

# WELCOME

**VISION** *The Wyong Catholic Parish is a welcoming, caring dynamic community*

**MISSION STATEMENT** *We will live and proclaim the message of the Gospel :  
Engage, Participate, Reach out and Transform*

**12th April 2026 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

**WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH**

**ST CECILIA'S CHURCH, ST JOHN FISHER MASS CTR & ST PETER'S CHAPEL**

**Under the Pastoral Care of the**

**Society of Our Lady of The Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)**

## REFLECTION

The Second Sunday of Easter marks the end of our solemn eight days of reflection on the mystery of the resurrection. Today we are told the story of Thomas and Jesus. Thomas is very like us, an ordinary person with doubts and fears in his life, struggling for faith. Having experienced the reality of Jesus' death, he doubts the reality of Christ's resurrection. He needs proof. Verifiable proof!

When Jesus himself provides that proof, Thomas proclaims, 'My Lord and my God'. This is the first proclamation of the divinity of Christ and at the same time it is an affirmation of the reality of his humanity. And just as his divinity was humanised, so now his humanity is glorified. However, notice that the text does not tell us that Thomas did what Jesus suggested. It seems that when he is faced with the truth of the resurrection, Thomas no longer needs to feel the wounds of Christ for himself. It no longer matters. His Lord and his God is welcoming him into full faith and Thomas accepts gladly.

The late Pope Francis tells us, 'The Lord does not disappoint those who take this risk; whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realise that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms ... With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew.' How can we embrace the resurrection more fully? In what way can we provide help for those who still doubt? How do we acknowledge their doubts and help their faith in Christ grow?

*Reproduced from God's Word 2026: Daily Reflections, Published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield.*



## OFFICE CLOSURE DATES

The Parish Office will be Closed on Friday **10th April**, Monday **13th April** and Tuesday **14th April** over the School Holidays. *Thank you for your understanding!*



## PIETY STORE

We are pleased to announce our Piety Store has reopened on Sunday mornings after 7:30am and 9:30am Mass, located near the sacristy at Wyong.

All proceeds will go to the Parish.

We are in need of *volunteers* to keep it open on weekends. If you are able to assist with this please contact the office on 02 4352 1011.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We're seeking volunteers to help support our parish community! Whether you can lend a hand occasionally or more regularly, your time and care make a meaningful difference. Join us in serving, connecting, and strengthening our parish together.

- Church Maintenance/Mowing upkeep
- Altar Servers
- Catechist
- Linen Upkeep
- Choir/Musician
- Piety Store
- Cleaning
- Program/Event Helpers
- Children's Liturgy Helper (Sun)

*You may have a talent or skill not mentioned above, that you feel called to share. Contact us on 02 4352 1011 so you can put your faith in action!*

**EASTER HOLY WEEK 2026**—We'd like to congratulate our newest members of the Catholic Church on receiving their sacraments on Saturday evening. Let us keep them in our prayers as they embark on their faith journey to have new life in Christ Jesus. We'd also like to thank all our volunteers and participants of this year's Easter Triduum.

With your help it allowed this Holy Week to be as successful and as special as it was. Thank you again, may God bless you all for all you continue to do for our Parish Community.



## WYONG PARISH COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS 2026

Thank you to those who have supported our Parish collection for the **Wyong Neighbourhood Centre**. This collection drive will end this weekend: **11th April**.

Suggested donated items may include: Long-life milk, Noodles, Pasta, rice, good quality tinned fruit, food and meals (with ring pulls), Soups, spaghetti, Muesli bars and long life snacks, Breakfast Biscuits/Cereal, UHT Milk, Noodles, Crackers, Lollies/Chocolate, Chips, Tea, Cappuccino sachets, Water/Juice, Beans, Gloves, Scarves, socks & Blankets. Please place all donations into the special trolley or the plastic containers provided in the Church. Thank you for your generous help which is most appreciated.

More information on the charity can be found at the web address listed: Wyong Neighbourhood Centre Inc: <https://www.wnci.org.au>

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY CALLING ALL CHILDREN!

⇒ **Children's Liturgy is held every Sunday**, and we warmly invite all children to join us for the **Liturgy of the Word** — a joyful space where kids meet Jesus through stories, prayer, and engaging faith activities designed just for them.

⇒ Each week, children take something beautiful home in their hearts: a sense of belonging, a Bible story they understand, a message from Jesus to guide their week, a new faith word like mercy, hope, or kindness, simple prayers and lessons on love and forgiveness, confidence to speak about God, the reminder that "Jesus is with me," ideas for kindness at home and school, a craft to remember the Gospel, and a heart ready to pray for others.

\*Children return to the church for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

\*(Children under 5yrs of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times.)



**THANK YOU!** - Caritas Australia would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Wyong Catholic Parish community for your generous support of Project Compassion 2026.

Your support is helping to bring hope, uphold dignity and create lasting change to communities facing poverty and injustice around the world.

Together, your community raised an incredible **\$2356.65** helping to bring clean water, education, nutritious food, healthcare and support for those living with disability - showing what's possible when we come together as a Church to live out the Gospel message of love and justice.

Thank you for uniting with us this Lent to build a more just and compassionate world.



