

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B
PARISH BULLETIN, 22ND AUGUST 2021

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life.

WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH

ST CECILIA'S CHURCH & ST JOHN FISHER MASS CTR

Under the Pastoral Care of the

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

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*



REFLECTION 22ND AUGUST John 6:60-69

Reproduced from God's Word 2021: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield

Today's first reading and Gospel present 'crossroads' scenes. Just as the tribes of Israel must decide whether they will persist in following the Lord God, so must Jesus' disciples consider their future in the face of a difficult teaching. In both cases, the memory of divine fidelity is integral to their decision to stay the course. The Israelites remember the faithful God who delivered them from slavery. Meanwhile, Simon Peter admits that their only authentic option is to trust what they have already come to believe: Jesus has the message of eternal life; he is the Holy One of God. Crossroads are part of our lives too. On those days when being faithful involves a difficult or unpopular choice, may the deep memory of God's steadfast love anchor our commitment and see us through.

Condolences

The Parish extends our deepest condolences to Irene Smith and Cath Sewell and family on the passing of their beloved Sister Lucy Smith.

Lucy was a dearly loved member of our parish community and she will be sadly missed.

Lucy's funeral Mass will be held on Thursday 19th August at St Cecilia's Church Wyong, 10am.

We know and pray that Lucy is in God's loving hands. May she rest in peace. Amen

Live Stream link for Lucy Smith's Service

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KhNy31sU5s0>

ST VINCENT DE PAUL - HELP AVAILABLE Lockdown assistance

Although our stores are closed the St Vincent de Paul support centres are open to provide emergency assistance of food parcels and Coles cards. If you or anyone you know is in need of assistance, please ring Wyong Support Centre on 4353 5614 (option 1) to make an appointment. Interviews are conducted by phone with contactless food pickup at the door.

IMPORTANT - LOCKDOWN EXTENDED BY 4 WEEKS

Given low vaccination rates, the current lockdown will remain in place for another four weeks, until Saturday, 28th August at 12:01AM across Greater Sydney including the Central Coast, Blue Mountains, Wollongong and Shellharbour.

This extra time will allow NSW residents to significantly increase the uptake of vaccines in areas most affected by the current outbreak and across the state.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian said higher vaccination rates and following the health orders are the only way to guarantee the further easing of restrictions.

Due to this announcement St Cecilia's Church and St John Fisher Mass Ctr will remain closed until the stay home order is lifted. The Parish office is not open to visitors at this time, you can contact the office on 0424 763 734 or 4352 1011.

Please join us as we livestream Mass this Sunday at 9.30am on Facebook.

Please see the link below, don't forget to like and follow our Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

CONGRATULATIONS

**Fr Len Helm
Missionary of the Sacred
Heart**

Ordained Priest

August 21, 1971

We congratulate Fr Len Helm who celebrates **50 years of priestly ordination** this Saturday 21st August.

Fr Len also celebrated his 90th Birthday this week, Wed 18th.

May God continue to Bless you with His love and joy.

(Fr Len has been a supply priest in Wyong Parish)



Birthdays and Anniversaries

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Josie Campbell
Pat Byrne 10/8
Anthony Deder 16/8
Rita Kerr 20/8
Christine Cause 60th, 13/8
Maureen Kiernan 27/8

AUGUST WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Trish & Doug Calder 1/8/1970
Helen & Peter Beamish 15/8/1970
Margaret & Phil Bastick 19/8/1955
Christine & Garry Greentree 25/8/1973

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North Wyong NSW 2259
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Wyong NSW 2259



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Ph: 02 4392 8777

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PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL UPDATE

The Parish Council meeting listed for August has been postponed until September and will be held if Covid regulations allow. It is possible to outline information relating to items which are in the 'pipeline' awaiting removal of the restrictions.

Maintenance

Mowing is on hold. At this stage winter growth is minimal so this is not a major problem.

New roofing panels have been purchased and will be installed as soon as possible.

A working bee will be needed after restrictions are removed so a major clean up can be held. Helpers will be called for as soon as this is possible.

Greater Bank

Thank you to all who voted during this promotion. The result was very positive for our parish with the \$2000 donation very gratefully received.

Bunnings Barbecue

A request was sent to Bunnings for a suitable September date to hold our Bunnings Barbecue promotion. The reply indicated that this activity was on hold. To be prepared, once restrictions are lifted should we be offered a date at short notice, a list of participants is being prepared. If you are willing and able to give at least one hour to help in this fund-raising activity, would you please contact Kerry Bugden on 43 882 938 or Jo Helm at 0424 763 734.

