

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

17TH MARCH 2024 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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 17.03.24

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

It is reassuring for us to know that in God's artistic work, there is room for a new covenant. The beauty of God's artistry not only includes but uses and transforms the ugly and the dying. This is the point of the wheat grain story. Jesus is the wheat grain, full of the promise of new life, a new way of being. While scripture says that 'being lifted up' indicated the kind of death Jesus would die, it also indicates what is necessary - dying. In Jesus being lifted up from the earth, which could only happen after the wheat grain died, he was showing us how to live in the new covenant. We must let die all that does not belong to the reign of love and mercy, and we can do this because our God is a God who 'not only forgives our iniquities but never calls them to mind.' This wheat grain story is such an exceptional teaching you might have to read that last sentence again! Then all will be drawn to Jesus. We will live in him, with the new covenant written deeply in our hearts. We shall be the people of God.



Chosen: Wyong Catholic Parish's

EASTER FAMILY PICNIC

Sunday 24th March

10:30am

(after 9:30am mass)

Join us on the field behind St Cecilia's Church to celebrate the Easter season with a sausage sizzle and Easter egg hunt.

bring along something to share and your picnic rugs



RECONCILIATION

1st form of the Rite of Reconciliation

St John Fisher Mass Ctr

23rd March - Saturday Vigil

24th March—Sunday

Reconciliation following the 5pm Mass

2nd form of the Rite of Reconciliation

St Cecilia's Church

20th March Wednesday at 6:00pm

250 CLUB 2024

NUMBER OF TICKETS SOLD 174

Sign up notice information: This sheet is available at the church doors or from the sellers. The full detail of the 2024 Club is part of this sheet.

Numbers Sale Cost:

\$60 upfront or a payment of \$10 by **20th** of March, April, June, July, September and October. (This equates to less than \$1.20 per week)

Prizes: Weekly \$50 and \$20; Monthly \$200 and \$50 Christmas \$500, \$250, \$150, and \$50.

All prizes are contingent on the sale of all 250 numbers.

Information contact persons are:

Maureen Roast 0435 245 849

Anne Hooley 0428 149 793

Kerry Bugden 4388 2938

Thank you for your support.

LENTEN RECOLLECTION 2024

The Parish Lenten Recollection held last Sunday was a good opportunity for the parishioners to pause for a couple of hours to pray, reflect, share, and learn more about Lent. It was a great spiritual preparation to appreciate God's saving works culminating in Holy Week. Thanks to Joy Bowen for facilitating this recollection.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St Cecilia's Church, Wyong

Every Friday evening during Lent at 6:30pm.

Please join us, as we prayerfully walk the Way of the Cross.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT

250 NUMBERS SOLD

Weekly Prizes are \$50 – 1st & \$20 – 2nd
Monthly Prizes are \$200 – 1st & \$50 – 2nd
and will be last weekend of the month.

250 Club Update for year 2023

DATE	Type		1 ST	2 nd	
16/17th March	weekly	63	Marie-Anne Johnson	145	Joe & Jodie Cesca

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



Ph: 02 4351 8004
Ph: 02 4392 8777

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WYONG PARISH COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS 2024

Each year as a parish we have three donated item collections supporting the disadvantaged members of the community. These collections are in Feb/March/April (Wyong Neighbourhood Centre), June (Vinnies Winter collection) and December (Vinnies Christmas collection).

We ask that individual items are placed in the special collection trolley's or containers which will be available at the front of both churches. This collection drive will run from: **14th February—7th April 2024**. Collection baskets will be emptied each week.

This year we are supporting **Wyong Neighbour Centre**. Please see below suggested items which can be donated. These items are those specifically needed by the disadvantaged people the charity supports.

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

Suggested donated items may include:

Long-life milk, Noodles, Pasta, rice, good quality tinned fruit, food and meals (with ring pulls), Soups, spaghetti, Museli bars and long life snacks, Breakfast Biscuits/Cereal, UHT Milk, Noodles, Crackers, , Lollies/Chocolate, Chips, Tea, Cappuccino sachets, Water/Juice, Beanies, Gloves, Scarves, socks & Blankets.

Please place all donations into the special trolley or the plastic containers provided at the front of the church. Thank you for your generous help which is most appreciated.

PROPOSED PARISH CALENDAR DATES

Up until **APRIL 2024**

(Modification of some dates may be necessary)

MARCH

- 17th—Easter Raffle sale
- 19th— Relic meeting
- 22nd— 250 Club final sales
- 24th— Palm Sunday
 - Easter Raffle Draw
 - Easter Family Picnic
- 25th— 1st Reconciliation Ceremony, Wyong
- 27th— 1st Reconciliation Ceremony, Tumbi
- 28th— Holy Thursday
- 29th— Good Friday
- Holy Places collection
- 31st— Easter Sunday

APRIL

- 6th / 7th— 2024 250 Club first draw
 - Charity collection for disadvantaged
- Concludes
- 25th— Anzac Day
- TBC**— Official Opening, Windows Repair
- Guests: Emma McBride MP & David Harris MP

PALM CROSSES & COMMUNITY BONDING—YOU'RE INVITED !

