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 FEBRUARY 2023 6th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME Year A

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)

Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Reflection 12.2.23 6th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time Year A

Reproduced from God's Word 2023: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield

This is a very challenging Gospel reading. Jesus upholds the law, but in every case he asks us to go one step further than the letter of the law: we are to fulfil even its spirit. His examples-killing, name-calling, adultery, divorce, swearing-are all just illustrations of the difference between the virtues of the scribes and Pharisees' and the virtues that he preaches. Jesus' attitude is what we might call a holistic approach to life. His 'virtue ethics' means that specific choices of actions come from a wider perspective of the heart. It is like seeing through God-tinted glasses. So in our ethical decision-making today, we can be guided by this same attitude. What does 'do not kill' mean in the face of harmful emissions and extinctions of species? What does not committing adultery' mean in the face of widespread pornography and human trafficking? What does 'not breaking your oath' mean in the face of fake news and decisions made by artificial intelligence? In all of these, our relationship with God will guide us forward. And, at Mass today, our sign of peace demonstrates how reconciliation with each other enables us to approach the divine.

Sunday Mass 12th February 2023

THE LITURGY

First Reading Sirach 15:15-20

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a men likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

R. Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:6-10

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation cf Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:17-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'



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SAVE THE DATE

Palm Burning Ceremony Tuesday 21st February

6pm

Palm Burning Ceremony followed by BBQ dinner (please bring dessert to share) to be held at St Cecilia's Church and Parish Hall/Verandah For catering purposes please RSVP to Kerry on 024388 2938

RAE'S STALL St Cecilia's Church

On the 11th/12th February at all Wyong Masses, Rae will be running a Stall. All money raised will be going towards our Pastoral Works quota. There will be some lovely succulent plants for sale as well as various other items.

Wyong Parish Sacramental

Program will be starting in February, our first sacrament for the year will be Reconciliation. For more information please call the parish office on 02 4352 1011.

Sacrament of Reconciliation For children in year 4 and above who have received the Sacrament

of Confirmation. Information evening **7pm Mon 20th Feb at St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong.**

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention February For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

250 Club Update

WE ARE HALFWAY

We have sold 128 numbers so far. Thank you to those who have already signed up. 6 weeks to go until the draw starts.

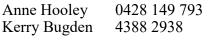
Key Dates

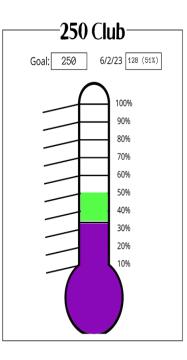
Feb 25/26 - Volunteers will be at Mass to sign up.

Feb 27/28 - Allocation of sold numbers

Mar 4/5 - Numbers will be advised

Participants not spoken to this weekend will be contacted during the following week. Any questions, please call Maureen Roast 0435 245 849 Anne Hooley 0428 149 793





"The Central Coast Secular Franciscans are holding their first meeting for 2023 on SUNDAY 19th February.

The meeting will begin at 10:30 am straight after the 9:30 Mass at The Entrance Catholic Church in the Reynolds room.

A warm invitation is extended to everyone to attend this monthly meeting.

Secretary: Gerard Price ofs Mob. 0439 519 018. For additional information about the Franciscan charism, please see the website: ofsaustralia.org.au"

World Day of the Sick – 11 February 2023

World Day of the Sick falls on Saturday 11 February, and this year's theme is "*Take care of him*" Compassion as a synodal exercise of healing.

In his message for World Day of the Sick 2023, Pope Francis draws on the Parable of the Good Samaritan. He writes: "Sick people, in fact, are at the center of God's people, and the Church advances together with them as a sign of a humanity in which everyone is precious and no one should be discarded or left behind."



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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

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

Emergency Priest Contact

Fr Raul ph: 0450 115 099 Fr Alex ph: 0432 947 245

PARISH OFFICE 23 Byron Street Wyong Phone: 02 4352 1011 Po Box 385 Wyong 2259 OFFICE HOURS: Mon to Thurs 9.30am to 2.30pm & Fri 9.30am to 12pm

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest Fr Raul Balute, SOLT ph:0450 115 099 email: raul.balute@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest Fr Alex Barnedo, SOLT ph:0432 947 245

Parish Coordinator **Jo Helm** ph: **0424 763 734** (Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri) email: **jo.helm@bbcatholic.org.au**

Parish Secretary Helen Bath ph:02 4352 1011 (Wed & Thurs)

PARISH EMAIL: wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au **PARISH WEBSITE:** https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/wyong/ **FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish



KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS *Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.*

SICK: Harriet Powell, Danae Roe, Peter Ford, Harry Hall, Michael Briggs, Christine Heffernan, Jennese Thompson, Leeann Hazelton, Bernadette Kiely, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, William Martin, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Margaret Hobbs, Christine, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Carol Dafter, Dave Rodney, Gwen Dwyer, Helen Waters, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Marie Rheinberger, Hannah Hopwood, Fay King, Joan Mabbutt, Irene Dainty, Eoin, Paula, Peter Meury, Lyn Nash, Jai Coleman, Kathleen Pidgeon

