

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*

22nd March 2026—5th Sunday of Lent

WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH

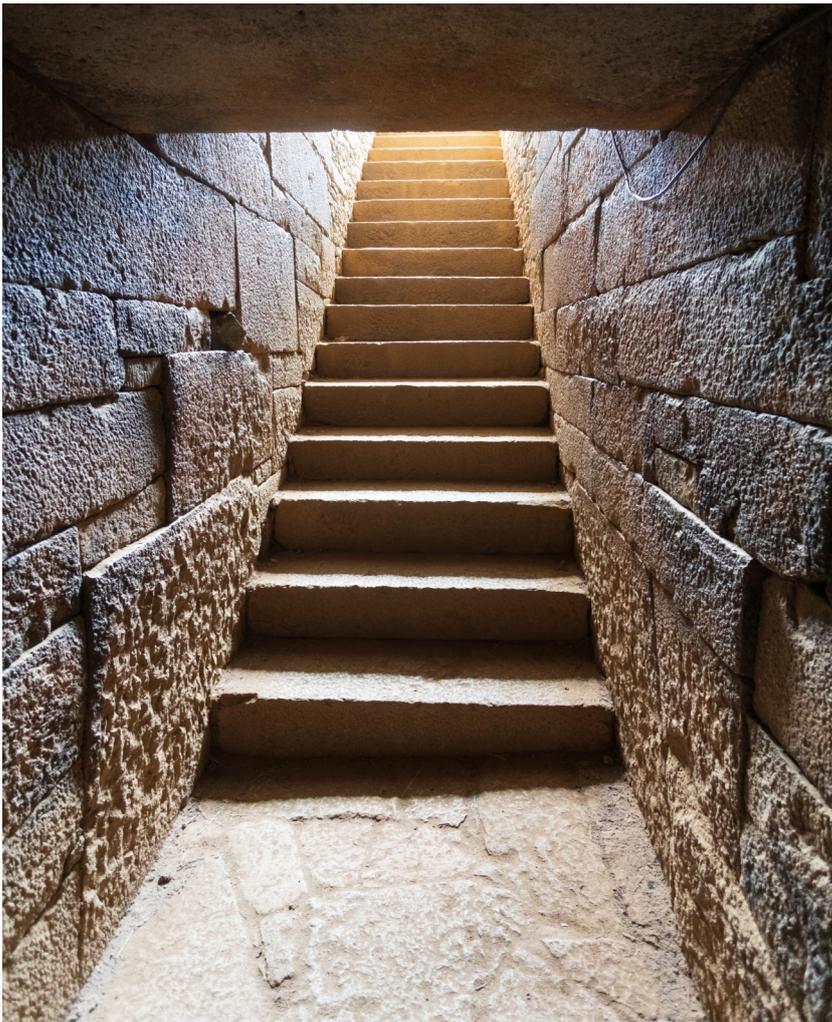
ST CECILIA'S CHURCH, ST JOHN FISHER MASS CTR & ST PETER'S CHAPEL

Under the Pastoral Care of the
Society of Our Lady of The Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)

REFLECTION—Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus' act of reviving Lazarus from the dead appears to have been something he undertook only with a degree of reluctance. Not only did he delay his going to see him, but spoke of his revival as a matter of 'waking one who sleeps'. Moreover, Lazarus would have died at some time thereafter undergoing all the sufferings of physical death a second time. The miracle perhaps benefited those who witnessed it more than poor Lazarus himself! It behoves us to accept physical death as an integral part of mortal life, something neither to be dreaded nor to be mourned excessively. Since Christ, who is himself the Resurrection and the life, assures us of eternal happiness in the world to come, let us view physical death, not as an inexplicable tragedy, but rather as a transition from the limitations of this passing life to something unimaginably greater.

Reproduced from God's Word 2026: Daily Reflections, Published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield.



A Penitential Celebration Second Form of Reconciliation

With Easter fast approaching, now is the time to renew and reconnect with God.

The Second Form of reconciliation is a communal liturgical celebration which helps us to be truly repentant and free from affliction for sin purified through the sacrament of penance (reconciliation) This form of the rite consists of :

- a celebration of the word – hymns, prayers
- a homily
- examination of conscience and a call to repentance
- private confession and reconciliation
- conclusion – short thanksgiving, blessing and dismissal.

Please be a part of this sacrament at one of these venues.

St Cecilia's Church Wyong: **Wed 25th March, 6.00pm**

St John Fisher Tumbi Umbi: **Mon 30th March, 4.00pm**

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

2
APR
HOLY THURSDAY
MASS - ST JOHN
FISHER - 7PM

3
APR
GOOD FRIDAY
STATIONS OF THE
CROSS - 10AM
THE PASSION - 3PM
AT BOTH ST CECILIAS & ST
JOHN FISHER

4
APR
EASTER VIGIL MASS
ST CECILIAS - 7PM

5
APR
EASTER SUNDAY
REGULAR MASS TIMES

This sacred moment encourages reflection, seeking forgiveness, and expressing gratitude while fostering love and understanding for ourselves and others.

OFFICE CLOSURE DATES

The Parish Office will be Closed on **3rd April**—Good Friday, Monday **6th April**—Public Holiday and Friday **10th April**, Monday **13th April** and Tuesday **14th April** over the School Holidays.
Thank you for your understanding!

WYONG PARISH COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS 2026

Each year as a parish we support the disadvantaged members of the community. This year once again we will support the **Wyong Neighbourhood Centre**.

