

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 MARCH 2023 4TH SUNDAY in LENT 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)



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 John Paul 11 version)

Invitation to morning Mass

We will be having an additional weekday Mass, every week on Monday at 9.15am at St Cecilia's Church Wyong.

Every week a different class from St Cecilia's Primary School will join us in the celebration of the Mass. We encourage and extend a warm welcome to ALL parishioners to this Mass to pray and celebrate as one family.

We are aiming at building a stronger relationship with Parish and School through our prayers. Please come along and get to know our children and teachers.

Reflection 19.3.2023 4th Sunday in Lent, Year A

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

Today a man who was born blind is cured. This is such an amazing miracle that the Pharisees need to be assured that this is really the man who was blind, and that he was indeed blind from birth. The miracle hides some dark questions. Who is really blind and what is the cause of the blindness? What is blindness? The cured man is challenged by the Pharisees. He is surprised that they cannot see what he sees, namely that Jesus is 'a man from God'. He who was blind can see what those who are not blind cannot see. It is the Pharisees who are blind. They cannot see what Jesus has done because their only concern is the Sabbath regulation. They find fault rather than the love of God. Like us, the minutiae of their particular expectations and understandings prevent them from seeing the goodness of other people. They are blind to the presence of God. Openness to God requires us to see beyond ourselves and to move out of our comfort zones. Indeed, if we look for what is

PARISH RETREAT –FRIDAY, FRIDAY 31 MARCH.

A parish retreat (reflection) day will be held on **Friday 31 March** at St Cecilia's Wyong, given by Fr Roni George, Director of Divine Retreat Centre, Somersby.

Each session will have three parts- Meet and Greet; Formal Church Liturgy; and Retreat (Reflection). All parishioners are invited to attend **one** or **both** of the listed sessions.

All formal arrangements for the retreat will handed out at mass this weekend.

Please mark 31 March in your calendar so you are free to attend.

Wyong Catholic Parish Youth Coordinator

The Wyong Catholic Parish is seeking to recruit a **Youth Coordinator** working up to 4 hours per week. The role does allow for flexibility with the working schedule, however you'll need to have availability for weekends and evenings.

This is an exciting role where you will build and maintain a parish youth group, encouraging young people to engage and participate in parish youth activities, ensuring a sense of fun, community, belonging and faith for the youth and young adults in the parish. You'll work to build a strong youth network and collaborate with like groups and organisations as well as encouraging, supporting and assisting volunteers to assist in the youth ministry.

Please apply by sending a CV and brief cover letter addressing role requirements via email to wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au
Applications close **Friday 24 March**.

COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS

Each year as a parish we have three donated item collections supporting the disadvantaged members of the community. These collections are in March/April (Wyong Neighbourhood ctr and We "Care Connect both local charities), June (Vinnies Winter collection) and December (Vinnies Christmas collection).

This years Community Collection drive will run till the end of Lent.

We Care Connect (Children's Charity) is currently out of baby toiletries, baby body and hair wash, nappy cream, body lotion, and size 5 and 6 nappies and baby wipes.

Wyong Neighbourhood Centre are needing items such as: canned food, breakfast cereal, pasta, pasta sauces, soups, 2 min noodles, long life milk, tea, coffee muesli bars, & biscuits.

Please place your items into the collection baskets at both St Cecilia's and St John Fisher.

More information on each charity can be found at the web addresses listed:

Wyong Neighbour Centre Inc <https://www.wnci.org.au>

We Care Connect <https://wecareconnect.org.au>

Thank you for your generous donations. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

WELCOME

Once again we welcome all our young children and families to our weekend Masses.

The children in our Parish will be receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation this Monday and Tuesday.

Please pray for them and their families that God's mercy



365 Pacific Highway
North Wyong NSW 2259
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Wyong NSW 2259



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Ph: 02 4392 8777

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PALM SUNDAY CROSSES

All are welcome to come and help make our Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday Masses.

Tuesday 28th March at 1pm in the Parish Hall 23 Byron Street Wyong. Afternoon Tea will be provided.

Also if anyone has any palms that would be suitable to decorate our Churches for Palm Sunday could you please speak to Fr Raul or Fr Alex after Mass.

Chrism Mass

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on **Tuesday, 4 April** at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

The priests of our Diocese gather for this celebration with Most Rev Bishop Anthony Randazzo to renew their priestly commitment. During Mass, the oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the Chrism is consecrated and then taken back to each parish for use in various Sacramental liturgies throughout the year.

Project Compassion

Our story this week is on Thu, who lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention March—For Victims of Abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church themselves, a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

250 Club Update

**WE HAVE SOLD 220
NUMBERS, THANK YOU
EVERYONE.**

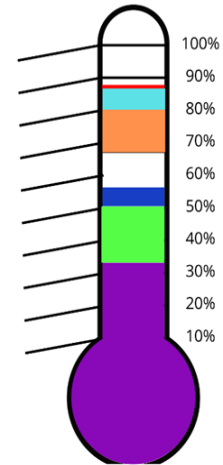
This is the last week and we have 30 numbers left.