365 Pacific Highway  
North Wyong NSW 2259  
PO Box 786  
Wyong NSW 2259



Ph: 02 4351 8004  
Ph: 02 4392 8777

## BOWDEN FAMILY FUNERALS

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### BIBLE STUDIES EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

If there is anyone interested in attending a Bible Studies group on Saturdays at 3pm, Fortnightly or Monthly please use the QR Code provided or contact the parish office. This will be a space for questions, discussions and sharing information. Lets us support each others formation and share the light of Christ as we delve into his Word. "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Mt 18:20

Bible Studies Expressions of Interest



### COMMUNION BLESSING



You can still receive a blessing if you are not Catholic, have not yet received your Sacrament of First Eucharist/Holy Communion, or, if you are Catholic but are not in a state of grace.

To receive a blessing instead of communion during a Catholic Mass, simply approach the priest during the distribution of communion with your arms folded across your chest, and the priest will offer a blessing.

**Please remember if you are receiving communion, the consecrated host must enter your mouth to be consumed before returning to your seat.**



### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

In preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy, the Lord asked St Faustina to make known a novena of prayer from Good Friday to the following Saturday. These nine days of prayer in the upper room before the Feast of Mercy are like the nine days of prayer in the upper room before the day of Pentecost. For each of the nine days our Lord gave St Faustina a different intention.

**Divine Mercy Sunday—12th April**

We will be having **Benediction, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet** at St Cecilia's Church, Wyong from 2pm—3pm



### UNABLE TO STAND IN LINE FOR COMMUNION? USE THE YELLOW BAND!

Please use the yellow bands located at the back of the Church (in a tub underneath the bulletin shelf) to indicate that you cannot stand in line to receive the Eucharist, by slipping it onto the side of the pew where you will be seated.

Our Priest or Eucharistic Minister will see this and will tend to you at the end of Communion.

### WYONG PARISH HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAM 2026

Wyong Parish will be commencing their Sacramental Program For Holy Communion in May 2026. Please use the QR Code provided to enrol your child into our Holy Communion Sacramental Program for 2026 and stay updated. Your welcome to contact the Parish Office on 02 4352 1011 or email Christine, christine.sassine@bbcatholic.org.au, if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you at the Parent information night.

**AS PART OF OUR PROGRAM WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND MASS EVERY WEEKEND IF YOU DO NOT DO SO ALREADY, THE PERIOD LEADING UP TO THE CEREMONY IS CRUCIAL TO THE SPIRITUAL JOURNEY IN WHICH YOUR CHILD IS EMBARKING. ALL CLASSES HELD IN ST CECILIA'S CHURCH HALL, 23 BYRON ST, WYONG (BEHIND THE CHURCH)**

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (THIS INCLUDES RECONCILIATION)

**FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE COMPLETED CONFIRMATION**

Parent Information Evening:

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 6.30pm @ St Cecilia's Church Hall &

Tues 28<sup>th</sup> April, 6.30pm @ SJF Mass Centre

More information regarding classes etc when you scan the relevant QR Code.

St John Fisher Students only



St Cecilia & State School Students



### COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

Resumes Term 2: 4th May



### YOUTH GROUP—FRI 17TH APRIL

Our next youth group gathering is on Friday 17th April in the Parish Hall @6pm till 8pm. Ages 13-18yrs are welcome. Parent/Guardian consent required, contact Parish office if required.

### MOTHERS' DAY RAFFLE

Tickets for the Mothers' Day raffle will be on sale on the weekends of 18/19 and 25/26 April. Cost for each ticket is \$2.00. Funds raised will go towards the outside safety updates at St Cecilia's and the erection of the outside covering at St John Fisher.



### HELPING HANDS

The one-hour meeting on next **Tuesday, 14 April** at 6:00pm at St Cecilia's Parish Hall will be a 'brainstorming think tank'.

None of us alone can solve the problems we see around us. The more parishioners who give the time to attend this meeting will provide great input which will be used to develop the parish's action plan to help change people's lives for the better.



### Pope's Prayer Intention for: April—For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

### PLANNED GIVING

Dear Parishioners, should you wish to donate electronically, please see details below or use the QR Code provided.

**We appreciate all offerings and support gifted to our Parish!**



Serra Weekly Vocations Prayer Calendar. Please pray for those in formation or already serving the Church

13/4	Fr John Hill
14/4	Fr Robert Borg
15/4	Fr Jim McKeon
16/4	Fr Aldrin Valdehueva
17/4	Fr Vince Casey
18/4	Fr Greg Chee OCD
19/4	Fr Gerard Moran OCD



### Daily Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, we praise You for Your goodness and thank You for Your gifts. Help us respond to and live out our mission in the Church. Assist all Your people to know their vocation in life and help them to prepare for it. Call many to be priests, deacons and consecrated men and women for Your greater glory, and for the service of Your people. Give those whom You call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen



### Property Transfer Professionals

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## MASS TIMES

### ST CECILIA'S CHURCH

23 Byron St Wyong

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass Times

Sat Vigil 5.00pm Sun 7.30am & 9.30am

**Weekday Mass**

Mon-Sat: 8.00am, Monday 9.15am (School Term)