We ask that individual items are placed in the special collection trolleys or containers which will be available at both churches. This collection drive will run from: **18 February - 11 April**

Please see below suggested items which can be donated. These items are those specifically needed by the disadvantaged people the charity supports. Suggested donated items may include: Long-life milk, Noodles, Pasta, rice, good quality tinned fruit, food and meals (with ring pulls), Soups, spaghetti, Muesli bars and long life snacks, Breakfast Biscuits/Cereal, UHT Milk, Noodles, Crackers, Lollies/Chocolate, Chips, Tea, Cappuccino sachets, Water/Juice, Beans, Gloves, Scarves, socks & Blankets. Please place all donations into the special trolley or the plastic containers provided in the Church.

Thank you for your generous help which is most appreciated.

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



COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP

Our Community Play Group is growing and we would love for you to join. **Weekly on Monday at 9.15 -10.15am in St Cecilia's Church Hall.** This is a fun, safe and nurturing space for children to play, learn and grow and for parents, carers and grandparents to connect. All are welcome! Come along and be apart of something special.

Serra Weekly Vocations Prayer Calendar.
Please pray for those in formation or already serving the Church



23/3	Deacon Shayne D'Cunha
24/3	Deacon Tan Nguyen & Sem. Matthew French
25/3	Deacon Huy Tran & Sem. Victor Atuhra
26/3	Fr Robert Crawford
27/3	Fr Camelo Sciberas
28/3	Fr Jim Tierney
29/3	Fr Clem Hill

Daily Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, we praise You for Your goodness and thank You for Your gifts. Help us respond to and live out our mission in the Church. Assist all Your people to know their vocation in life and help them to prepare for it. Call many to be priests, deacons and consecrated men and women for Your greater glory, and for the service of Your people. Give those whom You call the grace to respond generously and to persevere faithfully. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

ECUMENICAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

The Warnervale Regional Uniting Church would like to thank all who attended this service on 6th March. \$570 has been forwarded to the Bible Society towards the Nigeria project. 2027 will be the 100th anniversary celebration and the nation chosen is Australia with the theme 'Justice & Peace'. It will be hosted in our area by the Anglican Church, Wyong.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY CALLING ALL CHILDREN !

⇒ **Children's Liturgy is held every Sunday**, and we warmly invite all children to join us for the **Liturgy of the Word** — a joyful space where kids meet Jesus through stories, prayer, and engaging faith activities designed just for them.

⇒ Each week, children take something beautiful home in their hearts: a sense of belonging, a Bible story they understand, a message from Jesus to guide their week, a new faith word like mercy, hope, or kindness, simple prayers and lessons on love and forgiveness, confidence to speak about God, the reminder that "Jesus is with me," ideas for kindness at home and school, a craft to remember the Gospel, and a heart ready to pray for others.

*Children return to the church for the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

**(Children under 5yrs of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian at all times.)*



EASTER RAFFLE—\$2 A TICKET !

Raffle tickets will be on sale on Saturday **the 21st March** after 5:00pm Mass and after all Masses on **Sunday the 22nd March.**

This year our Easter Raffle will be raising funds for new air-conditioning at St Cecilia's Church and the installation of the awning at St John Fisher Mass Centre.



LEGION OF MARY ACIES CEREMONY

On March 25th is the Feast of the Annunciation. Annually The Legion of Mary come together on or around this day to make a personal or collective consecration to Our Lady. This year we invite you to join us on **March 25th, 8am Mass at St Cecilia's Church** to make a personal consecration to Our Lady. All are welcome!

THANK YOU - STAMPS

The Sisters of Saint Joseph, Kincumber wish to thank Wyong Catholic Parish, for the generous donation of postage stamps, which were happily received.

Share your talents and skills in the ministry/ ministries where you are called to be.

JOIN US!

Volunteer Roles include:

- ✓ Maintenance /Mowing upkeep
- ✓ Altar Servers
- ✓ Linen Upkeep
- ✓ Catechist or a helper
- ✓ Cleaning
- ✓ Choir/ Musician
- ✓ Children's Liturgy Helper (Sun)

Speak to one of our Priests or contact the office

📞 02 4352 1011



UNITE AGAINST POVERTY

this Lent

they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code. **Or online at:** www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413



Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* this Lent.



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



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Ph: 02 4392 8777

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HELPING HANDS

Wyong parish's social justice program for 2026 will add a third string to the already two string program which has been in place for many years. String 1: prayer; string 2: the many donations of food and clothing. String 3, which will be established this year, will be called 'Helping Hands.'



Helping hands need people who are able and 'willing to step out of the boat' as Jesus asked. These volunteers will reach out to those in our community who are on the edge and need help. Each will be asked to offer this help as best meets their own individual circumstances and work with others, where there are already established teams.

If you can offer this kind of help, please phone the parish office (4352 1011) by **27th March** to give your name and contact information. The first meeting for helping hands will be on **14th April**. Any assistance no matter how small it is will be greatly appreciated.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT FROM 10 MARCH MEETING

Information items from the PPC meeting on Tuesday 10 March:

Formation: Training for Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist will be held at St Cecilia's Church on **Saturday 9 May at 10:00 am & Wednesday 13 May at 6:00pm.**

Easter Ceremonies:

Holy Thursday Mass, Tumbi, 7:00pm Children involved as Apostles in the Washing of the Feet.

Good Friday, both Wyong & Tumbi, Stations of the Cross 10:00am & Passion of the Lord 3:00pm.

