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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 facilitate church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/resources.html.

Distribution of this edition: **3,759**

Church of the Week

St Brigid's Catholic Church, located at 119 Gipps Road, Gwynneville, is part of the Lumen Christi Parish. The parish is guided by the Most Rev. Bishop Brian Mascord, with the Very Rev. Bernard Gordon and Rev. Cang Tran serving as clergy. Parish operations are managed by General Manager Kevin Galea, with support from Parish Secretary Leanne Burlin and Administrative Assistant Patricia Li Leva.

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evenings at 5.30pm and Sundays at 9am, welcoming all to worship in this vibrant community of faith.

The Jubilee Year 2025, proclaimed by Pope Francis, is themed Pilgrims of Hope. It is a global celebration of faith, renewal, and spiritual reflection to journey closer to God and one another.

Church of the Week (next week)

Shellharbour Village Uniting Church at 53 Mary St, Shellharbour Village is part of the Shellharbour City Regional Uniting Church which shares its senior minister, Rev. Mark Greenlees, with Albion Park Uniting Church. Services are held on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. From next Monday, they will be conducting 21 days of prayer and fasting as they seek the renewing power of God's Holy Spirit.

Church News

- 1. Rev. Mark & Susan Boyley** will become the new senior minister at **Dapto Anglican Church** in April.
- 2. Rev. Liam Shannon** will finish up as Senior Assistant Minister at St Michael's Anglican Cathedral on 16th Feb 2025. Liam will take up the Partnership Development Officer's position at Wollongong Anglicare.
- 3. Ps Michael Parker** has joined Wollongong Baptist Church as Associate Pastor.
- 4. Kiama Board for Employing Christian Education Teachers** announced its new appointment of a Scripture Teacher at Kiama High School: **Ryan Sheering**. "Ryan is a 40-year-old family man with a background in the Baptist church and significant experience in youth ministry as well as the health and fitness industry (with impressive credentials in boxing). Ryan is deeply committed to prayer, living out the Kingdom and passing on the faith to a new generation." Wycliffe Ochieng, the former scripture teacher, has moved on to Nowra Anglican College.
- 5. Rev. Mark Beaton** has advised that **The Men's Well**, a group for men who are separated (e.g. estranged/widowed) or divorced from their ex or current partner, is still meeting on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesdays of each month at Northern Illawarra Uniting Church. They have a [Facebook page](#), a [YouTube Channel](#), and have formed a management committee of 7 people

and registered with NSW Fair Trading. Their mission statement is "TMW – The best version of you". Do women need a similar group?

- 6. Catholic Bishop Brian Mascord** is encouraging Catholics to attend the ecumenical event *Hope for the Illawarra* and be involved in the evangelism training events (see below).

5icm News

1. Please note that the **Illawarra Seniors Band** rehearsals have now relocated to Shellharbour Salvation Army Corp.
2. The **Clearing the Way for Jesus** newsletter is now in its 20th year. The next edition will be sent on **Tuesday 18th February**. If your church is hosting a **World Day of Prayer Service**, please let me know for advertising. Or if you have any events for sharing with Christians of the Illawarra, please email me and I will add them to the 5icm Events page. To subscribe to this newsletter, please [email](#) or message me on Facebook.

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 on the third Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights.
Contact: [Jill White](#), the Secretary.

Wednesday 12th Feb, Lunch Time Bible Talks resume.

Speaker: Bishop Reg Piper on "Christianity in the Lycus Valley."

Details: 12:30-1:30pm St Michael's Anglican Church Hall

February, Sharing Hope Evangelism Training - Part 1 of 2

Details: 12th Feb, 7:30pm Wollongong Baptist Church, 330 Keira St, Wollongong

13th Feb, 1:00pm Dapto Anglican, lot 100 Moombara St

13th Feb, 7:00pm Fairy Meadow Anglican, 1 Princes Hwy

15th Feb, 9:00am Figtree Anglican, 4-10 Gibsons Rd.

15th Feb, 2:00pm Albion Park Anglican, 253 Tongarra Rd

27th Feb, 7:00pm Shellharbour Community Church, 500 Shellharbour Rd.

February/March, Sharing Hope Evangelism Training - Part 2 of 2

Details: 19th Feb, 7:30pm Wollongong Baptist Church, 330 Keira St, Wollongong

20th Feb, 1:00pm Dapto Anglican, lot 100 Moombara St

20th Feb, 7:00pm Fairy Meadow Anglican, 1 Princes Hwy

22nd Feb, 9:00am Figtree Anglican, 4-10 Gibsons Rd.

22nd Feb, 2:00pm Albion Park Anglican, 253 Tongarra Rd

6th March, 7:00pm Shellharbour Community Church, 500 Shellharbour Rd.

Wednesday 5th March, Illawarra Senior Band Concert

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

Friday 7th March, World Day of Prayer

Theme: "I will praise Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..." Service prepared by the women of Cook Islands.

Services in the Illawarra:

11:00 a.m. **All Saints Catholic Church**, 19 College Avenue, Shellharbour. Lunch follows.

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