**Reconciliation/Confession** Saturday morning after the 8am Mass & Saturday at 4.30pm

### ST JOHN FISHER MASS CENTRE

Hicks Lane Tumbi Umbi

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass Times

Sat Vigil 5.00 pm Sun: 8.30am & 5pm

**Weekday Mass**

Mon, Wed, Thurs 8:00am Tue & Fri: 9.15am

**Reconciliation/Confession** Saturday at 4.30pm

### EMERGENCY PRIEST CONTACT

Fr Raul Ph: 0450 115 099

Fr Alex Ph: 0432 947 245

Fr Teody Ph: 0410 202 823

**PARISH OFFICE:** 23 Byron Street Wyong

**Phone:** 02 4352 1011 **Mail:** Po Box 385 Wyong 2259

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday -Wednesday & Friday 9.30am to 2.30pm

### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest **Fr Raul Balute, SOLT Ph: 0450 115 099**

Email: [raul.balute@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:raul.balute@bbcatholic.org.au)

Assistant Priest **Fr Alex Barnedo, SOLT Ph: 0432 947 245**

Assistant Priest **Fr Teody Medina, SOLT Ph: 0410 202 823**

Parish Secretaries **Margaret Vandenberg & Christine Sassine**

SRE Catechist Co-Ordinator: **Margaret Vandenberg**

**PARISH EMAIL:** [wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

**PARISH WEBSITE:** <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/wyong/>

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish](http://www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish)

### Children's Liturgy at the following Masses

St Cecilia's 5:00pm Mass Saturday

St Cecilia's 9.30am Mass Sunday

St John Fisher 5pm Mass Sunday

### Mass St Barnabas, Yarramalong

1st Sun of month 11.15am

### Filipino Mass St Cecilia's Church

3rd Sun of the month 12pm

### Anointing of the Sick

### First Friday of the Month

St Cecilia's During 8.00am & 11.30am Mass

St John Fisher During 9.15am Mass

### Eucharistic Adoration

St Cecilia's Daily 7am-8am

St John Fisher 1st Fri 8.45 - 9.15am

### Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

St Cecilia's Sat after 8am Mass

St John Fisher Wed after the 8am Mass

### Devotion to the Divine Mercy

St Cecilia's Fri after the 8am Mass

St John Fisher Fri after the 9:15am Mass

### Prayer groups

St Cecilia's Rosary Group Tues after 8am mass followed by Divine Mercy

St Cecilia's Legion of Mary, Wed 9.15am in Parish Hall.

### Meetings

St Cecilia's Choir practice every Tues night 5pm to 6pm

### **Parish Pastoral Council Meeting**

PPC Secretary: Kerry Bugden

Ph: 02 4388 2938

**BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS**  
**PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE**

### KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

*Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.*

#### **SICK:**

Jeanine Doueichi, Margaret McDermott, Dave Rodney, Danae Roe, Milva Kefu, Tahnia Ahuriri, Badwi Laoulach, Vince Bosco, Rik, Rita Kerr

#### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

Delma Baker, Antoni Szczur, Peter Meury, Susan Monk, Fr John McCall

#### **ANNIVERSARY APRIL:**

Aaron Collins, Kay Taylor, Leanne Smith, Leslie Smith, Beryl Moloney, Roberta (Robbie) Jones, Dominga & Eutiquio Diaz, Jack Gill, Deceased members of Croke & Kenny families, Margaret Hines, Janet Milroy



### SAFEGUARDING MESSAGE

Wyong parish is committed to safeguarding. All children, young persons and vulnerable adults have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you have a concern about the safety of anyone in the parish, please raise your concern with Fr Raul, Fr Alex or Fr Teody on the contact details provided above; or, Anne Hooley: 0428 149 793 or, Maureen Roast: 0435 245 849.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

**Gospel [Luke 24:13-35](#)**

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.

He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his Body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the Eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

# MOTHERS DAY LUNCH

**CENTRAL COAST SANTA MARIA  
COMMITTEE WELCOMES YOU**

**3rd<sup>th</sup> MAY 2026**

**Lunch at Toukley Golf Club, Key St Toukley**

**From 12:00 until 4pm**

**Two course lunch includes bread roll and nibbles**

**DJ Carol Zammit**

**Cost \$45 per person Pay by 16<sup>rd</sup> April 2026**

**PROUDLY SUPPORTING**

**Santa Maria Festa celebrations in**

**August 2026**



## **SPONSORS INVITED CONTACT**

**Charlie Scicluna 0404194020**

**Glenn Dcruz 0413291129**

**Lunch bookings with  
Charlie Scicluna 0404194020  
Tony and Rita 0448742591  
Charlie and Connie 43963704**

## **Looking for flexible work - and a chance to support persecuted Christians?**

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Australia is seeking a Diocesan Outreach Assistant to give short presentations at weekend Masses across the Diocese of Broken Bay.

This part-time role involves sharing stories of the suffering Church and helping build prayerful support within parish communities.

If you are comfortable speaking in front of others and have a heart for this mission, we would love to hear from you.