Easter Vigil, Wyong 7:00pm

Easter Sunday Mass Wyong 7:30 & 9:30 am; Tumbi 8:30 & 5:00pm

Social Justice: 'Helping Hands' - volunteers' names to the parish office (4352 1011) by 27 March. Meeting at Wyong 6:00 pm 14 April.

Grants: (i) Volunteer Grant Expression of Interest closes 1 April.

(ii) Play Group has commenced with participation numbers increasing each week.

Fund Raising 2026: (i) Easter raffle: Irene Smith has offered her services once again to run this raffle. Thank you, Irene your help is most appreciated. (ii) Other fund-raising details are being finalized but will include Mother's Day raffle and 200 club.

Disabled Parking: Central Coast Council will be contacted re Disabled Parking spaces being marked on Byron St.

Important Dates:

27 March Volunteer names for Helping hands to Office

2nd - 5th April Easter ceremonies

25 April Anzac day

4 May Mother's Day raffle draw

12 May PPC Meeting

Roll Up Your Sleeves for Our Palm Cross Working Bee

As Palm Sunday approaches, we're gathering to make the palm crosses needed for St Cecilia's Church and St John Fisher Mass Centre. No experience required—just come along, roll up your sleeves and join in. **Even an hour makes a big difference!**

Workshop

Date: Wednesday, March 25th, 2026 **Time:** 9am to 11am

Location: St Peter's Catholic College, 84 Gavenlock Road, Tuggerah (held in the T3 Trade Center)

This is a wonderful way to be part of a special tradition, enjoy some great company, and share a delicious morning tea. Please RSVP to Jo on 0424 763 734



Invitation to celebrate Weekday Mass with the students from St Cecilia's Mondays 9.15am & St John Fisher Tuesdays 9.15am (School Term only)

We encourage and extend a warm welcome to ALL parishioners to this beautiful half hour week day Mass.

**Please Note—Mass at St Cecilia's may vary depending on weather conditions.*

PLANNED GIVING

Dear Parishioners, should you wish to donate electronically, please see details below or use the QR Code provided.

We appreciate all offerings and support gifted to our Parish!



COMMUNION BLESSING



You can still receive a blessing if you are not Catholic, have not yet received your Sacrament of First Eucharist/Holy Communion, or, if you are Catholic but are not in a state of grace.

To receive a blessing instead of communion during a Catholic Mass, simply approach the priest during the distribution of communion with your arms folded across your chest, and the priest will offer a blessing.

Please remember if you are receiving communion, the consecrated host must enter your mouth to be consumed before returning to your seat.



UNABLE TO STAND IN LINE FOR COMMUNION? USE THE YELLOW BAND!

Please use the yellow bands located at the back of the Church (in a tub underneath the bulletin shelf) to indicate that you cannot stand in line to receive the Eucharist, by slipping it onto the side of the pew where you will be seated.

Our Priest or Eucharistic Minister will see this and will tend to you at the end of Communion.

Parish Programs for Our Young People.

It gives me great pleasure to report that all the hard work over the last few years is starting to reap rewards. Thank you to everyone who has been actively involved in this area and to all our parishioners who have offered their prayers. The report below will let everyone know about the progress so far.

0-5 years- Each Monday morning during school terms, our new playgroup gathers at St Cecilia's. This group has now been running for 3 weeks and each week our numbers are increasing. We provide fun and space for children and a connection for parents, carers and grandparents. If you know someone or you are interested, please come along and join us. There is plenty of space available and you would be most welcome.

5-12 years. Children's liturgy is a specially organized time during Mass each Sunday. At Wyong the Mass time is 9:30am and at Tumbi 5:00pm. Our numbers currently for Wyong are 17-20 and 15 at Tumbi. During this time each week children engage in faith activities which provide a joyful place for them to meet Jesus in activities designed just for them.

12 and over. At present, our permanent numbers for this youth group have grown to 5 and additional numbers are always increasing. These young people meet once a month on the first Friday (or 2nd Friday if first isn't possible). At our last meeting in March there were 18 attendees, as we were joined by members of the Youth Ministry from St Peter's College and other new attendees. A fun evening was enjoyed by all.

In the future similar combined activities will be held. It is hoped we will be able to also be part of the Ignite conference and Shine. We will also be hosting the Connecting Catholic Coasties event in June, more information to come. Yours Truly, Kerry Bugden, PPC Secretary.

CHRISM MASS

Participating in the Chrism Mass is a way to build a deeper appreciation of the sacramental life of the Church. You are invited to attend the 2026 Broken Bay Chrism Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral Waitara on **Tuesday, 31st March at 7:30pm.**



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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: 0410 202 823

PARISH OFFICE: 23 Byron Street Wyong

Phone: 02 4352 1011 **Mail:** Po Box 385 Wyong 2259

OFFICE HOURS: Monday -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: 0410 202 823**

Parish Secretaries **Margaret Vandenberg & Christine Sassine**

SRE Catechist Co-Ordinator: **Margaret Vandenberg**

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

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

St Cecilia's Sat after 8am Mass

St John Fisher Wed 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, Wed 9.15am in Parish Hall.

