

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*

19TH FEBRUARY 2023 7th 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)



Reflection 19.2.23 7th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time Year A

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

What an affirming thought: each of us is God's temple, and the Spirit of God lives among us. Yet the implications are enormous. Can we treat every other person as God's temple too? Can we be as holy and perfect as God is? Can we really love our neighbours and our enemies as ourselves? They are grand and difficult ideals, but God doesn't leave us without resources. Sometimes we just need to start small. In today's world, it is often a mark of prestige or good judgement to disparage whatever is not up to standard. We do this in many subtle ways: complain about those who do not follow the rules, put down those who are not as enlightened as we are, despair about what the world is coming to. However, a simple substitute is to have compassion for whatever falls short around us. We can pray for those who think differently, and for situations that are mediocre or unjust. And because the Spirit of God lives among us, we can work to build a better world rather than focusing on its flaws. After all, God sent Jesus not to condemn the world, but to save it out of love.

'Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love'. St Mother Theresa



22nd February
Ash Wednesday Masses

8am St Cecilia's Church

8am St John Fisher Mass Ctr

7pm St Cecilia's Church



ASH
wednesday

Please find Bishop Anthony's letter on Lenten Penance in our Church/& E-Bulletin

Reflection 22.2.23 Ash Wednesday

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

In the musical, *The Greatest Showman*, PT Barnum reaches a moment in his career when he feels that he has failed everyone. In trying to build his fame and reputation, he has forgotten why he began the show: to elevate society's rejects and to delight the young and young-at-heart. Finally he sings a number that begins regretfully and builds to a rousing chorus. 'From now on, these eyes will not be blinded by the lights...From now on, we will come back home again.' Lent is a time to come back home again. To come back to God with all our heart. As individuals and as communities, we are invited to realign to our purpose and 'remember who all this was for'. We can allow ourselves to be recaptured by the person of Jesus, and live once more by his values. It may be difficult, but home is worth it.

Parish Lenten Preparation St Cecilia's Church
Friday evenings in Lent 6.30pm Stations of the Cross. Please join us, as we prayerfully walk the Way of the Cross (Pope Benedict XV1 version)

Palm Burning Ceremony Tues 21st Feb 6pm
Palm Burning Ceremony (please bring your old palms) followed by BBQ dinner (please bring dessert to share) to be held at St Cecilia's Church and Parish Hall/Verandah RSVP to Kerry on 024388 2938 for catering.

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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anitabowden@cci.net.au



*We do not think of it as a job...
it is an irish honour.*



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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.**

Catechist Sunday



Next weekend we acknowledge and commission our Parish Catechists/ Assistants, Sacramental Catechists and Children's Liturgy of the Word

Catechists, who provide the children with lessons and information on our Catholic Faith.

Catechist Sunday helps us to recognise the importance of the Church's teaching ministry and also to value our Catholic school teachers in the parish.

May God Bless each one of you with the graces you need to continue in your special ministry.

Fundraising Stall at Tumby and Wyong

A huge thank you for your support. \$632 was raised. \$600 was also raised from selling donations on Marketplace. In total \$1232 was raised.

Thank you to everyone who donated and thank you to the ladies from Wyong who helped on the stall.

250 Club Update

2 WEEKS LEFT TO GET YOUR NAME IN FOR THE NUMBERS ALLOCATION

We have sold 140 numbers so far. Thank you to those who have already signed up. 5 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

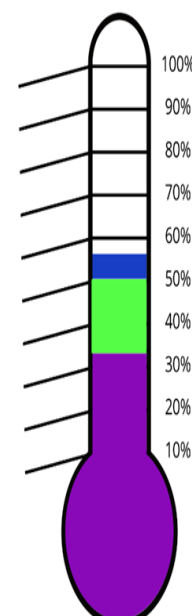
Maureen Roast 0435 245 849

Anne Hooley 0428 149 793

Kerry Bugden 4388 2938

250 Club

Goal: 250 13/2/23 140 (56%)



World Day of Prayer Friday 3 March 2023

The World Day of Prayer is celebrated annually on the first Friday in March. It is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year.

In 2023, the host country will be **Taiwan**, and the theme will be **"I have heard about your faith."**

Parish Brunch

Our Parish brunch last Monday was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed by many.

Thank you to all who helped to organise this.



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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

ST JOHN FISHER MASS CENTRE

Hicks Lane Tumby 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

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

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

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, Leann 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, Danielle.

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

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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.

Sunday Mass 19th February 2023

THE LITURGY

First Reading Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy."

