



No. 419 6/2/24

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: **4,113**

Church of the Week

"St Michael's Anglican Cathedral at 74 Church St (cnr Market St, Church Hill), Wollongong. The senior minister is Rev. Canon Mark Smith. Services are held on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. (traditional), 9:45 a.m. (includes creche and Sunday School), 11:30 a.m. (Easy English Church), 5:00 p.m. (includes creche and Sunday School), and 7:00 p.m. (contemporary).

St Michael's vision is to see more disciples of Jesus shining as lights in our city. Ministries include Explore Jesus, Jesus Club (for adults with intellectual disabilities), English Classes, Kids Club, Mobile Community Pantry, Playtime, Art & Craft in the Hub, Kids & Youth, and Growth Groups.

Please pray for weekly ministries as they return this week after the summer break, as St Michael's seeks to engage our community with sacrificial love, evangelise the lost with the gospel of Jesus, establish disciples in Christ and his church, and equip generations of believers for ministry." Submitted by Nicole Jameson.

Church of the Week (next week)

"St Francis Xavier Cathedral, located at 36 Harbour St, Wollongong. Under the dedicated leadership of our Parish Administrator, Very Rev. Bernard Gordon, we extend a warm invitation to experience the essence of faith and community.

We are called to reveal the Light of Christ to the world.

Mass is offered on Sundays 7am, 10.30am & 5pm.

For more information about our parish, events, and community activities, please visit our parish website: <http://lumenchristi.org.au>." Submitted by Kevin Galea.

Church News

1. Clergy moves. Rev. John Reed has commenced as the minister of **Wollongong Congregational Church**.

Salvation Army appointments: **Major Julia Metcher** has become full time at **Tarrawanna Salvos** and **Lt Col. Terry Grey** has commenced as the senior minister of **Wollongong Salvos**.

Fr James Arblaster of **St Francis Xavier Cathedral** will be leaving to become Assistant Priest at Camden Parish on 18th February 2024. There will be a farewell Mass on Sunday 11th February followed by a cuppa.

Ps Stuart & Rebekah Haack have taken over as senior pastors of **Increase Church**,

Albion Park Rail, from Ps Joe & Miranda Riddington.

Rev. Dal Proudfoot was ordained at **Woonona Presbyterian Church** on Friday 2/2/24 to become their assistant minister.

- 2. Church name changes.** **C3 Believe Church** has changed its name to **Believe Church Global**, but is still a member of the C3 denomination, and has relocated its Sunday Services to the Wollongong Town Hall. **C3 Reach Church Shellharbour** has changed its name to **C3 Shellharbour**, and the **Mustard Seed Chapel** that meets at Cringila has changed its name to **Favourite Child Church, Wollongong**.

5icm News

- 1. Kim Hetherington, wife of Gary of Revival Ministries, died on 3/1/24.** Outreach and church planting in Canowindra is on hold. However, Gary is planning on starting a home group at his place. Message Gary on [Facebook](#) or [email](#) him if you are interested in joining.
- 2. Illawarra Senior Band** is still looking for new members. Prospective members will need to supply their own instrument (brass) and be fairly competent at playing it. Jill White, the band's Secretary emailed, "Our rehearsals now are (apart from February) on the 3rd Tuesday of every month." February has an extra rehearsal, which is this morning. The scheduled monthly concerts for the whole of this year have been added to the 5icm Events page.
- 3. Illawarra Christian Choir.** If you are interested in singing with group of Christians in an informal choir, please contact [Jessica Soden](#). The details of rehearsal times and location are yet to be confirmed. The youth choir will start in Term 2.
- 4. The next issue of the *Clearing the Way for Jesus* newsletter will be sent on Tuesday 20th February.** Regular events listed on the 5icm website are the same as last year. Please email me if there is any change to your event. Also, email me your church news for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra and tell me of any church events that invite Christians from other churches. Please email me locations of Illawarra **World Day of Prayer** Services for the next edition. To subscribe to this newsletter, 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 the third Tuesday at 10.30am at the Port Kembla Senior Citizens Community Hall.

[Illawarra Christian Choir](#) Rehearsals

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

Friday 1st March, [World Day of Prayer](#)

Host Country: Palestine.

Tuesday 5th March, Illawarra Seniors Band Concert

Details: 10:30 a.m. Warrigal, Pine St, Albion Park Rail

Thursday 7th March, Illawarra Prayer Breakfast Launch

Details: 6:30-8:15a.m. at Shellharbour Community Church, 500 Shellharbour Rd.

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/PrayerBreakfastLaunch2024>

See the [5icm Events page](#) for **more details, events** and the **Regular Events** list.