As we approach the sacred time of Palm Sunday, we invite you to join us for a special gathering to create palm crosses together. This cherished tradition not only brings us closer as a community but also prepares us spiritually for the arrival of Holy Week.

Date: Wednesday, March 20th, 2024 **Time:** 9:30AM to 11.30am **Location:** St Peter's Catholic College **84 Gavenlock Road Tuggerah** (held in the T3 Trade Ctr, where we hold the Christmas in July Luncheon). A delicious morning Tea will be provided, and we all know how good the food is at St Peter's.

Whether you're skilled at crafting palm crosses or trying it for the first time, your presence and participation will enrich our experience. Your presence will truly make a difference as we prepare to commemorate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. These palm crosses will be used at Wyong Parish weekend masses (St Cecilia's Church and St John Fisher Mass Ctr), for Palm Sunday. Blessings, *Jo Helm, PEC*

Wyong Catholic Parish Old Mothers Club Members and Friends Get Together

Date: Friday 22nd March 2024
Place: Wyong Golf Club
Time: 11:00am-2:30pm
RSVP: 15th March
Contact: Marie Dyer 4352 1994
(Lunch at own expense)

EASTER RAFFLE—PARISH FUNDRAISER

Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1 each on the **10th & 17th of March** after Mass.

The raffle will be drawn on **Palm Sunday 24th March, after 9:30am Mass.**

Please support us in this special Easter Parish fundraiser which will go towards our Pastoral works fund. Many thanks.



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: 0414 494 823

PARISH OFFICE 23 Byron Street Wyong

Phone: 02 4352 1011 Po Box 385 Wyong 2259

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, 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

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

Assistant Priest **Fr Teody Medina, SOLT** ph: 0414 494 823

Parish Secretary **Margaret Vandenberg** ph: 02 4352 1011

Youth Co-Ordinator **Gabbi Scherer**

Email: gabbi.scherer@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH EMAIL: wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au

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

FACEBOOK: 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

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 8.45 - 9.15am

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual

Help Saturday—*St Cecilia's* &

Wednesday—*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

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

PPC Secretary; Kerry Bugden

Ph: 02 4388 2938

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, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Christine, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Dave, Rodney, Gwen Dwyer, Helen Waters, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Marie Rheinberger, Hannah Hopwood, Joan Mabbutt, Irene Dainty, Eoin, Paula, Peter Meury, Jai Coleman, Danielle, Frank Farrugia, Betty McDermott, David Myers, Adam Smith, Frank Laoulach

RECENTLY DECEASED: Richard Mahinay, Carol Dafter, Raymond (Ray) Baker, Fay King (Regina Preston's Aunt), Moira Grace, Maureen Murphy, Dorrie Betts, Maureen Martin, Fr Michael Kelly,

ANNIVERSARY MARCH: Myrtle & James Murphy, Reg Preston, Fr Tito Ayo, SOLT, Kevin Barry, Tony Cox



TUGGERAH SPORTS & SPINAL PHYSIOTHERAPY

Ricky Li

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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 Fr Teody. The contact details are on the back to the Bulletin.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34 (Year B)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50:3-4, 12-15 (Year B)

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second Reading Hebrews 5:7-9 (Year B)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 12:26 (Year B)

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;

and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel John 12:20-30 (Year B)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!' A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Dear Parishioners,

As we approach the sacred time of Palm Sunday, we invite you to join us for a special gathering to create palm crosses together. This cherished tradition not only brings us closer as a community but also prepares us spiritually for the arrival of Holy Week.

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Whether you're skilled at crafting palm crosses or trying it for the first time, your presence and participation will enrich our experience. Together, we'll weave palms into beautiful crosses, sharing stories, laughter, and fellowship along the way.

Please bring your creativity and a willingness to lend a hand. We'll provide the materials and guidance needed to craft these symbolic emblems of faith.

Your presence will truly make a difference as we prepare to commemorate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. These palm crosses will be used at Wyong Parish weekend masses (St Cecilia's Church and St John Fisher Mass Ctr), for Palm Sunday.

Please register via the link below; or text Jo on 0424 763 734

<https://forms.office.com/r/D1xpz5z61k>

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday, March 20th, at 9:30 AM. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me at joanne.helm@dbb.catholic.edu.au or 0424 763 734.