Social Gatherings

These activities in 2021 have been very limited. It is hoped that some social activities like morning teas and the Thank you barbecue, can be organised before Christmas. You will be notified once a suitable date is possible.

Plenary Council

Continuing prayers for the success of the Council are asked and strongly encouraged. The Agenda of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia is available and will be published with the church bulletin in coming weeks.

Any parishioner who would like to discuss this information or has another issue which needs discussion, please contact me at 43882938 or by email on kbbugden@bigpodm.com
Kerry Bugden (PPC Secretary)

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August

The Church Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.



FAN THE FLAME

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

'The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.'
John 6:60-69

Through appropriate faith formation, God can shape us into deepening our spirituality within the life of the Church, engaging with scripture, encountering God in worship and prayerfully developing our living relationship with Jesus Christ.

(Prayerful and Eucharistic – Discernment Paper p. 5)

www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/



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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 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: 0423 763 734 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: frraul_solt@yahoo.com

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:4352 1011 (Wed & Thurs)

PARISH EMAIL: wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au

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

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

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

St Barnabas, Yarramalong
1st Sun of month 11.15am

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

Fr Raul/Fr Alex and the Legion of Mary visit **Berkley Vale Nursing home** 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Children's Liturgy

St John Fisher 5pm Mass Sunday

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 4388 2938

Catechist Meeting

Liturgy Meeting

Sacramental Team Meeting

Social Justice Meeting

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS
PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.

SICK: Len Miller, Harriet Powell, Danae Roe, Peter Ford, Harry Hall, Michael Briggs, Christine Heffernan, Jennese Thompson, Leeann Hazelton, Catherine Amey, Bernadette Kiely, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, William Martin, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Margaret Hobbs, Christine, John Baxter, Joey Moloney, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Frank Costa, Carol Dafter, Dave Rodney, Gerard Byrne, Gwen Dwyer.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Lucy Smith
ANNIVERSARY AUGUST:

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PARISH COLLECTIONS

1st Collection (PRIESTS) The financial support for Fr Raul and Fr Alex comes solely from our Parish first collection and this goes towards their upkeep and living expenses. Our Parish Priests are not financially supported by the Diocese.

2nd Collection (PARISH) goes towards all the pastoral and operating expenses of the Parish: phones/photo copier, electricity, insurance, rates, priests vehicles, staff wages, Presbytery, Church and ground maintenance just to name a few.

- Many parishioners assist us by donating to our plan giving program via automatic credit card donations weekly or monthly.
- As we are becoming a more cashless society we ask you to please consider this option. If you wish to donate by credit card, please complete the attached credit card form or call Jo in the parish office on 0424 763 734. You can also give **by credit card** over the phone.
- For parishioners who would like to continue using plan giving envelopes, for your convenience, you are welcome to use the credit card option on the back of the plan giving envelopes.

Or you can make your **donation directly into our bank account:**

1ST COLLECTION; Society of Our Lady of The Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)
BSB 062 195 Account 10229389

2ND COLLECTION; Wyong Catholic Parish
BSB 062 784 Account 13528001



Parish Renewal and Discipleship August eNews

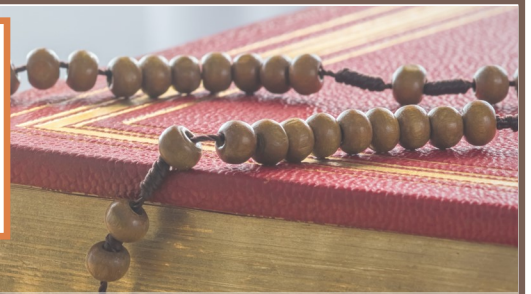
This month's 'Pathways' eNews is now available, prepared by the Parish Renewal & Discipleship Team of Evangelisation Broken Bay.

Each edition features items that relate to parish renewal initiatives that can assist parishes and individuals in their missionary efforts, as well as formation opportunities from around the Diocese or externally, including suitable resources.

To subscribe, please visit

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/parish-community/catholic-life-faith-formation/connect-with-us>

Please join us as we livestream Mass Sunday at 9.30am on Facebook. Please see the link below, don't forget to like and follow our Facebook page.
www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish



Sunday Mass 22nd August 2021
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD *Reproduced from Liturgia*

FIRST READING JOSHUA 24:1-2,15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.' The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 33:2-3, 16-23

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.

The humble shall hear and be glad. R.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked to destroy their remembrance from the earth. The Lord turns his eyes to the just and his ears to their appeal. R.

They call and the Lord hears and rescues them in all their distress. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; those whose spirit is crushed he will save. R.

Many are the trials of the just man but from them all the Lord will rescue him. He will keep guard over all his bones, not one of his bones shall be broken. R.