For details:

[www.aidtochurch.org/work](http://www.aidtochurch.org/work)

### **Cecilia Figueroa**

National Outreach Coordinator

Aid to the Church in Need | **ACN Australia & New Zealand**

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PO Box 90445, Auckland 1142 NEW ZEALAND

AU 1800 101 201 | NZ 0800 242 322 | Direct +612 9167 9515

[cecilia@aidtochurch.org](mailto:cecilia@aidtochurch.org) | [www.aidtochurch.org](http://www.aidtochurch.org)

## RESIDENTIAL RETREATS FOR 2026

Starts on Friday at 5:30pm &  
Ends on Sunday, 4:00pm

JAN	<b>BIBLE CONVENTION</b> (Led by Fr Antony) Jan 31st- 1st Feb) 9am-4pm
FEB	27Feb-1Mar, Lenten Retreat
MAR	20-22, Preparation for Holy Week Retreat
APR	17-19, Deliverance Retreat
MAY	15-17, Preparation For Pentecost Retreat
JUN	19-21, Inner Healing Retreat
JUL	10-12, Family Healing Retreat
AUG	14-16, Dei Verbum Retreat
SEP	11-13, Deliverance Retreat
OCT	2-4, Marian Retreat
NOV	13-15, Inner Healing Retreat
DEC	11-13, Advent Retreat

### PLEASE BOOK VIA OUR WEBSITE

<https://divineretreatcentre.org/booking-form/>  
or email us at [drcretreatrego@gmail.com](mailto:drcretreatrego@gmail.com)

### SILENT GUIDED RETREAT

*If you would like to book for a private "SILENT GUIDED RETREAT", please email [drtsydney@gmail.com](mailto:drtsydney@gmail.com) and we will share information about the cost and what to bring, to help you prepare for a peaceful and meaningful experience.*

## OUTREACH MINISTRIES

### First Friday (Chatwood)

Healing Prayer Service, 6:30pm-8:30pm  
at Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, CHATSWOOD

### Third Monday (Wallsend)

Healing Prayer Service, 7:00pm-9:00pm  
at St Patrick's Church, 11 Macquarie street, WALLSEND

### Third Friday (Epping)

Holy Mass & Adoration, 6:00pm-8:00pm  
at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, 31 Oxford St, EPPING

### Fourth Thursday (Adelaide)

Spiritual Healing Retreat, 7:00pm-9:00pm  
St Peter Claver Church, 8 Stuart Road, Dulwich,  
Adelaide, SA 5065

### Brisbane & Canberra (As advertised)

For other upcoming outreach ministries please refer  
to our website events page:  
<https://divineretreatcentre.org/events/>

**Spiritual Guidance,  
confessions by appointment.  
Email: [drtsydney@gmail.com](mailto:drtsydney@gmail.com)**

### Perpetual adoration Chapel: Open 24/7

We rely on your loving support to maintain this beautiful space and ensure our ministries can thrive. If you are able to give, your gift is a blessing that helps us keep the doors open and our hearts dedicated to serving God and neighbour. Thank you for your care and commitment to our ministry.

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Dear Friends,

We have 3 retreats coming up at Jamberoo Abbey in the month of April to June. Here's a short description of each of them. Go to [our website](#) for more information and how to register.

We would like to enable as many people to attend our retreats. If you require assistance with the registration cost, please don't hesitate to contact us at [onlineretreat@jamberooabbey.org.au](mailto:onlineretreat@jamberooabbey.org.au).

God bless.

Benedictine Nuns of Jamberoo Abbey

### [Lord, Teach Us to Pray: The Aramaic Prayer of Jesus](#)

**(Cottage Weekend Retreat) 10 - 12 April 2026**

In this contemplative retreat we return to the very words Jesus spoke as we explore the Lord's Prayer in its original Aramaic, uncovering layers of meaning often lost in translation.

Retreat Cost: \$150 + accommodation cost.

### [He is risen!](#)

**(Day Retreat) 18 April 2026**

Calling youth and young adults to come together for a time of prayer and reflection. This is a retreat for youth and young adults aged 16 - 35. The Lord is risen! Let us come and spend time sitting at the tomb and wait for his voice to call our name.

Retreat Cost: \$60 (*Limited space available*)

### [Praying Icons with Julian of Norwich](#)

**(Day Retreat) 27 June 2026**

Join us for a contemplative day exploring the rich intersection of iconography and Julian of Norwich's Revelations of Divine Love.

Retreat Cost: \$60 (*Limited space available*)

#### **Benedictine Abbey**

695 Jamberoo Mountain Road, Jamberoo NSW 2533, Australia

T: +61 2 4236 0011 E: [webadmin@jamberooabbey.org.au](mailto:webadmin@jamberooabbey.org.au)



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# Engaging Your Faith Online Series



Choose from 12 sessions in May 2026

Engaging Your Faith is a series of short, online presentations that invite participants to reflect on what it means to be people of faith in the contemporary world.

Experienced lecturers from Catholic Theological College present on a variety of topics such as science and faith issues including AI, moral theology, politics and religion, the Gospels of Matthew and John, biblical languages, canon law, and religion and ethics.

#### Cost

- \$25 per session: General audience
- \$40 per session: Teachers applying for Catholic school accreditation

See the next page for the list of topics and presenters.

These sessions are approved for teacher accreditation in some Catholic dioceses.  
For more information refer to our website.



To register, scan the QR code or  
[visit our website](#) for a full description of the sessions.

Email [ctc@ctc.edu.au](mailto:ctc@ctc.edu.au) for further information  
+61 3 9412 3333 | 278 Victoria Parade East Melbourne | [ctc.edu.au](http://ctc.edu.au)

CRICOS: 01037A

# May 2026

Registrations essential!

Please note that registrations close at 5pm two business days before each session.

