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Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of **Five Islands Christian Ministries** links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa to promote church unity. Printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF files of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/resources.html.

Distribution of this edition: **4,064**

Church of the Week

For prayer next week, is [Generocity Church Kiama](#) which meets at North Kiama Neighbourhood Centre, Meehan Dr, Kiama Downs on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. The Kiama Campus Pastors are Nathan & Esther Keenan who come under the Senior Pastor who is at Bathurst. There are presently eight Generocity Church campuses, all in NSW, and are members of the Australian Christian Churches denomination. Esther Keenan emailed:

"Our prayer is that people would be open to conversation that leads to them understanding the hope they can have through Jesus. Our church model in Kiama looks a little different, where we are intentional about conversation around the word of God, helping people to consider what they're reading and grow in their understanding of the Lord."

Church of the Week (next week)

[City Central Presbyterian Church](#) is at the corner of Kembla & Burelli Streets, Wollongong. Services are at 9:45 a.m. on Sundays. The senior minister is Rev. Brett Richardson. The church mission statement is "To know Christ; To be like Christ; To make Christ known."

Church News

1. Fr Hung Tran and Fr Cang Tran from Vietnam have completed their introduction to the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong and improving their English language pronunciation skills. Lumen Christi Parish reported that "Commencing 1 September 2023 Fr Hung Tran will minister in All Saints Parish Shellharbour City and Fr Cang Tran will minister in Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Rosemeadow."
2. The **National Council of Churches** [invitation to pray](#) this weekend for the upcoming Voice Referendum includes a prayer written by the **National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council (NATSICC)**.

Dear Lord

We invite all Australians to join us, their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Brothers and Sisters in prayer.

We pray for a bright and just shared future for all who call Australia home.

We ask that Your grace of acceptance and compassion will guide us.

Let the Creator Spirit lead our journey with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of this land.

May we share Your Spirit more deeply; celebrate the gifts You have given us.

Help us appreciate true harmony and peace just as our Old People did;

Keep us strong, make us resilient and remember us in this time.

Now is an opportunity to change our Nation's history for the better.

Walk with us as we write a new chapter together and may we be one in Your love.

Amen.

Sicm News

- 1. Illawarra Seniors' Band.** If you are interested in joining this ecumenical brass band (you don't have to be a senior, just available for day-time performances), please contact [Jill White](#), the Secretary.
- 2. The Illawarra Christian Choir** is selecting Christmas carols to learn for end of year events. New members are welcome. The choir rehearses at 3/10 George St, Warilla, the all-age choir meets 4-5pm Saturdays, and the youth choir follows from 5-6pm.
- 4. Gary Hetherington** reported that he has been given the use of a house in Canowindra (central NSW) to accommodate team members and will be holding an outreach in Canowindra soon. Anyone interested in volunteering to join the team should apply by email to revivalministries@outlook.com.au.
- 3. The next issue of *Clearing the Way for Jesus* newsletter** will be sent on **Tuesday 19th September**. Email me your church news for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra. To subscribe, please email or message me on Facebook with your email address.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc., a registered charity.

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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are once a month on a Tuesday morning at 10.30am (these currently vary) at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall.

Saturdays, Illawarra Christian Choir Rehearsals

Details: 4:00 p.m. at 3/10 George St, Warilla. *Contact:* [Jessica](#)

Wednesdays 6th & 13th Sept, Lunchtime Bible Talks

BYO lunch, tea/coffee provided. A 30 minute talk for office workers and anyone else.

Speaker: Bishop Reg Piper on the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5:1-7-28)

Details: 12:45-1:15p.m. (doors open 12:30pm) at St Michael's Anglican Cathedral Hall.

8th to 10th Sept, National Weekend of Prayer, Meditation and Reflection (National Council of Churches in Australia)

Register at [Eventbrite](#) and further information will be sent to you.

Saturday 16th Sept, National Grandparent Conference

Speakers: Ian Barnett, Anne Graham Lotz, Ross Clifford, Karl Faase, Mike Raiter, Jenny Brown.

Details: Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibsons Rd, Figtree

Register Online at ngmlegacy.com.au before registrations close on 10th September

Cost: \$62, online \$24.

Wednesday 30th Sept, Illawarra Seniors Band Concert

Details: 10:30 a.m. Kiama Anglican Church

See the [Sicm Events page](#) for more events and the **Regular Events** list.