Evil brings death to the wicked; those who hate the good are doomed. The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. Those who hide in him shall not be condemned. R.

SECOND READING EPHESIANS 5:21-32

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives submit to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body - and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION CF JOHN 6:63, 68

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL JOHN 6:60-69

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?

'It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

***Vox Populi* - THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE**

This week's Vox Populi comes from Seminarian Tan Nguyen. Originally from Vietnam, Tan is studying to become a priest for the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Why Priesthood?

By Tan Nguyen, Seminarian

During these present days, the COVID-19 situation in Australia, as well as in Viet Nam, has given me an opportunity to reflect on my vocation even more deeply. Why priesthood? Why priesthood in Australia?

Aspiring to become a doctor has always been a second dream, another option in life for me, different from priesthood. I'm quite passionate about saving people's lives, to help cure people from their illnesses, since it gives me so much joy, even to just think about it, it fills my heart with happiness.

I was actually quite ambitious about becoming a doctor, and so I undertook an entrance examination into the best medical university in Sai Gon. However, my result was not good enough, although it was close to what was required to gain entrance to that particular medical university. At the same time as I received my disappointing result, I strongly felt the call of the Lord to the priesthood. I finally recognised that: it would be great for me to become a doctor who is able to cure people's physical illnesses, but it would be even greater, if I were able to become a doctor for the Lord, namely a priest, since priests are able to cure people's spiritual sicknesses, and even better, saving people's souls for eternal life.

That enlightenment and recognition has given me, still up until now a deeper sense of joy and peace. That was the inspiration from the Holy Spirit, that enabled me to obtain my degree as a biology teacher, which was a requirement to enter the seminary in the Diocese of Xuan Loc, Viet Nam. Now, I am here in Australia, in the Seminary of the Good Shepherd studying for the Diocese of Broken Bay.

St John Vianney said that "man has one noble task: that of prayer and love". Thank you, St John Vianney for giving me a strong conviction for my vocation that I have been choosing to follow, because I do not think there is a better vocation or a more noble task of prayer and love than to be a priest of our Lord Christ Jesus.

DIVINE RENOVATION AUSTRALASIA WEBINAR: JESUS CHRIST & MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP: 25 AUGUST, 6:30PM

Go ... and make disciples of all nations" (Mt 28:19). This was the Great Commission Jesus gave His disciples, and it is the same mission He entrusts to each of us. Yet, what does it really mean to be a disciple of Christ? Join us for this online event as Dr. Christine Wood and Kevin Bailey take us through what it means to be a missionary disciple and how we can carry out the mission of Christ in our world today.

Dr. Christine Wood is the Director of the Office of Evangelisation and Catechesis in the Archdiocese of Hobart and teaches Biblical and Systematic Theology at Catholic Distance University in the USA.

Register at: <https://www.divinerenovation.org/events>



ANNOUNCEMENT

Rebrand of CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay

We are delighted to announce the Charitable Works Fund (CWF) is rebranding to **Pastoral Works Broken Bay** from July 2021.

The purpose of the new name is to better reflect the authentic, life-giving pastoral work you are helping to support, and provide a name that uniquely connects it to our Diocese of Broken Bay.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay will play a vital role in building on the **six Pastoral priorities** for the Diocese, including giving vital support to life-changing ministries, nurturing families, and parish communities.

Each year, about 20,000 families and friends - those in hospitals, schools, parishes, and the wider community - will be assisted through the generous support of parish communities to Pastoral Works Broken Bay.

Thank you for your support of this important and historic initiative for the Diocese of Broken Bay.

My prayer is the change from CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay enables us to reach further and wider in helping our local community, and more deeply connects us to the mission of Jesus.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL,
Bishop of Broken Bay

August Appeal

At this time, we appreciate support that can be given, no matter how big or small. Our ministries continue to operate and provide vital services. We encourage donations at your parish website or www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks.

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Collection envelopes for Masses will be available when parishes re-open.

Thank you for helping to renew and rebuild lives.
Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.

A banner image featuring a smiling man, a young boy with a red beard, and a smiling woman with glasses. The man is on the left, the boy is in the center, and the woman is on the right. They are all looking towards the camera. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting.

I have called you to renew and rebuild.

PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay

Donate to help families and parish communities in Broken Bay.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the new name for CWF. www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks

PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay

AUSTRALIA PRAYS

SUNDAY 22ND AUGUST 2021

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN THIS TIME OF PANDEMIC – SUNDAY 22 AUGUST

An ecumenical National Day of Prayer has been organised for Sunday 22 August, calling Australia to come together in prayer in light of the current COVID-19 crisis.