RECENTLY DECEASED: His Eminence Cardinal George Pell, Peter Rheinberger

ANNIVERSARY FEBRUARY: Bill Cullinan, John Kiernan, Rosie Attard, Natividad Dieta, Rita Muscat, Rod McCarthy, Victor Gibbs., Frank Costa

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

> Children's Liturgy at the following Masses

St Cecilia's 5pm Mass Saturday St Cecilia's 9.30am Mass Sunday St John Fisher 5pm Mass Sunday

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

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 8.15 - 9.15am

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sat St Cecilia's & Wed St John Fisher (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 9am Wed

Meetings

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

TUGGERAH SPORTS & SPINAL PHYSIOTHERAPY

Ricky Li Registered NDIS provider Phone 4355 4445 www.tuggerahphysio.com.au **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 Joanne. The contact details are on the back to the Bulletin.

WYONG PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

We are delighted that you are bringing your child to receive the Sacraments, we look forward to sharing with you and your child, this journey of faith as he/she prepares to receive this sacrament.

In Baptism, your child began a life-long journey and a way of life. At Confirmation, the graces received in Baptism were sealed with the reception of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. First Eucharist completes their reception of the Sacraments of Initiation into the Christian life.

The Family plays a central role in the faith formation of children, and as parents, you are your child's primary teacher as he/she develops a relationship with the person of Christ and his Church. We are also grateful to the grandparents, godparents, aunts and uncles, older siblings, other relatives, and family friends who undertake this role.

As family, friends, parish personnel, teachers, and volunteers work with the children in the activity of preparing them for the sacraments, the Holy Spirit inspires and draws them into the relationship with Christ. It is a sacred time and we encourage you to enter this process whole-heartedly with the children as they prepare to receive this sacrament.

Wyong Parish will be commencing their Sacramental Program for 2023 in February. Please contact the Parish Office on 0424 763 734 to make arrangements for your child to receive instruction for Confirmation, Reconciliation, and First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing you at the Parent information night.

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

Parent Information night 7 pm Monday 20th February St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 25th /26th February

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the Reconciliation Ceremony.

Reconciliation Ceremony Tumbi Monday 20th March 4 pm Reconciliation Ceremony Wyong Tuesday 21st March 4 pm

CONFIRMATION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 3 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED Parent Information night 7 pm Monday 29th May St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 3rd /4th June

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the Confirmation Ceremony

Confirmation Ceremony St Peters College Saturday 15th July

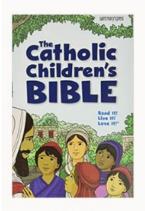
FIRST EUCHARIST FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE COMPLETED CONFIRMATION & RECONCILIATION Parent Information night 7 pm Monday 7th August St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 12th/13th August

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the First Eucharist Ceremony

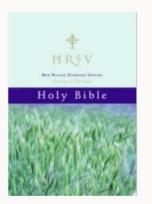
First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 8th September St John Fisher Mass Ctr 5 pm and 6.30 pm First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 15th September St Cecilia's Church 5 pm and 6.30 pm

Fr Harry Davis Estate Bible Offer

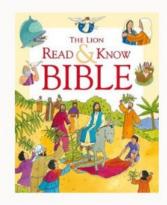
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or 8379 1627



More than 30 Josephite Sisters celebrated almost 2000 combined years of religious life at their diamond jubilee this month. Source: *The Catholic Leader*.

Congregational Leader Sr Monica Cavanagh welcomed the 21 jubilarians, who celebrated 60 years of religious life, Sisters, and guests at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney.

"Sixty years ago these Sisters embarked on a journey, a journey with the divine spark of God's love which led them into the midst of God's people," Sr Monica said.

"These Sisters have lived the spirit and charism entrusted to the Congregation by (St) Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods.

"They have done it with commitment, generosity, and faithfulness.

"We honour them for indeed God has done great things in them and it fills us with joy."

Jubilarian Sr Eileen Lenihan moved from Ireland to Australia in 1959 and remembered feeling inspired by the mission and ministries of the Josephites.

"Like those Sisters, I wanted to do something spectacular and significant with my life," Sr Eileen said.

"I read about the Sisters of Saint Joseph teaching children in Australia and I thought that is what I would like to do."

"Looking back at 60 years, my initial aspiration to come to Australia to teach in rural areas shaped how I perceive life," Sr Eileen said.