Meetings

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

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

PPC Secretary: Kerry Bugden

Ph: 02 4388 2938

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS
PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE

KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer: *The most valuable gift you can give someone.*

SICK:

Michele Bolton, Jeanine Doueihy, Margaret McDermott, Dave Rodney, Danae Roe, Milva Kefu, Georgina Mastroianni, Tahnia Ahuriri, Badwi Laoulach, Maureen Cross, Vince Bosco, Anthony Philip Power, Rik

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Delma Baker, Antoni Szczur, Peter Meury, Susan Monk, Fr John McCall

ANNIVERSARY MARCH:

Myrtle & James Murphy, Reg Preston, Fr Tito Ayo, SOLT, Kevin Barry, Tony Cox, Fr Matteo Bolsano



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 on the contact details provided above; or, Anne Hooley: 0428 149 793 or, Maureen Roast: 0435 245 849.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Ezekiel 37:12-14 (Year A)

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

The Lord says this: I am going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 130.1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7b-8 (R.7b)

R. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading Romans 8:8-11 (Year A)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 11:25, 26 (Year A)

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel John 11:1-45 (Year A)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. - It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling

because he has the light of this world to see by;

but if he walks at night he stumbles,

because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas - known as the Twin - said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,

and whoever lives and believes in me

will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me,

but I speak

for the sake of all these who stand round me,

so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Mass of the Angels

For parents who have experienced the loss of a child through stillbirth, miscarriage, or at early infancy—especially those who have carried this weight in silence and never had the space to truly mourn.

25 March 2026

Annunciation of the Lord

St John the Baptist Church, Freshwater

6pm followed by Adoration



15 Johnson St, Freshwater NSW 2096

A decorative arrangement of three lit candles in glass holders, surrounded by white lilies and other flowers, set against a background of a sunset over the ocean.

Looking for flexible work - and a chance to support persecuted Christians?

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Australia is seeking a Diocesan Outreach Assistant to give short presentations at weekend Masses across the Diocese of Broken Bay.

This part-time role involves sharing stories of the suffering Church and helping build prayerful support within parish communities.

If you are comfortable speaking in front of others and have a heart for this mission, we would love to hear from you.

For details:

www.aidtochurch.org/work

Cecilia Figueroa

National Outreach Coordinator

Aid to the Church in Need | **ACN Australia & New Zealand**

PO Box 335, Penrith NSW 2571

PO Box 90445, Auckland 1142 NEW ZEALAND

AU 1800 101 201 | NZ 0800 242 322 | Direct +612 9167 9515

cecilia@aidtochurch.org | www.aidtochurch.org

PASSIONTIDE CAROLS: 28 March

A Service of Music and Readings

Join us for a stirring evening of Passiontide Carols on Saturday, 28 March, immediately following the 5pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral. This service of music and readings offers a unique opportunity for reflection as we journey from the Lenten season into the profound mysteries of Holy Week.

Presented by organist and hymnodist Christian Catsanos, the program will feature a selection of hymns that trace the path of the Passion, from Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem to the Cross at Calvary. All are invited to experience this service of prayerful meditation and musical beauty as we prepare our hearts for the most sacred time of the Liturgical year.

Refreshments will be available following the service.

RESIDENTIAL RETREATS FOR 2026

Starts on Friday at 5:30pm &
Ends on Sunday, 4:00pm

JAN	BIBLE CONVENTION (Led by Fr Antony) Jan 31st- 1st Feb) 9am-4pm
FEB	27Feb-1Mar, Lenten Retreat
MAR	20-22, Preparation for Holy Week Retreat
APR	17-19, Deliverance Retreat
MAY	15-17, Preparation For Pentecost Retreat
JUN	19-21, Inner Healing Retreat
JUL	10-12, Family Healing Retreat
AUG	14-16, Dei Verbum Retreat
SEP	11-13, Deliverance Retreat
OCT	2-4, Marian Retreat
NOV	13-15, Inner Healing Retreat
DEC	11-13, Advent Retreat

PLEASE BOOK VIA OUR WEBSITE

<https://divineretreatcentre.org/booking-form/>
or email us at drcretreatrego@gmail.com

SILENT GUIDED RETREAT

If you would like to book for a private "SILENT GUIDED RETREAT", please email drtsydney@gmail.com and we will share information about the cost and what to bring, to help you prepare for a peaceful and meaningful experience.

OUTREACH MINISTRIES

First Friday (Chatwood)

Healing Prayer Service, 6:30pm-8:30pm
at Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, CHATSWOOD

Third Monday (Wallsend)

Healing Prayer Service, 7:00pm-9:00pm
at St Patrick's Church, 11 Macquarie street, WALLSEND

Third Friday (Epping)

Holy Mass & Adoration, 6:00pm-8:00pm
at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, 31 Oxford St, EPPING

Fourth Thursday (Adelaide)

Spiritual Healing Retreat, 7:00pm-9:00pm
St Peter Claver Church, 8 Stuart Road, Dulwich,
Adelaide, SA 5065

Brisbane & Canberra (As advertised)

For other upcoming outreach ministries please refer
to our website events page:

<https://divineretreatcentre.org/events/>

**Spiritual Guidance,
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We rely on your loving support to maintain this beautiful space and ensure our ministries can thrive. If you are able to give, your gift is a blessing that helps us keep the doors open and our hearts dedicated to serving God and neighbour. Thank you for your care and commitment to our ministry.

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Bank: Westpac BSB: 032071 Ac No: 524895

* Vincentian missionaries is not a gift deductible entity.

There will not be any income tax deductions available for donations.

* Personal information provided will be confidential and will not be given out to third parties.

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TO
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THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL
EUCCHARISTIC
CONGRESS 2028
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA



eucharist28.org

The pilgrimage has
begun. Join us.