Any changes that may be required to the draw and/or distribution of funds (if the 250 numbers are not sold) will be advised prior to the first draw. Numbers 1-205 have been allocated. Sales since last update will have numbers allocated after 19 March 2023 once sales have been finalised. If your number has been allocated and you are not sure what it is, please see one of our sellers after Mass this weekend.

Any questions, please call
Maureen Roast 0435 245 849 Anne Hooley 0428149 793
Kerry Bugden 4388 2938

250 Club

Goal: 250 13/3/23 220 (88%)



Prayer to Saint Patrick—Solemnity 17th March

O great Apostle of Ireland, glorious St. Patrick, to whom under God, so many are indebted for the most precious of all treasures, the great gift of Faith, receive our fervent thanks for the zeal and charity which have been to thousands the source of blessings so invaluable. Ask for all who dwell in this land and the land of thy labors, the precious light of Faith, and beg for us on whom its glorious rays have long since beamed, the grace to regulate our lives by its sacred maxims. Amen.

On Monday we celebrate St Joseph's Day, the husband of Mary. Normally 19 March, is the Solemnity but in this Lenten season we will celebrate it on 20 March. Just as Mary is our spiritual mother, Joseph is our spiritual father, providing for the needs of the family of God, the Holy Catholic Church.
St Joseph pray for us.



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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, Mon 9.15am

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

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 8.45 - 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

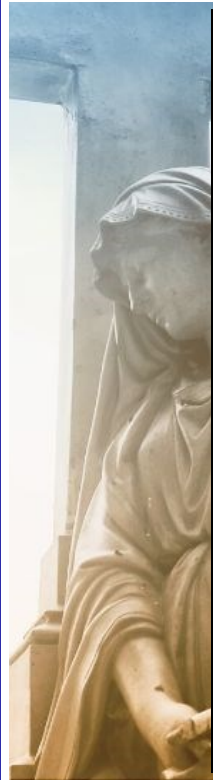
KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.

SICK: Harriet Powell, Danae Roe, Peter Ford, Harry Hall, Michael Briggs, Christine Heffernan, Jennese Thompson, 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, Danielle.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Clare Keating, Kathleen Pidgeon,

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



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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 19th March 2023 4th Sunday in Lent

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (Year A)

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 (Year A)

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 22

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation John 8:12

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

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

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

Gospel John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet', replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him'. Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.



GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Retreat with Fr. Roni George VC,
Director of Divine Retreat Centre, Somersby*

Friday, 31st March, 2023

Wyong Catholic Parish,
23 Byron St, Wyong NSW 2259

Morning: Mass and Retreat starts at 8:00am
Evening: Retreat and Benediction starts at 6:45pm



DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,
Tel: 02 4372 1598, email drccsydney@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.



Office for the Bishop

**Vox Episcopi
15 March 2023**

This weekend is a long weekend of celebrations!

On Friday we celebrate St Patrick's Day – a popular celebration right around the world to mark the anniversary of the death of St Patrick in the 5th century. The Irish have observed this day of their foremost patron saint as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years.

Although it is not a national holiday in Australia, many communities have festivals and parades, recognising that many Irish immigrants came to Australia to escape famine in Ireland. In fact about 30% of Australians are believed to have some Irish ancestry.

Sunday is the fourth Sunday in the season of Lent or Laetare Sunday. This name comes from "Laetare Jerusalem" or "Rejoice, O Jerusalem" and marks the half-way point of the Lenten season. It is also a time when we express hope and joy which is why the priest wears rose coloured vestments before we enter the sombre days of Passiontide.

On Monday we celebrate St Joseph's Day, the husband of Mary. Normally 19 March, the Solemnity will be celebrated this Lenten season on 20 March. Just as Mary is our spiritual mother, Joseph is our spiritual father, providing for the needs of the family of God, the Holy Catholic Church.

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

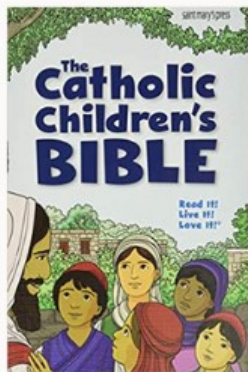
First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 8th September St John Fisher Mass Ctr 5 pm and 6.30 pm

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

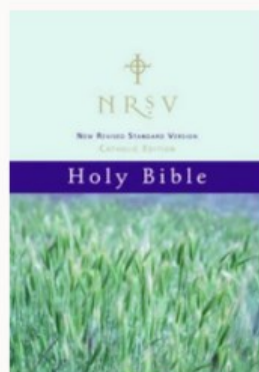
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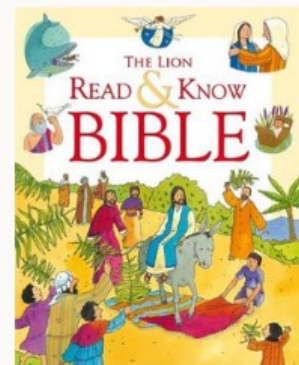
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