Day	Title and Presenter
Monday 4 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>Can a Scientist Believe in God?</b> Rev. Dr Chris Mulherin
Tuesday 5 May 7.30pm - 8.30pm	<b>Interculturality and Its Relevance for the Church Today</b> Rev. Dr Jake Mudge
Wednesday 6 May 5.30pm - 7pm	<b>Democracy and Education</b> Prof. Jānis Ozoliņš
Thursday 7 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>Enriching Our Understanding of Being A Christian in Our World Today</b> Dr Frances Baker RSM
Tuesday 12 May 7.30pm - 9pm	<b>John 1: 19-51: Jesus' Baptism and the Call to Discipleship</b> Br Dr Paul Creevey FMS
Wednesday 13 May 5.30pm - 7pm	<b>Old Testament Law: Is It Still Relevant?</b> Rev. Dr Kris Sonek OP
Thursday 14 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>Community and Communion: A (Gentle) Introduction to Canon Law</b> Rev. Adi Indra
Monday 18 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>The Gospel According to Matthew: A Tapestry</b> Dr Rosemary Canavan
Tuesday 19 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>Religion and Ethics: Exploring Some Connections</b> Dr Frances Baker RSM
Wednesday 20 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>An Introduction to AI and Transhumanism ... for Christians</b> Rev. Dr Chris Mulherin
Thursday 21 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>After Death — What?</b> Rev. Dr Paul Connell
Tuesday 26 May 7pm - 8.30pm	<b>Why Study the Ancient Biblical Languages?</b> Rev. Dr Trevor Tibbertsma

Visit our [website](#) for a full description of the sessions.

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CRICOS: 01037A

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## MAGI PILGRIMAGES

### **FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL (5th - 20th May 2026)**

Fr. Sebastian A.M invites you to a journey in the footsteps of St. Paul, reliving the Acts of the Apostles and exploring the letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Turkey with a 3-night Greek Islands cruise in this 14-day pilgrimage for an all-inclusive price of \$9790+ tips (25+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th.

### **SAINTS OF ITALY (8th - 21st June 2026)**

Fr. Franco Filippetto invites you to a 14-day journey to Italy, visiting Milan, Padua, Siena, Assisi, Rotondo, Sorrento, and Rome, with an all-inclusive price of \$ 9,290 + tips (for 30+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th.

The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in 4-star Premium Hotels, Meals + English speaking professional guides + Entrances as per itinerary and more. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email us [pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au)

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ST OLAF CHURCH



COPENHAGEN CITY

# Scandinavian S E C R E T S



With hosts Rev'd Christopher Waterhouse + a Monk from St. Benedicts Monastery, Arcadia

DEPARTING SYDNEY  
24 SEPT 2026

### 5 nights – Stockholm

*Built on 14 islands, Stockholm is often called the Venice of the North.*

### 2 nights – Vadstena

*Home to Vadstena Castle, one of Sweden's best-preserved Renaissance fortresses.*

### 3 nights – Malmö

*Malmö's iconic Turning Torso is the tallest building in Scandinavia.*

### 5 nights – Copenhagen

*Copenhagen is one of the world's most bike-friendly cities, with more bikes than cars.*

## REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY

[krystal@ettravel.com.au](mailto:krystal@ettravel.com.au)

0438 907 006

ASK US ABOUT OUR EXCLUSIVE  
NORWAY ADD-ON—WHERE  
BREATHTAKING FJORDS AND  
UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURES  
AWAIT!



THE LITTLE MERMAID

## ABOUT OUR HOST

### FR. CHRISTOPHER WATERHOUSE



The Rev'd Christopher Waterhouse is Rector of St James' King Street, Sydney. Prior to his appointment, he served as Precentor and Chaplain

for the Arts at St David's Cathedral, Hobart. Born in the United Kingdom and raised and educated in Tasmania, Christopher developed an early passion for the performing arts, particularly theatre and music. He appeared in numerous stage productions across Tasmania before relocating to Sydney to work with the Sydney Theatre Company, and later moving to London where he worked at the St James' Theatre.

He subsequently left the theatre industry to work at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, while undertaking ministry studies. Christopher returned to Australia in 2017 to become Director of the St James' Institute. He has more than 25 years' experience as a radio presenter in Hobart, London and Sydney, and has served on the boards of a range of philanthropic, church, education and arts organisations. These include the national board of the Anglican Board of Mission, the Council of St Andrew's College, and 2MBS Fine Music Sydney.

# Scandinavia Itinerary Overview

## Stockholm 5 nights

- Arrival in Stockholm with airport transfer.
- Guided city tour featuring City Hall, the Old Town (Gamla Stan), the Royal Palace and Parliament.
- Scenic boat cruise through the Stockholm Archipelago.
- Full-day guided excursion to Sigtuna and Uppsala, exploring Viking-era sites, the historic university precinct and Uppsala Cathedral.
- Free day to explore Stockholm independently, with the option to use the Stockholm Pass.
- Visits to ABBA The Museum and the Vasa Museum.

## Vadstena - 2 nights

- Travel south with a stop at Östanbäck Monastery.
- Guided walking tour of medieval Vadstena.
- Visits to Vadstena Abbey and Vadstena Castle.