UTES OF
HEALING
FOR PARENTS
WHO HAVE LOST A BABY

BEFORE BIRTH OR
IN EARLY INFANCY

The book contains:

Prayers after Death
Rite of Commendation
Memorial Service
Rite of Healing for Parents
Rite of Blessing a Family

*A liturgical resource for healing, and hope.
Designed to gently support families and those who
care for them in parishes, hospitals, and homes.*

This resource is available for purchase, with single copies priced at \$13.
For parishes, hospitals, and organisations: only \$11.50 per copy for orders of 25 or more.

For orders, visit www.liturgybrisbane.net.au or contact (07) 3324 3314.

Formation Opportunity

Breaking Open Dilexi Te - Apostolic Exhortation Of The Holy Father Leo XIV To
All Christians On Love For The Poor

Join parish leaders from across the Diocese for a practical and accessible day of formation in social justice ministry. Build your confidence, connect with others, and gain useful tools to support your parish work. Breaking Open Dilexi Te : Discover the powerful teachings of Pope Leo XIII and how they can inspire your leadership today.

All parish social justice ministers, volunteers and leaders are warmly invited.
Follow the link to register today: [Breaking Open Dilexi Te](#)

Date: 28 March 2026

Time: 10:30 am – 4:00 pm

Venue: Ambrose Centre, 12 Ashton Ave, The Entrance NSW 2261

Reproduced from Neighbourhoods 29 January 2026



Dear Friends,

We have 3 retreats coming up at Jamberoo Abbey in the month of April to June. Here's a short description of each of them. Go to [our website](#) for more information and how to register.

We would like to enable as many people to attend our retreats. If you require assistance with the registration cost, please don't hesitate to contact us at onlineretreat@jamberooabbey.org.au.

God bless.

Benedictine Nuns of Jamberoo Abbey

[Lord, Teach Us to Pray: The Aramaic Prayer of Jesus](#)

(Cottage Weekend Retreat) 10 - 12 April 2026

In this contemplative retreat we return to the very words Jesus spoke as we explore the Lord's Prayer in its original Aramaic, uncovering layers of meaning often lost in translation.

Retreat Cost: \$150 + accommodation cost.

[He is risen!](#)

(Day Retreat) 18 April 2026

Calling youth and young adults to come together for a time of prayer and reflection. This is a retreat for youth and young adults aged 16 - 35. The Lord is risen! Let us come and spend time sitting at the tomb and wait for his voice to call our name.

Retreat Cost: \$60 (*Limited space available*)

[Praying Icons with Julian of Norwich](#)

(Day Retreat) 27 June 2026

Join us for a contemplative day exploring the rich intersection of iconography and Julian of Norwich's Revelations of Divine Love.

Retreat Cost: \$60 (*Limited space available*)

Benedictine Abbey

695 Jamberoo Mountain Road, Jamberoo NSW 2533, Australia

T: +61 2 4236 0011 E: webadmin@jamberooabbey.org.au

MAGI PILGRIMAGES

FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL (5th - 20th May 2026)

Fr. Sebastian A.M invites you to a journey in the footsteps of St. Paul, reliving the Acts of the Apostles and exploring the letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Turkey with a 3-night Greek Islands cruise in this 14-day pilgrimage for an all-inclusive price of \$9790+ tips (25+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th.

SAINTS OF ITALY (8th - 21st June 2026)

Fr. Franco Filippetto invites you to a 14-day journey to Italy, visiting Milan, Padua, Siena, Assisi, Rotondo, Sorrento, and Rome, with an all-inclusive price of \$ 9,290 + tips (for 30+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th.

The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in 4-star Premium Hotels, Meals + English speaking professional guides + Entrances as per itinerary and more. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au



ST OLAF CHURCH



COPENHAGEN CITY

Scandinavian S E C R E T S



TOURS
Like a church? Join us!
Learning together

With hosts Rev'd Christopher Waterhouse + a Monk from St. Benedicts Monastery, Arcadia

DEPARTING SYDNEY
24 SEPT 2026

5 nights – Stockholm

Built on 14 islands, Stockholm is often called the Venice of the North.

2 nights – Vadstena

Home to Vadstena Castle, one of Sweden's best-preserved Renaissance fortresses.

3 nights – Malmö

Malmö's iconic Turning Torso is the tallest building in Scandinavia.

5 nights – Copenhagen

Copenhagen is one of the world's most bike-friendly cities, with more bikes than cars.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TODAY

krystal@ettravel.com.au

0438 907 006

ASK US ABOUT OUR EXCLUSIVE
NORWAY ADD-ON—WHERE
BREATHTAKING FJORDS AND
UNFORGETTABLE ADVENTURES
AWAIT!



THE LITTLE MERMAID

ABOUT OUR HOST

FR. CHRISTOPHER WATERHOUSE



The Rev'd Christopher Waterhouse is Rector of St James' King Street, Sydney. Prior to his appointment, he served as Precentor and Chaplain

for the Arts at St David's Cathedral, Hobart. Born in the United Kingdom and raised and educated in Tasmania, Christopher developed an early passion for the performing arts, particularly theatre and music. He appeared in numerous stage productions across Tasmania before relocating to Sydney to work with the Sydney Theatre Company, and later moving to London where he worked at the St James' Theatre.

He subsequently left the theatre industry to work at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, while undertaking ministry studies. Christopher returned to Australia in 2017 to become Director of the St James' Institute. He has more than 25 years' experience as a radio presenter in Hobart, London and Sydney, and has served on the boards of a range of philanthropic, church, education and arts organisations. These include the national board of the Anglican Board of Mission, the Council of St Andrew's College, and 2MBS Fine Music Sydney.

