



Weekly Notices | 16 – 17 October 2021

Diocese of Wollongong | Roadmap out of COVID-19

Please find attached a “road-map” to opening up our Church as at 14 October 2021. The plan is particular to our diocese and follows the Government’s directives and current Health Orders.

At this stage, we will be back of Mass on the weekend of 30/31 October. If there is any change to this plan, we will notify you.

Please remember the Bishop’s dispensation from the Sunday obligation to attend Mass remains in place. We encourage you to participate in Mass online with Fr Sean.

Synod of Bishops:

On Sunday, 17 October, dioceses around the world will launch local preparations for the Synod of Bishops, which has the theme: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”. The Catholic Church in Australia will invite the People of God to make submissions via an online portal that will open on 17 October. Those submissions will help the Bishops develop a national report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. Find out more at: <http://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

Plenary Council – what happens next?

With the conclusion of the First General Assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, the members approved a concluding statement sharing the fruits of the first assembly and looking forward to nine months of “prayer, reflection, maturation and development” leading up to the second assembly. Please find attached a [media release](#) and a copy of the [concluding statement](#).

The Journey podcast compiled a series of insightful interviews at the conclusion of each day of the assembly that can be accessed at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/plenarypodcast/

Support our Holy Family Primary School

Click on the link below to see the amazing efforts from the Holy Family School community. Don’t forget to Like the Facebook page and stay informed about all the exciting things happening at our parish school. [Holy Family School Facebook Page](#)

Prayer Seminars: Experience various prayer styles – All Welcome

There has been an overwhelming response to the Prayer Seminar series that runs each Tuesday evening, 7pm - 8:30pm via Zoom. Prayer Seminars are hosted by the CCD Team but are open to anyone and everyone in the Diocese to attend. Each week a different presenter will lead us in a style of prayer that is meaningful to them. The seminars will include information, but also the opportunity to be led by an expert in the prayer experience. Each week, the importance of praying for the Plenary Council and its members will be remembered, amongst many important prayer intentions for the Church and the world. You are welcome to come to any or all of the seminars. Registering does not require you to attend every seminar. Please follow the link to register for Prayer Seminars: <https://www.dow.org.au/events>. Please register before the day of the seminar, to ensure you receive your zoom link on time.

Next Tuesday, 19 October, Sr Magdalen Mather OSB will lead us on a Benedictine Path to Prayer, live from The Abbey. Come and explore the contemplative way of living prayer that is built on the belief ‘that the divine presence is everywhere’ (Rule of St Benedict Ch. 19.1).



An invitation to join electronic parish planned giving

Given that we are unable to attend Mass in our church, many who support our parish planned giving envelope program have asked how they can continue to financially support the parish. So, we respectfully encourage all parishioners to join our electronic parish planned giving program to help us ensure that we limit the financial pressure this current situation will impose on our parish. Please visit

<https://www.dow.org.au/plannedgiving/> to learn of the two simple ways you can give to our parish electronically.

Importantly, we are mindful that some of our parishioners will sadly be experiencing a change in their financial circumstances. Please contact the Parish Office at ingleburn@dow.org.au if you need to decrease/discontinue your planned giving contribution, but mainly to let us know how we can support you.

The Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis on 8 December 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. You are encouraged to visit the ACBC year of St Joseph page at <https://www.catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

The Journey, 17 October 2021 – Your Diocese of Wollongong Weekly Podcast

A jam packed show this week as Fr Joe Murphy breaks open the Gospel and Dr Byron and Francine Pirola remind us of the importance of being committed to being – committed. Plenty of great music on this week's show - the Journey available at www.jcr.org.au.

Formed (Free for DoW parishioners)

Join hundreds of other families around the Diocese of Wollongong in nurturing your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED.org is a large Faith Formation Resource library website containing thousands of faith formation documentaries, courses, movies, audio and books covering all aspects of our Catholic faith. Materials for both adults and children. Sign-up for Free using our Diocesan Subscription by contacting darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au or helen.bennett@dow.org.au

CatholicCare - We're always here, if you ever need...

These are challenging times for everyone and CatholicCare are here to support you and your family to navigate the uncertainty. We offer confidential online and phone counselling to support you with the frustration of managing family emotions, relationship pressures and employment changes. To find out more about CatholicCare's counselling service call us on 4254 9395 or email intakeservice@catholiccare.dow.org.au

For the Son of man himself came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

(Jesus, Mark 10:45)



The Church is the People of God

COVID-19 ROADMAP FOR THE DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG AS OF 14 OCTOBER 2021

On the 27th of September 2021, the NSW Government released a roadmap regarding reducing the current lockdown COVID-19 restrictions. These gradual reduction in restrictions are outlined below. When considering these restrictions and our actions as we move more freely in our church communities, we must always act with a sense of love to our neighbours. The Catechism teaches that "Life and physical health are precious gifts entrusted to us by God. We must take reasonable care of them, taking into account the needs of others and the common good." (n.2288)

When following these guidelines, the faithful must consider the safety of themselves and others, compliance with the law and strict hygiene practices as core principles. All faithful in the diocese are dispensed from the obligation to physically attend Mass on Sundays. (canon 87 §1, canon 1248 §2)

The following summary documents the key guidelines as we meet each milestone set by the NSW Government. It is important to note that these guidelines include decisions by the Diocese, apart from Government orders, that are designed to maintain the dignity and physical health of all within our church communities.

	70% Vaccination Stage 1	80% Vaccination Stage 2	90+% vaccination Stage 3
Churches open for Masses ¹	✗	✓	✓
Capacity / density limits	n/a	4 sq metres	2 sq metres
Public reconciliation	✗	✓	✓
Private reconciliation (by appointment)	✓	n/a	n/a
Baptisms	✗ (unless urgent)	✓	✓
Weddings (see #20)	✓ (max 100 or 5 unvaccinated)	✓ (max 100 or 5 unvaccinated)	✓
Funerals (see #21)	✓ (max 100 or 10 unvaccinated)	✓ (max 100 or 10 unvaccinated)	✓
Parish gatherings & meetings	✗	✗	✓
Sacramental preparation	✗ (unless online)	✗ (unless online)	✓
Congregational singing	✗	✗	✓
Choirs (see #25)	✗	✓ (up to 10 singers)	✓
Masks	✓	✓	Optional but recommended (see point 5 below)
Strong hygiene practices (see #5-14)	✓	✓	✓
QR Registration (see #23)	✓	✓	✗
Monitors (incl capacity monitoring)	✓	✓	✓
Visitation to Sick and Homebound	✗ (clergy only)	✓ (Double Vax Ministers only)	✓ (Double Vax Ministers only)
Churches open for private prayer	✗	✓ (only if Monitor is available and times are advertised)	✓
Parish offices open	✗	✗	✓ (Staff to wear a mask when greeting visitors)

¹ and other devotions held before or after the Mass (or devotions held outside of Mass - that would require a Monitor to be present)
DoW COVID-19 Guidelines 14 October 2021