## Malmö - 3 nights

- Travel to Malmö.
- Visit Malmö Castle and key churches. Church service.
- Excursion to Skanörs Church and final sightseeing in Malmö.
- Full-day excursion along the Skåne coast. Visits to Ystad and Simrishamn.
- Stop at the Kivik Grave and visits to historic churches including St Nicolai Church and St Olof's Church.

## Copenhagen - 5 nights

- Travel to Denmark via ferry. Visit Kronborg Castle (Hamlet's Castle).
- Scenic coastal drive along the Strandvej to Copenhagen.
- Guided city tour including Nyhavn, Amalienborg Palace, Christiansborg Palace and The Little Mermaid.
- Canal cruise and visit to the Church of Our Lady. Excursion to Roskilde, including the Viking Ship Museum and Roskilde Cathedral.
- Full-day excursion to Odense, visiting H.C. Andersen's House and Odense Cathedral.

## Inclusions & Important Information

- Depart Australia: 24 September 2026
- Full breakfast daily. 7 dinners included, featuring both a welcome dinner and a farewell dinner.
- Single supplement available on request.
- Ask about extending your journey to Norway — we offer tailored packages to make this a reality.
- All listed activities are subject to change at any time due to operational requirements.
- Flights are with Air China, offering Economy, Premium Economy and Business Class options.
- The itinerary includes a stopover in the spectacular historic city of Beijing.

# Carmel House Retreats 2026

**MAY  
20-24**

**Pentecost Intensive  
RUAH**

"He breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'". Jn 20:22  
The Ruah (breath) of God renews each soul that receives its power. Embrace the gift of the Holy Spirit through fellowship, inputs, prayer and practical workshops and help renew the face of the earth  
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDAV>.

**OCT  
16-18**

**Hand Made  
Creative Healing Retreat**

"In his hand is the life of every creature." Job 12:10  
Come away for a weekend of reflection on how carefully God has made and upheld your life through different creative prayer experiences.  
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDCB>

**JUNE  
27**

**GARDENS  
Day Retreat**

"Grieve not as those who have no hope." 1 Thess 4:13.  
Spend a day reflecting on how while we experience pain, grief and loss in life, we can also discover in such moments that God is renewing us and doing "a new thing" (Rev 21:4) within us.  
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBD>

**NOV  
14**

**ALIVE  
Holy Spirit Family  
Retreat Day**

Your family has been carefully chosen and put together by God and has an important mission entrusted only to you.  
Discover as a family the power of the Holy Spirit to live with boldness and love!  
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDCJ>

**AUG  
28-30**

**HOMECOMING  
Silent Retreat**

"His father saw him, ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." Lk 15: 20  
Your heavenly Father waits for you to come away with him for a weekend of silently soaking in his great love for you. Embrace this opportunity for encountering deep peace and serenity.  
w/e: <https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBK>  
extensive: <https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBU>

Missionaries of God's Love  
**Sisters**



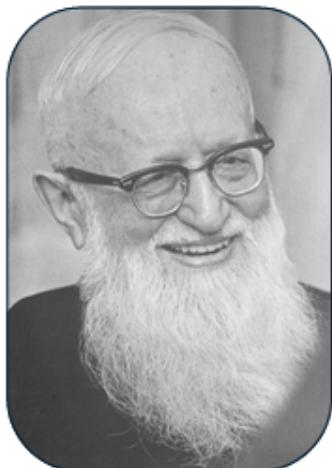
**Carmel House**  
345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW 2566  
[mglisters.sydney@gmail.com](mailto:mglisters.sydney@gmail.com)  
[mglisters.org](https://www.mglisters.org)

BOOK NOW!



*Schoenstatt Sisters*  
CENTENARY YEAR  
*Pilgrimages!*

# PILGRIMAGES CAN INCLUDE...



## HOLY MASS

- In the Shrine, House Chapel or Family Hall
- Come with own priest
- Existing Masses at Mount Schoenstatt on Thursdays & Sundays at 11am

## CONFESSION

- Available with own priest only

## PRAYER

- Devotion
- Rosary
- Stations of the Cross
- Private

## TALK BY A SISTER

- About Schoenstatt and the sisters community



## MEALS

- BYO
- Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea available at a cost

## PIETY STORE

- Gifts
- Souvenirs
- Religious items

Plenary indulgence available  
until **4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2026**

*Tailor your pilgrimage  
to suit your needs!*

**ALL PILGRIMAGES BY DONATION!**

**CONTACT**



**SR M. OLIVIA**



**0473 201 525**

**sister.m.olivia@gmail.com**

## WANT TO JOIN OUR FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM?

CatholicCare are seeking volunteers for our Aged Care Volunteers Visitors Scheme (formerly known as the Community Visitors Scheme). As a volunteer, you will visit seniors in a local aged care facility or in their own home and help improve their quality of life. Our volunteers have the flexibility to choose a day and time that suits them, we just ask for a commitment of at least one hour per fortnight.

Affectionately referred to as CatholicCare's 'friendship program', you will be able to build new connections and positive relationships with someone who will greatly appreciate your company. Please call (02) 9481 2600 or visit [www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/volunteer/](http://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/volunteer/) for more information



*CatholicCare*  
Diocese of Broken Bay

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AGED CARE VOLUNTEER VISITORS SCHEME

[www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/volunteer](http://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/volunteer)

# Discover and share in our story

The Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre brings alive the spirit of the Congregation, it's history and heritage.