Scandinavia Itinerary Overview

Stockholm 5 nights

- Arrival in Stockholm with airport transfer.
- Guided city tour featuring City Hall, the Old Town (Gamla Stan), the Royal Palace and Parliament.
- Scenic boat cruise through the Stockholm Archipelago.
- Full-day guided excursion to Sigtuna and Uppsala, exploring Viking-era sites, the historic university precinct and Uppsala Cathedral.
- Free day to explore Stockholm independently, with the option to use the Stockholm Pass.
- Visits to ABBA The Museum and the Vasa Museum.

Vadstena - 2 nights

- Travel south with a stop at Östanbäck Monastery.
- Guided walking tour of medieval Vadstena.
- Visits to Vadstena Abbey and Vadstena Castle.

Malmö - 3 nights

- Travel to Malmö.
- Visit Malmö Castle and key churches. Church service.
- Excursion to Skanörs Church and final sightseeing in Malmö.
- Full-day excursion along the Skåne coast. Visits to Ystad and Simrishamn.
- Stop at the Kivik Grave and visits to historic churches including St Nicolai Church and St Olof's Church.

Copenhagen - 5 nights

- Travel to Denmark via ferry. Visit Kronborg Castle (Hamlet's Castle).
- Scenic coastal drive along the Strandvej to Copenhagen.
- Guided city tour including Nyhavn, Amalienborg Palace, Christiansborg Palace and The Little Mermaid.
- Canal cruise and visit to the Church of Our Lady. Excursion to Roskilde, including the Viking Ship Museum and Roskilde Cathedral.
- Full-day excursion to Odense, visiting H.C. Andersen's House and Odense Cathedral.

Inclusions & Important Information

- Depart Australia: 24 September 2026
- Full breakfast daily. 7 dinners included, featuring both a welcome dinner and a farewell dinner.
- Single supplement available on request.
- Ask about extending your journey to Norway — we offer tailored packages to make this a reality.
- All listed activities are subject to change at any time due to operational requirements.
- Flights are with Air China, offering Economy, Premium Economy and Business Class options.
- The itinerary includes a stopover in the spectacular historic city of Beijing.

Carmel House Retreats 2026

**MAY
20-24**

**Pentecost Intensive
RUAH**

"He breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'". Jn 20:22
The Ruah (breath) of God renews each soul that receives its power. Embrace the gift of the Holy Spirit through fellowship, inputs, prayer and practical workshops and help renew the face of the earth
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDAV>.

**OCT
16-18**

**Hand Made
Creative Healing Retreat**

"In his hand is the life of every creature." Job 12:10
Come away for a weekend of reflection on how carefully God has made and upheld your life through different creative prayer experiences.
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDCB>

**JUNE
27**

**GARDENS
Day Retreat**

"Grieve not as those who have no hope." 1 Thess 4:13.
Spend a day reflecting on how while we experience pain, grief and loss in life, we can also discover in such moments that God is renewing us and doing "a new thing" (Rev 21:4) within us.
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBD>

**NOV
14**

**ALIVE
Holy Spirit Family
Retreat Day**

Your family has been carefully chosen and put together by God and has an important mission entrusted only to you.
Discover as a family the power of the Holy Spirit to live with boldness and love!
<https://www.trybooking.com/DIDCJ>

**AUG
28-30**

**HOMECOMING
Silent Retreat**

"His father saw him, ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him." Lk 15: 20
Your heavenly Father waits for you to come away with him for a weekend of silently soaking in his great love for you. Embrace this opportunity for encountering deep peace and serenity.
w/e: <https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBK>
extensive: <https://www.trybooking.com/DIDBU>

Missionaries of God's Love
Sisters



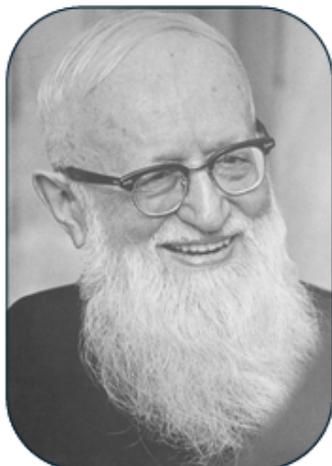
Carmel House
345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW 2566
mglisters.sydney@gmail.com
[mglisters.org](https://www.mglisters.org)

BOOK NOW!



Schoenstatt Sisters
CENTENARY YEAR
Pilgrimages!

PILGRIMAGES CAN INCLUDE...



HOLY MASS

- In the Shrine, House Chapel or Family Hall
- Come with own priest
- Existing Masses at Mount Schoenstatt on Thursdays & Sundays at 11am

CONFESSION

- Available with own priest only

PRAYER

- Devotion
- Rosary
- Stations of the Cross
- Private

TALK BY A SISTER

- About Schoenstatt and the sisters community



MEALS

- BYO
- Morning tea, lunch & afternoon tea available at a cost

PIETY STORE

- Gifts
- Souvenirs
- Religious items

Plenary indulgence available
until **4th NOVEMBER 2026**

*Tailor your pilgrimage
to suit your needs!*

ALL PILGRIMAGES BY DONATION!

CONTACT



SR M. OLIVIA



0473 201 525

sister.m.olivia@gmail.com

WANT TO JOIN OUR FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM?