Blessings

Jo Helm

Parent Engagement Coordinator

St Peter's College & St Cecilia's School



LENTEN PENANCE

The Season of Lent is a most important time of preparation for the celebration of Easter. It is an annual pilgrimage of grace whereby we are drawn more deeply into the mystery of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council taught that the Lenten liturgy has a twofold means of preparation. By remembering their own Baptism and undertaking penance, the liturgy assists in the renewal and ongoing formation of the *faithful* (cf. *Sacrosanctum Concilium* 109). The formation of *catechumens* via the various stages of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is equally an important part of Lent (cf. GIRM 27).

For both the local community of the faithful and the elect, Lent is a time of grace and mercy whereby the Holy Spirit greets and renews those who seek to live as disciples of the Lord Jesus, who is our light and our salvation (cf. Psalm 27).

The Season of Lent commences on **Ash Wednesday**. Lent is a particularly useful time to reconnect with our brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ; to reflect upon our spiritual pilgrimage both as individuals and as one community of disciples.

In our Catholic tradition, Lent is commemorated as a time for conversion, repentance, and renewal. Marking our foreheads with ashes in the sign of the cross on Ash Wednesday is an outward sign of internal conversion. It is also an invitation to “*Turn away from sin and believe the good news*”. In this annual invitation, we acknowledge our human vulnerability, and we pray to be strengthened by God’s grace, mercy, and love.

In imitation of Jesus our teacher and master, we also fast (cf. Matthew 4:1-11). Like Our Lord, we will journey into the desert places of our life. Where the Lord has gone, we hope to follow, and so we must expect some challenges and temptations because the Gospel reminds us that this too was the plight of Jesus. Christians are people of hope, so during these moments of vulnerability, let us take shelter in God’s mercy and compassion.

DAYS OF PENANCE

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, abstinence from meat is to be observed by those who have completed their fourteenth year of age. Those who are aged between 18 and 60 are to fast on these days. Priests should encourage those under their pastoral care to embrace the spirit of abstinence and fasting. This Lenten practice is not to be a burden upon those who have health issues or special needs. Clergy as pastors of souls, are asked to be particularly vigilant in encouraging the faithful to undertake the disciplines of Lent with moderation and care.

On all other Fridays of Lent the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

1. *Prayer* – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying with Mary and the Saints, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Rosary, or in other ways;

MOST REVEREND ANTHONY RANDAZZO BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY

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2. *Self-denial* – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or desserts; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor in one's own country and elsewhere; limiting screen time on social media, or in other ways;
3. *Helping others* – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened or feeling isolated from our Church community, or in other ways.

Lent is from **Ash Wednesday** (14 February 2024) until the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** (28 March 2024) inclusive. Fasting is also observed on **Good Friday** and if possible, on **Holy Saturday** until the Easter Vigil.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is done between **Ash Wednesday** and **Trinity Sunday** (26 May 2023), unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year.

All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion (seven years old) are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year. Priests in the Diocese of Broken Bay are encouraged to make available to the faithful not only the first form of the Rite of Penance, but also the second form.

I encourage you to read the Scriptures in your homes, individually and as a family. Likewise, you may take the opportunity to be part of a Lenten prayer or discussion group, face to face or online. For this purpose, I offer to you the 2024 Diocesan Lenten resource; ***Participating in the Mission of Christ***, as prepared by Mission Broken Bay.

The Paschal mystery is the heart of the Eucharist. Personal private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is a wonderful way to probe the mystery of faith. Our churches are regularly open outside of Mass times to assist the faithful in making a visit for prayer, contemplation, and adoration. This year in a particular way I invite all the People of God to participate in the **24 Hours for the Lord**. This initiative of prayer and reconciliation introduced by Pope Francis will be celebrated around the world on the eve of the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Chatswood Parish will be hosting our Diocesan event from Friday 8 to Saturday 9 March, with the focus being "Walking in a new life".

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, I pray in these weeks ahead that our community of the Church of Broken Bay will be open to encounter new life in Christ. This Lent, may we humbly confess our sins, prayerfully perform our penance, and joyfully proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through words and deeds of charity, mercy, and compassion.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL
Bishop of Broken Bay
7 February 2024



**Imagine a place...
where children come to be with God
to discover, to explore and experience
God's love for them**

**3-6 year olds are invited to join us at the
Central Coast's newly established Atrium**

When: Saturdays 9 - 10.30am, commencing 16th March

Where: Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Parish The Entrance

What: The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a particular way of journeying with children toward God. It is grounded in scripture and the liturgy of the church, then framed by Montessori principles of education.

Cost: \$8 per week, \$5 for siblings



**CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY**

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centralcoastatrium@gmail.com or
call Ashleigh on 0466 255 033**

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**