Australia's first religious sisters have been of service to the community regardless of creed, wealth or ethnicity, for over 185 years.

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**Tuesday – Thursday**  
**10.00am-3.00pm or by appointment**  
**Free entry, parking available**  
**Bookings recommended**

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*You too are part of this continuing  
and living heritage and we'd love  
to welcome you.*

1 Rockwall Cres, Potts Point, NSW  
T: 02 9138 0835  
W: [socheritagecentre.org.au](http://socheritagecentre.org.au)  
E: [heritagecentre@rscoffice.com](mailto:heritagecentre@rscoffice.com)



**Sisters  
of Charity**  
of Australia

**HERITAGE  
CENTRE**



# St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre

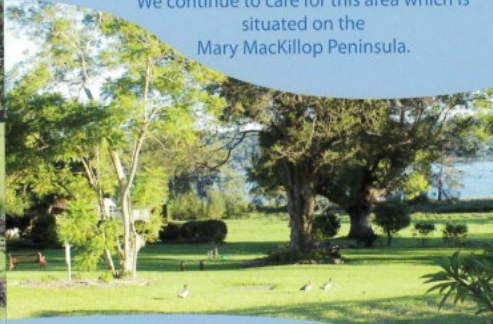
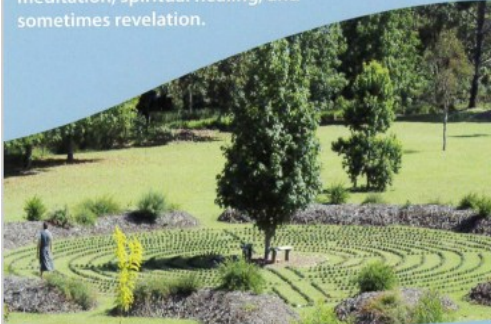
## Kincumber South

The abundance of natural beauty which surrounds the Centre will ensure your stay is unforgettable, enjoyable and restful.

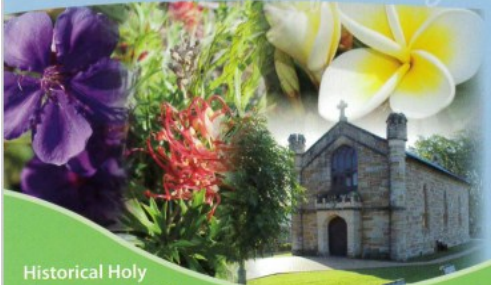
The labyrinth is a place for prayer, meditation, spiritual healing, and sometimes revelation.

We acknowledge the original owner of this land and pay tribute to The Darkinjung Nation and the Guringai people who have cared for this land with love and respect.


We continue to care for this area which is situated on the Mary MacKillop Peninsula.



### Peace and Tranquility



Historical Holy Cross church built in 1842 presents itself right in front of our Centre.

 A Ministry of the Sisters of St Joseph  
NSW Province

*The Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph, founded by Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods in 1866, was devoted to the service of the poor. Its members were women who worked in a simple ordinary way to bring to the poor the message of their human dignity and of Christ's saving love. Today the Sisters of St Joseph continue that founding mission to relieve suffering and bring hope to today's world.*

*St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre offers the opportunity for individuals and groups to experience spiritual enrichment and personal development in a peaceful and spacious setting. The facilities are available to those whose purpose is in harmony with the spirit and philosophy of the Sisters of St Joseph.*

### St Joseph's Spirituality & Education Centre

8 Humphreys Road, Kincumber South, NSW 2251  
Phone: 02 43682805 : Fax: 02 43683849  
Email: [bookings@stjosephsretreat.org.au](mailto:bookings@stjosephsretreat.org.au)  
Web: [www.stjosephskincumber.org.au](http://www.stjosephskincumber.org.au)



## Location

St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre is located at Kincumber South, in a natural bushland setting, in a quiet corner of the beautiful Central Coast of NSW.

The spacious grounds front the Kincumber Broadwater, creating an atmosphere of tranquility and peace that enhances the spiritual and reflective nature of the Centre.

A perfect place where people can be recharged, re-energized and spend precious time connecting with God, each other and nature.

## Services

Dedicated staff are on hand to advise and to ensure the smooth running of your group's activities.

You can be certain of our personalised & professional service from start to finish for your conference, meeting or seminar.

The Centre is open to people of all faiths and beliefs and is a warm and welcoming place respecting cultural and religious differences.

Meals are prepared on site, catering for special dietary requirements.

Morning and afternoon tea are all homemade.

## Facilities

St Joseph's is a smoke free environment.

The quality and presentation of the accommodation add to the overall ambience of the Centre.

A maximum of 54 people can be accommodated in 35 double, twin, or single rooms, all with modern ensuites.

Ramp and lift access to rooms is available, some bathrooms are wheelchair friendly.

Our facility hosts  
Retreats  
Conferences  
Group Seminars  
Small Group Meetings  
Bible Study Groups  
Prayer Days

Sound and visual equipment for conferences are available on request.