CatholicCare are seeking volunteers for our Aged Care Volunteers Visitors Scheme (formerly known as the Community Visitors Scheme). As a volunteer, you will visit seniors in a local aged care facility or in their own home and help improve their quality of life. Our volunteers have the flexibility to choose a day and time that suits them, we just ask for a commitment of at least one hour per fortnight.

Affectionately referred to as CatholicCare's 'friendship program', you will be able to build new connections and positive relationships with someone who will greatly appreciate your company. Please call (02) 9481 2600 or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/volunteer/ for more information



CatholicCare
Diocese of Broken Bay

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AGED CARE VOLUNTEER VISITORS SCHEME

www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/volunteer

Discover and share in our story

The Sisters of Charity Heritage Centre brings alive the spirit of the Congregation, it's history and heritage.

Australia's first religious sisters have been of service to the community regardless of creed, wealth or ethnicity, for over 185 years.

Tuesday – Thursday
10.00am-3.00pm or by appointment
Free entry, parking available
Bookings recommended

You too are part of this continuing and living heritage and we'd love to welcome you.

1 Rockwall Cres, Potts Point, NSW
T: 02 9138 0835
W: socheritagecentre.org.au
E: heritagecentre@rscoffice.com



**Sisters
of Charity**
of Australia

**HERITAGE
CENTRE**



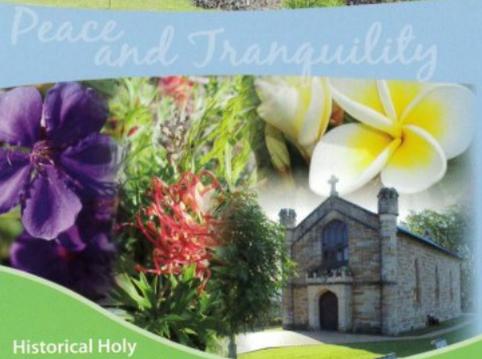
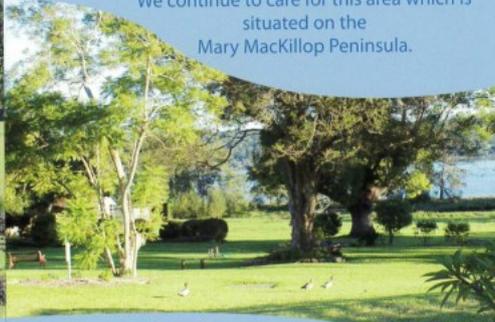
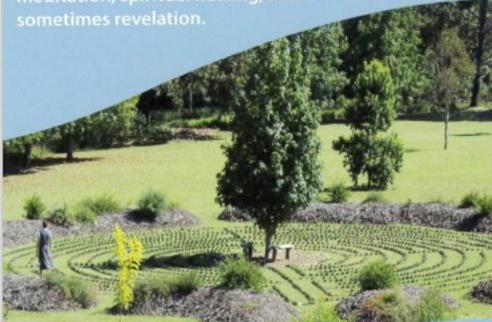
St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre Kincumber South

The abundance of natural beauty which surrounds the Centre will ensure your stay is unforgettable, enjoyable and restful.

The labyrinth is a place for prayer, meditation, spiritual healing, and sometimes revelation.

We acknowledge the original owner of this land and pay tribute to The Darkinjung Nation and the Guringai people who have cared for this land with love and respect.

We continue to care for this area which is situated on the Mary MacKillop Peninsula.



Historical Holy Cross church built in 1842 presents itself right in front of our Centre.



A Ministry of the Sisters of St Joseph
NSW Province

The Congregation of the Sisters of St Joseph, founded by Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods in 1866, was devoted to the service of the poor. Its members were women who worked in a simple ordinary way to bring to the poor the message of their human dignity and of Christ's saving love. Today the Sisters of St Joseph continue that founding mission to relieve suffering and bring hope to today's world.

St Joseph's Spirituality & Education Centre

8 Humphreys Road, Kincumber South, NSW 2251
Phone: 02 43682805 : Fax: 02 43683849
Email: bookings@stjosephsretreat.org.au
Web: www.stjosephskincumber.org.au

St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre offers the opportunity for individuals and groups to experience spiritual enrichment and personal development in a peaceful and spacious setting. The facilities are available to those whose purpose is in harmony with the spirit and philosophy of the Sisters of St Joseph.



Location

St Joseph's Spirituality and Education Centre is located at Kincumber South, in a natural bushland setting, in a quiet corner of the beautiful Central Coast of NSW.

The spacious grounds front the Kincumber Broadwater, creating an atmosphere of tranquility and peace that enhances the spiritual and reflective nature of the Centre.

A perfect place where people can be recharged, re-energized and spend precious time connecting with God, each other and nature.

Services

Dedicated staff are on hand to advise and to ensure the smooth running of your group's activities.

You can be certain of our personalised & professional service from start to finish for your conference, meeting or seminar.

The Centre is open to people of all faiths and beliefs and is a warm and welcoming place respecting cultural and religious differences.

Meals are prepared on site, catering for special dietary requirements.

Morning and afternoon tea are all homemade.

Facilities

St Joseph's is a smoke free environment.

The quality and presentation of the accommodation add to the overall ambience of the Centre.

A maximum of 54 people can be accommodated in 35 double, twin, or single rooms, all with modern ensuites.

Ramp and lift access to rooms is available, some bathrooms are wheelchair friendly.

