No. 485 6/11/26

Clearing the Way for Jesus

The ***Five Islands Christian Ministries*** newsletter facilitates church unity among Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa. 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: **4,066**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

St Michael's Catholic Parish at 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul is part of the Northern Illawarra Cluster along with St Joseph's Bulli, Holy Cross Helensburgh and St Columbkille's Corrimal. Services are Saturday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 8:00 a.m. The Parish Priest is Fr Patrick Vaughan assisted by Fr Andrew Granc and Fr Ken Café and Mary Pahulu Falevai, Parish Secretary. **St Michael's Primary School** is the parish school.

Church of the Week (next week)

International Christian Church at 1-4/8 Kelly St, Berkeley is a member of Church of the Foursquare Gospel (Australia). The senior ministers are Ps Roger & Joy Lingal assisted by Ps Rolando & Joanne Zita. Services are held in English on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Once a month, they have a free sausage sizzle and give away free groceries and fresh produce to individuals and families in their community.

News.

1. The **TryPraying** booklets are now in stock at **Mainly Ministries**, Victoria (although the website has not been updated yet). I have received a box of 100 to be given out from Albion Park Uniting Church. TryPraying works best if many of the churches in a region participate. See the short **YouTube video** for an explanation of the idea.

2. Some **Illawarra church statistic**s ahead of the National Church Life Survey: there are 149 churches, this includes branch churches where services are held; 240 ministers, including children and youth ministers and chaplains; 1,646 teachers are included on our distribution list; and 136 Christian organisations, which includes 30 Christian schools.

5icm News

1. I have updated the information sheet for any Illawarra ecumenical ministries considering joining 5icm. You can download it **here**.

2. The next edition of ***Clearing the Way for Jesus*** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 17th November 2026**. If you have any church news items or events, especially **Christmas events** that are for the general Christian community, please email me the details; advertising is free. To subscribe to this newsletter, or if your email address is changing, please email me or message me on Facebook.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.,
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Email 5icm to subscribe or unsubscribe from this newsletter, or if you are changing email address
*See the **5icm Events page** for **Coming** and **Regular Events**.*

Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band **rehearsals** are on the first Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights.
Next Concert: 6:30 p.m. 28th November, Allowrie St, Jamberoo Christmas Tree Lights.

Wednesday 11th November, Illawarra Seniors Band Remembrance Day Service
Details: 10:30 a.m. Lakeside Memorial Park, Kanahooka

Saturday 14th November, Family Fun Day
St Osthathiose Church, Horsley invites everyone for fun, music, games, stalls, and cultural programs. Download flyer.
Details: 10am to 8pm, Berkeley Community Hall

Saturday 14th Nov, Port Kembla Baptist Church Market Day
Sausage sizzle, cakes, clothing, white elephant stall, crepes, pancakes, Devonshire tea
Details: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 81 Illawarra St, Port Kembla.

Saturday 14th Nov, Monster Garage Sale, Dapto Uniting Church
Bric-a-brac, homewares, books, DVDs, CDs, etc. Fill a bag for $5.
Details: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Dapto Uniting Church hall off Marshall St, Dapto.

Tuesday 17th November, Illawarra Seniors Band Rehearsal and Lunch
Details: 10:00 a.m. Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights

Saturday 28th November, The Outpouring
A night of worship. Download information and flyer.
Details: 6:00 p.m. Awaken Church, 39 Ellen St, Wollongong
Cost: free entry
RSVP: via Humantix

Sunday 29th November, First Sunday in Advent

Sunday 6th Dec, Colin Buchanan's Big Christmas Concert
Details: Doors open 3:00 pm for start at 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm at Wollongong Salvos, 11-13 Burelli St. Download flyer.
Cost: $25 any age, babies in arms are free but need a ticket.
Tickets: www.trybooking.com/DPHVY

Sunday 6th Dec, Carols in the Valley
Hosted by Stockland Calderwood Valley and Albion Park Anglican Church. BYO picnic rugs and chairs.
Details: 4:30 p.m. family fun activities; 6:00 p.m. Carols

Sunday 13th December, Carols in the Street Party
Hosted by Corrimal Community Church
Details: 4:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. 9 Augusta St, East Corrimal

Tuesday 15th December, Illawarra Seniors Band at Jamberoo Combined Churches Carols
Details: 6:30 p.m. Reid Park, Jamberoo

See the **5icm Events page** for **more events** and the **Regular Events** list.