### Walking Tracks and Gardens

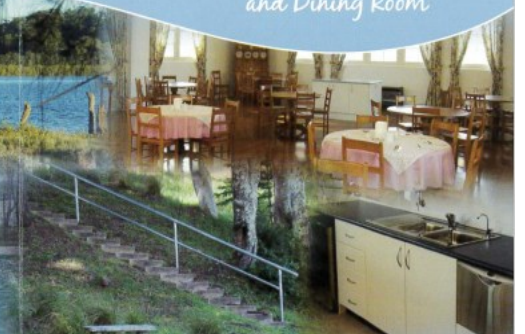
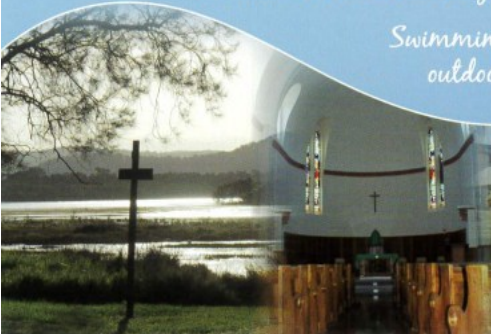
### Meditation Areas and Mary of the Cross Walk

### Swimming pool and outdoor patio

### Chapel and prayer rooms

### Conference Rooms

### Lounge, Tea Bays and Dining Room



# WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEW ACCREDITATION FOR HOME CARE PACKAGES

CatholicCare is our social care agency in the Diocese of Broken Bay and we have been supporting the Northern Sydney, Northern Beaches and Central Coast communities for 35 years.

We understand many seniors prefer to stay at home as they age. The Government's funding for Home Care Packages can help you live independently at home for longer.

We want to know if our Home Care Packages are of interest to you, or a loved one and want to prioritise the needs of our parishioners before we promote to the general public. As a Catholic organisation we want the seniors we support to know they are truly cherished and valued and we're confident our services will be very well received.

*There's no obligation to partner with CatholicCare. We may contact you to discuss your needs, but you're welcome to opt-out at anytime.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently have Home Care Package funding from the Government?

Yes       No       Unsure

Do you need help applying for a Home Care Package?

Yes       No       Maybe

Is there any other feedback you'd like to provide?

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Take a photo of this completed form and email to [info@catholiccareddb.org.au](mailto:info@catholiccareddb.org.au) or text a photo of the form to 0481 602 046. Thank you.

## CATHOLICCARE BROKEN BAY

### Do you have a problem that you can't solve on your own?

When feelings become overwhelming or confusing, counselling can be very helpful. We work with you to overcome challenges and stress.

We work with you, assisting you to face challenges and stressors, coming up with sugges-

tions to tackle or resolve these challenges. We listen, talk through experiences and help you think about ways forward. Common issues addressed in counselling include family transitions, communication issues, work/life balance, conflict, parenting after separation, grief and loss and decision making. We offer a welcoming, inclusive environment and a safe space for all ages. CatholicCare offers Government funded, fee for service and NDIS approved therapy options for yourself, your children and as a family unit.

To access this service please call 1800 324 924 or visit [www.catholiccaredbb.org.au](http://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au).



# Key Telephone Numbers

## KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### **POLICE: 000**

Call the Police for immediate assistance.

### **1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732**

A national 24-hour 7 day a week service, for advice or support in relation to sexual assault and domestic violence. The service also connects victims to the nearest help according to their location.

### **FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS**

Call 131 450 for an interpreter. Ask them to ring 1800 RESPECT for you.

### **CATHOLICCARE BROKEN BAY**

CatholicCare provides a range of services to assist women and children experiencing domestic violence

Central Coast: 1800 324 924	Northern Beaches: 1800 324 924
Naremburn: 1800 324 924	Waitara: 1800 324 924

### **MEN'S REFERRAL SERVICE: 1300 766 491**

A national 24-hour 7 day a week anonymous and confidential counselling, information and referral service to help men stop using violent and controlling behaviour.

## FOR FEMALE MIGRANTS UNDER A TEMPORARY VISA

Migrants are especially vulnerable to abuse because they are in unfamiliar territory without knowledge of the laws and emergency services they can access.

If you are experiencing domestic violence, you can take out an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO) against your partner.

Under the Migration Act you can apply for permanent residency due to domestic violence.

Ring any of the following numbers:

<b>Immigration Advice and Rights Centre</b>	<b>02 8234 0777</b>
<b>Immigrant Women's SpeakOut Association</b>	<b>1800 656 463</b>
<b>Legal Aid NSW</b>	<b>1300 888 529</b> (business hours)

**PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE ARE SERIOUS INDICTABLE OFFENCES UNDER THE NSW CRIMES ACT 1900.** It is an offence to fail to report knowledge or belief of a serious indictable offence. If in doubt, call 000.

This parish resource has been developed by the Diocese of Broken Bay's Catholic Life & Faith Formation Team in consultation with the Safeguarding Office (Chancery) and CatholicCare Broken Bay. This booklet is part of a Parish Kit which assists parishes to respond to those experiencing domestic violence or those who are seeking help for their violent behaviour. The kit is available for download [www.bbcatholic.org.au](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au)

[www.bbcatholic.org.au](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au)



**CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY**

# SAFEGUARDING is everyone's responsibility



Everyone must practice **A DUTY OF CARE**. We are called to step up and speak out.

Need to be listening & watching to understand if there are any concerns and take them seriously



Tell one of our designated persons in authority

- Fr Raúl 0450 115 099
- Maureen Roast 0435 245 849
- Anne Hooley 0428 149 793

Contact will be made with Diocesan Safeguarding Office



Our Community is **SAFE**