

When patronizing our sponsors, please thank them for supporting our Parish



**Michelle Roffe**  
FUNERAL SERVICES

*Services tailored for your loved one*  
*Let our family care for you personally.*

Camden's only locally owned and family managed funeral home  
Pre-arranged funeral plans available  
All financial and personal circumstances considered

**SERVICING ALL AREAS 24 HRS, 7 DAYS**  
CALL 4655 2800 or 0400 995 640

17 Hill Street Camden • m.roffefuneralservices@bigpond.com • michelleroffefunerals.com.au

**WOLLONDILLY'S ONLY LOCALLY OWNED & FAMILY OPERATED FUNERAL DIRECTOR**




**Call our 24 hour care line on:**  
**(02) 4602 7008**  
**0476 108 684**

[www.dwyerfamilyfunerals.com.au](http://www.dwyerfamilyfunerals.com.au)

*Where your family becomes a part of our family*

**ANY CONCRETING JOBS BIG OR SMALL**



**CALL PAUL**  
**0400 886 580**



**William R. Groves**  
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Providing flexible pricing and options; empowering you to make choices that are in your best interest

Have peace of mind that your loved one will be cared for on our local premises with dignity and integrity at all times

Serving Wollondilly and surrounds since 1981

**Camden**  
62 John St  
4655 6433

**Picton**  
365 Argyle St  
4677 1644

[www.williamgroves.com.au](http://www.williamgroves.com.au)



**first national**  
REAL ESTATE | Gerard Smith

The experts in Sales & Property Management

The team at Gerard Smith First National has created a reputation that stands alone in producing outstanding results through high quality and straight forward service.

Our team specialises in the Residential & Rural Sales, Auctions, Business & Development Sales, and property throughout the Wollondilly Shire and surrounding areas.

At Gerard Smith First National  
"We put you first"

RESIDENTIAL & RURAL SALES | COMMERCIAL SALES | PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

187 Argyle Street, 02 4677 1488  
Picton NSW 2571 [www.gerardsmith.com.au](http://www.gerardsmith.com.au)



**Taylor'd FUNERALS**  
Family Owned and Operated  
Funeral Home serving the Macarthur and Wollondilly

[www.taylorfunerals.com.au](http://www.taylorfunerals.com.au)  
ph. 0493 596 934  
Unit 18, 151 Hartley Rd, Smeaton Grange



*St Anthony's Parish Picton*

Bargo – Balmoral – Buxton – Couridjah –  
Douglas Park – Lakesland – Menangle –  
Picton – Pheasants Nest – Tahmoor –  
Thirlmere – Wilton – Yanderra

**Parish Priest: Fr Peter Tien**  
**Married Deacon: Rodney Mackrill, jnr**



*Parish Bulletin*

SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT—YEAR B

10 December 2023

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
And the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
In the joy of your heart.

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*Prepare the way for the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

**SECOND READING:** Pet 3:8-14

A reading from the second letter of St Peter  
*We wait for new heavens and a new earth.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths;  
All people shall see the salvation of God.  
Alleluia

**GOSPEL:** Mark 1:1-8

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark  
*Make straight the paths of the Lord.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
And behold the joy which comes to you from God.

**Next week's readings:**

**Third Sunday of Advent—Year B**

Is 61:1-2, 10-11; Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

**ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH—TAHMOOR**

**Saturday Vigil—6.00 pm**

**Sunday—8.30am**

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:**

Tuesday - 5.00 pm—Adoration  
5.30 pm—Tahmoor  
Wednesday - 8.30 am — Tahmoor  
St Lucy, virgin, martyr  
Thursday - 8.30 am — Tahmoor  
St John of the Cross, priest, doctor  
Friday— 8.30 am - Tahmoor

*Arabic Mass 6pm, every 2nd Friday—  
December dates: 22nd*

**Reconciliation (Confession)**

Saturday 5.00—5.30pm

**Baptism and Marriage**

Please contact the parish office.

**OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday & Thursday 9am—3pm

Wednesday 9am—1pm

**Parish Phone** 4683 2230

**Fr Peter** 0406 001 540

20 Stratford Road, Tahmoor 2573

**Email:** picton@dow.org.au

**Website:** [www.stanthonypicton.org.au](http://www.stanthonypicton.org.au)



**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

**2<sup>ND</sup> RITE RECONCILIATION:**

6.00pm – Friday 15 December – Tahmoor

**CHRISTMAS EVE:** Sunday 24 December

5.30pm – St Patrick's Menangle

6.00pm – Tahmoor

7.00pm – St Mary's Towers Douglas Park

**CHRISTMAS DAY:** Monday 25 December

8.30am – Tahmoor

9.00am – St Mary's Towers Douglas Park



### PRAY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Lord grant them eternal peace & joy and to their families and friends strength and comfort

### ANNIVERSARY:

#### RECENTLY DECEASED :

PRAY FOR THE SICK Archie McGregor, Eva Bastac, Debbie James, Jean Le Roux, Marie Darlington, Christine Jupe, Graeme Menser, Ross Spirou, Mauro Mariano, Melony Cox, Joanne McMahon, Daniel Clarke, James McNeil, Stephanie Macnamara, Elizabeth Linsell

#### ACOLYTES THIS WEEK NEXT WEEK

VIGIL JOHN RYAN  
8.30AM ADRIAN VANNAN KEVIN DEVINE

#### READERS

VIGIL: SOPHIA DE ZILVA LISA BRUFFER  
8.30AM TERESA CICHOCKI MAREE GALEA

CLEANERS: HELEN WILLIS PAULINE BUTTIGIEG  
LISA BRUFFER MARYANNE BUTTIGIEG

FLOWERS: NO FLOWERS NO FLOWERS

SACRISTY: MARY GILBERT

#### MORNING TEA:

SUE & PAUL MARY GILBERT

### FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE PARISH

Your financial support of St Anthony's Parish is always appreciated and much needed.

Direct debits can be set up to deposit into the parish account:

#### **Bank details**

Account name—St. Anthony's Parish

BSB—066-711

Account number—001783

Reference—Name/collections

To set up a direct debit using your credit card please contact the office.

#### **EFTPOS—Tap and Go**

We now have Tap and Go at the back of the church.

#### **Cash/Envelopes**

If you wish to use envelopes, please contact the office on 46832230 or picton@dow.org.au Place your envelopes on either the first or second collection plate.

### PROFESSIONAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Parish is in need of a qualified **Electrician** to undertake periodic inspections of Church property. Also we are in need of someone with the experience to help build/create a new **parish website**.

If you would like to volunteer some time for these valuable activities, please contact the church office.

### DIOCESAN YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER – Catholic

**Diocese of Wollongong** Suitably experienced and qualified persons are encouraged to apply for the role of Youth Ministry Leader in the Diocese of Wollongong. Applications close on Tuesday, 12 December 2023. For more information and a detailed role description, please go to: [dow.org.au/position-vacant-diocesan-youth-ministry-leader/](http://dow.org.au/position-vacant-diocesan-youth-ministry-leader/) or for enquiries contact [hel-en.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:hel-en.bennett@dow.org.au)

### VINNIE'S JESSE TREE

Please have all donation envelopes, cash or gift cards, returned by this weekend, 9/10 December. To be placed in the **Second Collection at Mass**. Your local conference is struggling to meet the requests for special help for Christmas. We have many families who only just get by week to week, some with our regular assistance. If we are going to offer them something a bit extra to help them celebrate the Birth of our Saviour this year, we really need you to help if you can. We assure you this will go to a local family or person on their own in time for Christmas.

### COME & SEE, GO & MAKE - a vision for Parishes in the Diocese of Wollongong by Bishop Brian Mascord

The beating heart of the parish is the person of Jesus, made present in Word, Sacrament, and the living community of believers. This heart beats with the words "come and see", and "go and make". Come and see! Encounter the person of Jesus, be transformed and renewed, and become disciples. Go and make! Share the joyous Good News with a world that does not know, or has forgotten Christ—our Lord Jesus is King, not by violence, force, or coercion, but by an invitation of love, mercy and grace! The following are available from the foyer of the church.