The theme is ‘*Lord have mercy*’, as we make this verse from Ps. 123 our own: “*Our eyes look to the Lord our God till He shows us His mercy*” (Ps. 123:2).

A Prayer Call on Zoom, from 9am to 9pm on Sunday 22 August, will feature Church leaders and Indigenous Christian Leaders. Participants can join for as long as they wish.

In addition, daily prayers will be offered in the week prior, from 16 August.

For more information and to register, please visit:

<http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au/LordHaveMercy/>

THE CHURCH TOGETHER IN PRAYER ‘LORD HAVE MERCY’

“OUR EYES LOOK TO THE LORD OUR GOD TILL HE SHOWS US HIS MERCY” — PS. 123:2
WE ARE DRAWN TOGETHER TO PRAY GIVEN THE CURRENT LEVEL OF NEED AND DISTRESS CAUSED BY COVID-19

ALSO: NIGHTLY PRAYER CALLS 16TH-21ST AUGUST

REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK + DAILY DEVOTIONS AT NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG.AU/LORDHAVEMERCY

CALLING ALL WRITERS!

Entry is now open for The Good Oil 2021 Writers' Award, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Samaritan which aims to support and encourage the development of emerging and published writers.

Entrants are asked to write on the theme **Inclusivity**, which is embodied in the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:25-37).

Entries close at midnight AEST on Sunday 22 August, 2021.

For further information and to download the entry form and guidelines, visit <https://www.goodsams.org.au/the-good-oil/the-good-oil-2021-writers-award/>

SILENT ADORATION

Daily-8.45am to 8.45pm
Starting: 1st August

On Divine Healing & Retreat Centre Sydney, Australia, YOUTUBE CHANNEL

You are free to send prayer request during adoration

DAILY

Holy Mass: 8.am

Guided adoration: 9.00pm-9.30pm



DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

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Tel: 02 4372 1598, 04 6848 6782, email drtsydney@gmail.com

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

The Divine Retreat Centre Somersby strives to promote the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.

SAFEGUARDING MESSAGE:

It is important to always look for ways to improve and make things safer for children and young people and provide feedback to the Clergy of the Parish and Ministry Leaders.

Learn more about the Rights of the Child Framework published by the Diocese of Broken Bay. Consider how your personal practices reflect the human and spiritual rights of the child in everyday encounters with children and young people.

Visit link below:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/ourfaith/safeguarding/diocesansafeguarding>

VINNIES COMMUNITY SLEEPOUT IS GOING VIRTUAL!

The human reality of homelessness is told through the many people the St Vincent de Paul Society assists each day.

In 2019, the NSW Government Department of Communities and Justice Engagement Week Program identified the below statistics surrounding homelessness:

- Of those sleeping rough on our streets, 57% in Woy Woy and 71% in Gosford identified with a high vulnerability score and needed ongoing assistance with housing and support services.
- 70 years of age was the oldest respondent sleeping rough and 24 years of age was the youngest, with an average age of 49 years.
- The program identified that the average duration of time spent sleeping on the street was 5.16 years.

It is critical that we support those experiencing or at risk of homelessness in rebuilding their lives and reconnecting with the community. We also strive to address the causes of homelessness and disadvantage.

On the NSW Central Coast, the St Vincent de Paul Society provides assistance through three Vinnies Support Centres in Wyong, Gosford and Woy Woy.

These Support Centres not only connect those in need with Vinnies provided services, but also facilitate other agencies in the fields of homelessness and poverty to provide comprehensive support to those most vulnerable within our community.

How you can help

All funds generated from this event will go to supporting our three local Vinnies Support Centres, allowing us to continue providing essential services to the community with respect, justice, hope and joy.

Register or sponsor a participant to help us change lives and help shape a more just and compassionate society.

<https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/vinnies-community-sleepout-central-coast-region-2021/>

Sleep out at home in your car, backyard or couch and join us online to help change lives in our community.

Event details

Date: Fri, 27 Aug 2021 6:00pm

Venue: At home in your car, backyard or couch

Event Coordinator: Janice Stokes | janice.stokes@vinnies.org.au

Bring: We invite you to bring your warm clothes, a sleeping bag/swag and join us to raise much needed funds and awareness of homelessness



SUPPORTING PARISHIONERS ACROSS OUR DIOCESE

CATHOLICCARE SUPPORTS AVAILABLE NOW

As we enter another week of lockdown you may need some extra support. We are here to help and offer many services for people in need including emergency relief financial supports, homelessness and housing assistance, domestic violence support, counselling including financial counselling, disability and seniors supports and more. We have recently produced a [flyer specifically for parishes here](#)

Feel free to call 1800 324 924 or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au for more information.