

# Invitation To All Staff

## The Mass of Chrism

at St Michael's Cathedral, Wagga Wagga

at 11:00am, Tuesday 15th April 2025



An invitation is extended to all employees of the  
Diocese of Wagga Wagga  
Chancery, Centacare and Catholic Education  
to attend the Mass  
celebrated by the Bishop and Priests of the Diocese.

### **Mass of Chrism—a brief history:**

On a day during Holy Week, the Bishop and the Priests of a diocese gather at the Cathedral to celebrate the Chrism Mass. This Mass manifests the unity of the Priests with their Bishop.

Here the Bishop blesses three oils:

- ◇ the Oil of Catechumens (*used for Sacrament of Baptism*),
- ◇ the Oil of the Infirm (*used for Blessing the Sick and Dying*); and
- ◇ Holy Chrism (*used for Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmations*)

These oils will be used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the diocese for the year. This tradition is rooted in the early Church and was later absorbed into the Holy Thursday Evening Mass; Pope Pius XII issued a new Ordinal for Holy Week, which reinstituted a special Mass of the Chrism distinct from the Holy Thursday Evening Mass.