- *Come & See, Go & Make: A Vision for Parishes*—the vision I have developed which I now invite you to prayerfully read.
- *Principles and Foundations*—a short explanation of key principles described in the vision document.
- *Go Deeper*—a short compendium of additional reading on key concepts discussed in the vision.

### THE SIGN' ADVENT BOOKLETS

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.'  
Luke 1:46

The Advent Program is a pocket-sized book that includes daily reflections from the beginning of Advent to the Baptism of the Lord. The book also includes beautiful artwork from the Masters with accompanying artwork reflections.

There is a limited number of copies available for \$4 each from the Piety Stall.

### ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY

St Patrick's College welcomes the community to our next Open Day. If you have a daughter in Year 5 or 6 in 2024, we encourage you to attend and learn more about the St Patrick's Community. Register for your preferred time slot: <https://www.saintpatricks.nsw.edu.au/enrolments/book-tour/register-open-day/>

### PLENARY COUNCIL:

"To the People of God in Australia—*Reflecting on the Fifth Plenary council of* "

There is a report from the Plenary Council, on the back table in the Church, to be taken home and read.

### THE JOURNEY, 10 December 2023

– Your Diocesan Weekly Podcast On The Journey This Week: Fr Chris Sarkis says only prayer, sacrifice, and graced personal holiness of life can straighten what has become twisted and buried in the moral and human turmoil. Mother Hilda says God is like the freezer repair man, checking the gas of grace that keeps us ticking over. Plus, Fr Tony Percy, Fr John Nguyen, and more Advent reflections. The Journey podcast available at [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au).

### **REFLECTION by Nick Brodie**

Munching insects and honey in the wilderness, John the Baptist was clearly a memorable figure. But as noteworthy as his camel shirt clearly appeared, John did not want attention for his own sake. John's core message, the Gospel of Mark tells us, is that we need to respond to the God who approaches us.

Pope Francis says something that echoes John's approach. In one of his apostolic exhortations he encourages us as follows: 'Your life ought to be a prophetic stimulus to others to leave a mark on this world.' What Pope Francis means is that we are all meant to be voices in the wildernesses of our time.

During Advent, therefore, we are all called to be welcoming voices singing a prophetic tune. As Pope Francis has often encouraged us, we should be good stewards for all creation. Christians should take the lead in caring for the earth and the poor who inhabit it. Similarly, the Pope has encouraged us to be a synodal people, learning to walk and talk together in harmony as the People of God. Christians should not cling to divisive nostalgias, but cherish what matters and face the future with openness and confidence.

© Nick Brodie

### PILGRIMAGE OF MERCY 11 – 21 JUNE 2024

Father Christopher Sarkis, Parish Priest of Rosemeadow, will be the Chaplain accompanying Harvest Journeys Eastern Europe Pilgrimage of Mercy in June 2024, visiting Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic. It includes the Shrines of Divine Mercy, the Black Madonna of Czestochowa and the Infant of Prague. It visits places of importance to St John Paul II, St. Faustina and St. Maximilian Kolbe, among others.

Optional Extension: There is also an optional 6 night/7-day extension (21 – 27 June) to Bavaria and Austria. It will include the Marian Shrine of Altotting, as well as Marktl in Bavaria; Salzburg of the Sound of Music fame and the hometown of Mozart; and the historic, cultural, and artistic city of Vienna in Austria. We will also visit various other shrines and attractions along with some spectacular churches and monasteries. Enquiries: 4628 1385 or directly at [harvestjourneys.com/tour/pilgrimageof-mercy](http://harvestjourneys.com/tour/pilgrimageof-mercy).

### CATHOLICCARE are currently looking for

**Community Support Workers.** Becoming a CatholicCare Community Support Worker will give you a career that you love, whilst providing a valuable connection to people living with a disability or the aged in our Diocese. If you want to find out more about becoming a Community Support Worker go to [catholiccare.dow.org.au/get-involved/careers/or](http://catholiccare.dow.org.au/get-involved/careers/or) call 4227 1122