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it; if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are; or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Gospel Acclamation 1 John 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 5:38-48

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

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 Tumby 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

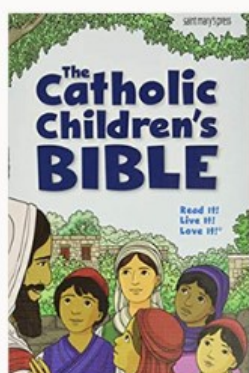
First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 8th September St John Fisher Mass Ctr 5 pm and 6.30 pm

First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 15th September St Cecilia's Church 5 pm and 6.30 pm

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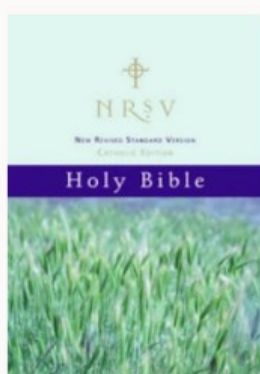
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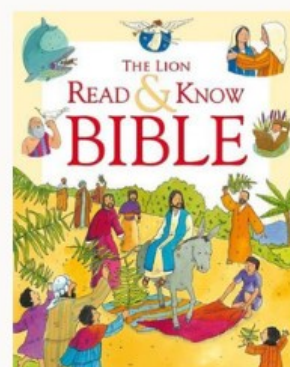
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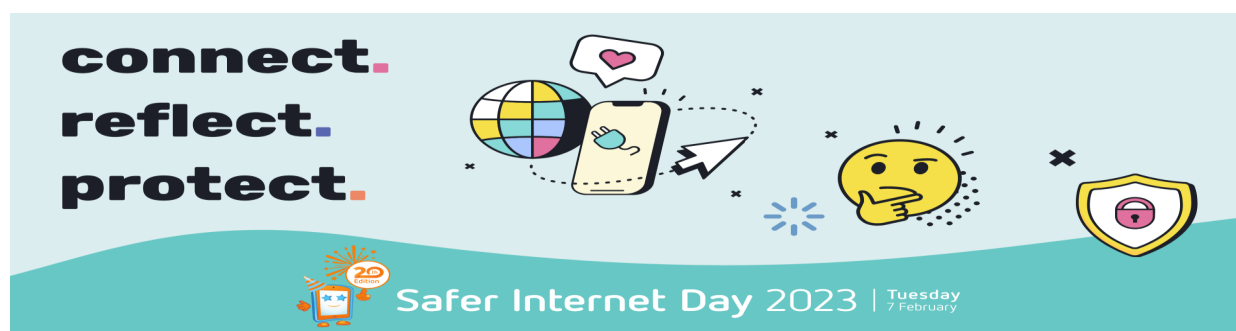
Pina Bernard at

faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au

or 8379 1627

Vox Populi - The Voice of the People

7 February 2023



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.

Cyberbullying, 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 Safer 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 (<https://www.esafety.gov.au/newsroom/whats-on/safer-internet-day-2023>).

There are resources for anyone who has or is a victim of cyberabuse or knows someone experiencing cyberabuse ([Report to eSafety](#)).

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 (<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/about/diocesan-safeguarding/safeguarding-in-the-chancery-and-parishes>).



RETREAT SCHEDULE FOR 2023

SPECIAL RETREATS

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,	12th-14th May Couples Growth Retreat,	15th-17th September Youth Retreat,
17th-19th February Inner Healing Growth Retreat,	16th-18th June Spiritual Growth Retreat,	13th-15th October Marian Growth Retreat,
17th-19th March Lenten Growth Retreat,	14th-16th July Family Growth Retreat,	10th-12th November Inner Healing Growth Retreat,
14th-16th April Divine Mercy Growth Retreat,	18th-20th August Inner Healing Growth Retreat,	8th-10th December Advent Retreat,

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

Special
Dates to
remember

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 Age 18+, 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 drtsydney@gmail.com

• www.divineretreatcentre.org • www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby

The Divine Retreat Centre promotes the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.



“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” *Matthew 11:28*

FEBRUARY 2023 PROGRAMS

3rd
(Friday)

1ST FRIDAY HEALING SERVICE, CHATSWOOD

Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067, Tel 02 9410 9000
6:30pm - 8:30pm

4th
(Saturday)

ONE DAY MALAYALAM RETREAT

10:00am - 2:30pm

**17th-
19th**
(Fri-Sun)

LENTEN GROWTH RETREAT (LIVE-IN)

“Rend your heart and not your garments.” Joel 2:13

with Fr. Roni George VC and Fr. Joby Varghese VC

Friday 5:30pm - Sunday 4:00pm **BOOKING:** drcsyd@gmail.com

20th
(Monday)

SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT ST. PATRICK WALLSEND

7:00pm - 9:00pm, 11 Macquarie St, Wallsend 2287

21st
(Tuesday)

SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT ST. LUKE'S REVESBY

7:00pm - 9:00pm, 1 Beaconsfield St, Revesby, NSW 2212

26th
(Sunday)

ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE (LAST SUNDAY RETREAT)

9:00am - 4:00pm

with Fr. Roni George VC and Fr. Joby Varghese VC

• Praise and Worship • Preaching The Word • Eucharistic Adoration • Holy Mass

KID'S MINISTRY

FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN
5 - 8 YEARS

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN
9 - 12 YEARS

TEENAGER'S MINISTRY

FOR TEENAGERS AGED BETWEEN
13 - 17 YEARS



DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

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