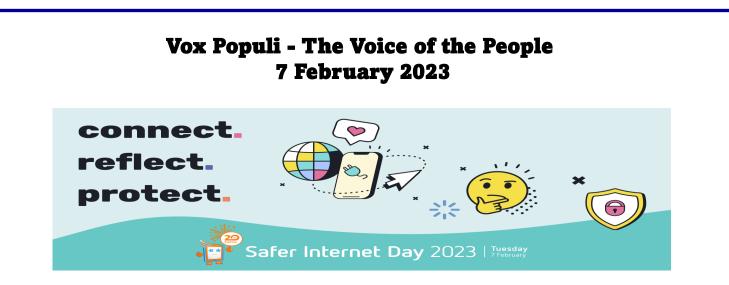
"I have a great appreciation of First Nations people, the experience of people being landless, a sense of justice and injustice in our society."

Sr Monica invited all the jubilarians to renew their vows and celebrate their ongoing commitment to Jesus and his Church. Published by CathNews

Full Story

https://catholicleader.com.au/news/qld/sisters-of-st-joseph-honoured-for-their-decades-of-dedication-at-diamond-jubilee/

By Hannah Kennelly, *The Catholic Leader*)



Technology has evolved dramatically in the past two decades, and we probably often ask ourselves how could we even function without our mobile devices and desktops.

The benefits have been enormous. However, they have also exposed everyone, including young children and teenagers, to many risks which can have a long-lasting impact.

In the past year, 67% of adults have had a negative online experience; 30% of teenagers have been contacted by a stranger online; 47% of 14 to 17 year olds have received a sexual message from someone, and almost half of children were treated in a nasty or hurtful way online.

Cyberbulling, content and image-based cyber abuse are serious issues communities, families, schools and organisations are dealing with around the world.

Today is Safer Internet Day, a global initiative celebrating 20 years in 2023 and a day to reflect on what everyone can do to be more eSafety aware, and have more positive and safer experiences online.

This year Safter Internet Day is calling on everyone to: Connect. Reflect. Protect.

Connect safely and with purpose – by keeping apps and devices secure and using social media in positive ways.

Reflect before we act – by taking a moment to consider how what we do and say online may affect others.

Protect ourselves and others by taking action – by telling family, friends or colleagues about eSafety and how we can help.

A number of organisations including the Office of the eSafety Commissioner provide support and resources for both adults and children (<u>https://www.esafety.gov.au/newsroom/whats-on/safer-internet-day-2023</u>).

There are resources for anyone who has or is a victim of cyberabuse or knows someone experiencing cyberabuse (<u>Report to eSafety</u>).

The Safeguarding Office of the Diocese of Broken Bay also provides detailed information and resources to assist in the ongoing development of a culture and practice of safeguarding to protect children, young people and adults (<u>https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/diocesan-safeguarding/safeguarding-in-the-chancery-and-parishes</u>).

RETREAT SCHEDULE FOR 2023



7th, 8th January- DRC volunteers Retreat 9th-13th January- Greek Orthodox Community Retreat 16th-21st January- Greek Orthodox Community Retreat 10th-12th February- Greek Orthodox Community Retreat 10th-12th March- Zimbabwean Women Group Retreat

RESIDENTIAL RETREATS STARTS ON FRIDAY, 5:30PM ENDS ON SUNDAY, 4:00PM

13th-15th January Inner Healing Retreat,
17th-19th February Inner Healing Growth Retreat,
17th-19th March Lenten Growth Retreat,

14th-16th April Divine Mercy Growth Retreat, **12th-14th May** Couples Growth Retreat,

16th-18th June Spiritual Growth Retreat,

14th-16th July Family Growth Retreat,

18th-20th August Inner Healing Growth Retreat, **15th-17th September** Youth Retreat,

13th-15th October Marian Growth Retreat,

10th-12th November Inner Healing Growth Retreat,

8th-10th December

Advent Retreat,

For more info & bookings please contact: 02 4372 1598 or email: drcretreatrego@gmail.com



DIVINE MERCY FEAST April 16th, 9:00am to 4:00pm. ST VINCENT DE PAUL FEAST September 24th, 9:00am to 4:00pm. ST FAUSTINA KOWALSKA FEAST October 5th, 2:00pm to 4:30pm.

NEW YEAR'S EVE 31st Dec, 8:00pm- Confession 10:00pm- Praise and worship, Rosary, 11:00pm- Holy Mass

MINISTRIES AT THE DIVINE

ONE DAY WORSHIP PILGRIMAGE: A one day retreat with a healing service is held on the last Sunday of every month Time: 9:00am - 4:00pm Admission FREE. Just walk right in. (BYO LUNCH)

MALAYALAM RETREAT: Every First Saturday of Month 10:00 am to 2:30 pm.

YOUTH MINISTRY: First Saturday of March, June, November Age18+, 5:00 pm to 7:30pm

CHILDREN'S RETREAT: Making children enjoy their time with Jesus, we hold regular retreats for kids, children and Teenagers. (During the First Saturday- Malayalam Retreat and on Last Sunday during the One Day Worship)



DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE 160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,

Tel: 02 4372 1598, email drcsydney@gmail.com • www.divineretreatcentre.org • www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby

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