Our facility hosts
Retreats
Conferences
Group Seminars
Small Group Meetings
Bible Study Groups
Prayer Days

Sound and visual equipment for conferences are available on request.

Walking Tracks and Gardens

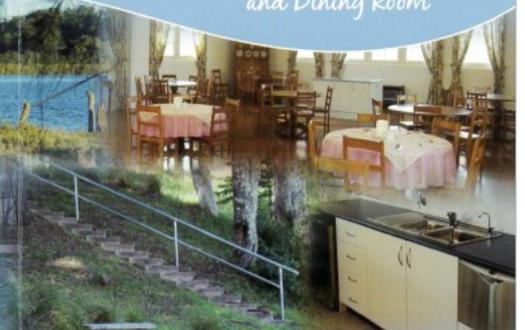
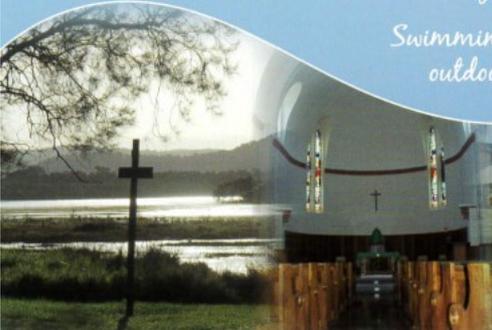
Meditation Areas and Mary of the Cross Walk

Swimming pool and outdoor patio

Chapel and prayer rooms

Conference Rooms

Lounge, Tea Bays and Dining Room



WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEW ACCREDITATION FOR **HOME CARE PACKAGES**

CatholicCare is our social care agency in the Diocese of Broken Bay and we have been supporting the Northern Sydney, Northern Beaches and Central Coast communities for 35 years.

We understand many seniors prefer to stay at home as they age. The Government's funding for Home Care Packages can help you live independently at home for longer.

We want to know if our Home Care Packages are of interest to you, or a loved one and want to prioritise the needs of our parishioners before we promote to the general public. As a Catholic organisation we want the seniors we support to know they are truly cherished and valued and we're confident our services will be very well received.

There's no obligation to partner with CatholicCare. We may contact you to discuss your needs, but you're welcome to opt-out at anytime.

Name _____

Suburb _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Do you currently have Home Care Package funding from the Government?

Yes No Unsure

Do you need help applying for a Home Care Package?

Yes No Maybe

Is there any other feedback you'd like to provide?

Take a photo of this completed form and email to info@catholiccareddb.org.au or text a photo of the form to 0481 602 046. Thank you.

CATHOLICCARE BROKEN BAY

Do you have a problem that you can't solve on your own?

When feelings become overwhelming or confusing, counselling can be very helpful. We work with you to overcome challenges and stress.

We work with you, assisting you to face challenges and stressors, coming up with sugges-

tions to tackle or resolve these challenges. We listen, talk through experiences and help you think about ways forward. Common issues addressed in counselling include family transitions, communication issues, work/life balance, conflict, parenting after separation, grief and loss and decision making. We offer a welcoming, inclusive environment and a safe space for all ages. CatholicCare offers Government funded, fee for service and NDIS approved therapy options for yourself, your children and as a family unit.

To access this service please call 1800 324 924 or visit www.catholiccaredbb.org.au.



Key Telephone Numbers

KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

POLICE: 000

Call the Police for immediate assistance.

1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732

A national 24-hour 7 day a week service, for advice or support in relation to sexual assault and domestic violence. The service also connects victims to the nearest help according to their location.

FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

Call 131 450 for an interpreter. Ask them to ring 1800 RESPECT for you.

CATHOLIC CARE BROKEN BAY

CatholicCare provides a range of services to assist women and children experiencing domestic violence

Central Coast: 1800 324 924	Northern Beaches: 1800 324 924
Naremburn: 1800 324 924	Waitara: 1800 324 924

MEN'S REFERRAL SERVICE: 1300 766 491

A national 24-hour 7 day a week anonymous and confidential counselling, information and referral service to help men stop using violent and controlling behaviour.

FOR FEMALE MIGRANTS UNDER A TEMPORARY VISA

Migrants are especially vulnerable to abuse because they are in unfamiliar territory without knowledge of the laws and emergency services they can access.

If you are experiencing domestic violence, you can take out an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO) against your partner.

Under the Migration Act you can apply for permanent residency due to domestic violence.

Ring any of the following numbers:

Immigration Advice and Rights Centre	02 8234 0777
Immigrant Women's SpeakOut Association	1800 656 463
Legal Aid NSW	1300 888 529 (business hours)

PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE ARE SERIOUS INDICTABLE OFFENCES UNDER THE NSW CRIMES ACT 1900. It is an offence to fail to report knowledge or belief of a serious indictable offence. If in doubt, call 000.

This parish resource has been developed by the Diocese of Broken Bay's Catholic Life & Faith Formation Team in consultation with the Safeguarding Office (Chancery) and CatholicCare Broken Bay. This booklet is part of a Parish Kit which assists parishes to respond to those experiencing domestic violence or those who are seeking help for their violent behaviour. The kit is available for download www.bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au



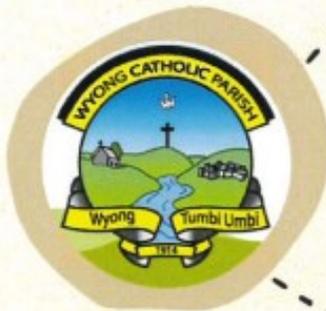
**CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY**

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**