day 2026: One in Christ, United in Mission – 100 Yrs

In his message for World Mission Day 2026, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that every baptised person is called to share in the Church's mission. Under the theme"One in Christ, United in Mission," he encourages Catholics to deepen their relationship with Jesus and to be united with one another in faith and service. The Holy Father teaches that our missionary calling begins with encountering Christ and allowing His love to transform us. Through prayer, witness, acts of charity, and support for missionary work, each of us can help bring the hope of the Gospel to others. As we celebrate the centenary of World Mission Sunday, the Pope also expresses gratitude for missionaries serving around the world and invites us to pray for them and support their efforts. He reminds us that the Church's mission is a shared responsibility and that even small acts of generosity can make a difference.

May this year's World Mission Day inspire our parish community to grow in faith, strengthen our unity, and joyfully share Christ's love with all people.

ONE IN CHRIST UNITED IN Mission 100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

To donate please use the envelopes at the back of the church, or via catholicmission.org.au

November Masses

Remembering Our Loved Ones

The month of November is traditionally dedicated by the Catholic Church to remembering and praying for those who have died. During November, we are invited to remember our deceased family members and friends in a special way.

November Mass Envelopes are available in the church pews and at the back of the church. Please write clearly the names of your deceased loved ones and return the envelopes as directed. The names will be placed on the altar, and Masses throughout November will be offered for those who have died.

As a parish community, we will also dedicate a special day during November to pray for and remember our departed loved ones.

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."

International Eucharistic Congress

Eucharistic Congresses began in the 1880s to promote reverence for Christ's real presence in the Eucharist, uniting Catholics in prayer and worship. They serve as vibrant, revitalising, faith-filled expressions of love for Jesus in the Eucharist, and the congress will be coming to Sydney in 2028!

Learn more at https://eucharist28.org/





Thinking about Baptism?

Baptism is the beginning of life in Christ and entry into our Church family. Please contact the parish office - we would be delighted to welcome you.



The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office

the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office - Phone: **(02) 6621 9444** or Email: ***safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au***

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1.4-6
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7

(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.



1. O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**

2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens. **(R.)**

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and enter his courts. **(R.)**

4. Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction. The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:15. 16



Alleluia, alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.' The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Our Lady of Lourdes Wauchope Parish

JOIN A PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

Please complete your form via the QR Code or find paper copies in the church.

SCAN HERE







Different View

A simple question?

This gospel passage is sometimes interpreted as Jesus' endorsement of the Christian responsibility to state authorities. It has been interpreted as affirming the obligation to pay taxes and participate in the processes of government. In fact, Jesus neatly avoided the direct question put to him and never gave a response to the question of paying taxes. Rather, he made the question a much broader one and reminded people that their first obligation was to God, not the state. It is an excellent example of the need for critical interpretation of scripture. A simple, literal reading of this text leads us to drawing simple, literal conclusions about whether or not we should be paying taxes.

Historical context

What's in a face?

The question of coinage was a problematic one for first century Jews. The tradition – grounded in the commandments given to Moses on Mt Sinai – forbade the use of 'graven' or carved images. The people of Israel took this prohibition very seriously and did not portray the human face in artwork of any kind. Roman coins were minted with the face of the emperor on them and it was compulsory that taxes be paid with Roman coin. This helps to explain the role of the Temple money-changers who converted the Roman coin into Temple coin that could be used for religious purposes.

Scriptural context

Jesus and the Pharisees

The gospel of Matthew tends to treat the Pharisees rather harshly. In fact they had more in common with Jesus' style of teaching than other religious groups of the time and some have suggested that Jesus may even have been quite closely associated with the Pharisees. The role of the Pharisees was to interpret the Torah – the Law – for everyday people. They were teachers and preachers who often had a group of disciples who were their followers. The community in which the gospel of Matthew was written regarded the Pharisees harshly because they saw Jesus – not the Pharisees - as the rightful interpreter of the Law.

Liturgy Roster

17th & 18th OCTOBER 2026 READERS
Saturday Vigil: Ken Ogilvie
Sunday: Lyn Murphy

24th & 25th OCTOBER 2026 READERS
- Saturday Vigil: Family Mass
- Sunday: Debbie Fear

31th OCTOBER & 1st NOVEMBER 2026 READERS
- Saturday Vigil: Robyn Mackay
- Sunday: Peter Murphy

CHURCH LINEN:
- Angela Johnston (October)

CHURCH CLEANING:
- Marianne Agnello (11 Oct - 24 Oct)



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Parish Liturgies

OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WAUCHOPE
- **Reconciliation:** Saturday 5.30PM
- **Vigil Mass:** Saturday 6PM
- **Sunday Mass 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th:** 7.30AM
- **5th Sunday:** 9AM

Tuesday -
- Mass 10.30AM
- Rosary (weekly): 11AM

Wednesday - Mass 8.00AM
Thursday - No Mass on Thursdays
Friday - Adoration 11.15AM
- Mass 12 noon - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Friday

ST PATRICK'S, BEECHWOOD
- Mass 1st & 3rd Sunday 9.30AM

ST PETERS LONG FLAT
- Mass 2nd & 4th Sunday 9.30AM

BUNDALEER MASS
- 4th Friday of the month at 11:00AM

DIF Diocesan Investment Fund
Interest Rate—4.15% (eff 1/8/2026)
For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516