SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER PARISH BULLETIN, 22ND MAY 2022

All who love me will keep my words,

and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

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



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER GOSPEL REFLECTION Gospel John 14:23-29 22nd May 2022

Reproduced from God's Word 2022: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield

I wonder how the women in Jesus' time felt. The apostles, council representatives and elders of the church were all men. Men were officially chosen as the twelve apostles and sent out as the messengers and bearers of the Good News. And yet, we know women were present in the life of Jesus. His mother, Mary; Mary Magdalene, who ran from the tomb having encountered the risen Christ; the woman at the well and the woman who was saved from being stoned to death. Women, too, knew and loved Jesus and were bearers of the Good News. They remind us that women and men are called to be living witnesses of Jesus' love in the world, to be messengers of hope, and bearers of mercy. Whether we are called to live as Religious, married, single, or in a particular profession, we are all mandated by that 'letter of the Council of Jerusalem to announce the Good News and to live in the joy of our resurrected Christ.

24TH MAY 2022 OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS SOLEMNITY

Reproduced from God's Word 2022: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield Our Lady Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia, I ask you to intercede with your Son For peace and justice in our nation. I pray for our leaders who are entrusted with the care of the people, and for each of us, who live in this country, and who can take responsibility for those most vulnerable in our community. There are so many who are without food or shelter, who are lonely, isolated, imprisoned or sick. With you as my guide, Mother of Mercy, may I be a beacon of God's love and a refuge for the oppressed and marginalised. On this day, I consecrate myself to your Immaculate heart. I consecrate my heart and soul, my family, friends, work, country, and all that I own, to you, for the greater glory of God. Today I renew the promise of my Baptism and Confirmation, and I undertake to live as a good Christian, faithful to God, and the call to love as Christ loved. Holy Mother of God, Queen of heaven and earth, Queen of peace, pray for us. Amen.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 22nd MAY 2022

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD Reproduced from Liturgia

First Reading Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them: 'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel or crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

Gospel Acclamation John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel John 14:23-29

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own; it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.

Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return.

If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now, before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

Sacrament of First Eucharist

Over the coming weeks the children are preparing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. We ask you to please keep them and their families in your prayers as they grow in their love of God.





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Mothers day raffle

Mothers day Raffle \$246.00 1st Jen Kain Yellow 58 2nd Maureen Cross Yellow 65 3rd Irene Smith Yellow 17

Thank you to everyone who helped to support this fundraiser.

Upcoming

May Tuesday 24th Our Lady, Help of Christians Sunday 29th, The Ascension of the Lord

June

During the Month of June SVDP Winter appeal Sunday 5th Pentecost Sunday Sunday 12th The Most Holy Trinity Friday 17th 5pm and 6.30pm First Eucharist Ceremony Sunday 19th The Most Holy Body, and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) Wednesday 22nd St John Fisher Feast Day Friday 24th 5pm First Eucharist Ceremony

July

Sunday 4th Peter's Pence appeal Friday 29th Christmas in July Sunday 31st Confirmation Ceremony

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention May -

Faith-Filled Young People

We pray for all young people, called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service.

Parish Pastoral Council

The Parish Pastoral Council met on Tuesday 10 May. An update of issues raised, discussed and the outcomes is included in this report.

Liturgy:

Easter Celebrations this year allowed the first full parishioner involvement since the commencement of Covid. Thank you to all who were involved in the many different liturgical ceremonies which made up the Easter celebrations and so ensured the great success achieved.

Our young parishioners and their families will be the focus for our parish in June and July. First Eucharist will be held at St Cecilia's Church Wyong over three separate Masses on Friday evenings of 17 and 24 June.

Bishop Anthony will celebrate Mass and Confirmation at St Peter's College Hall, Tuggerah on Sunday 31 July.

Social:

'Christmas In July' will be held on Friday 29 July. St Peter's College will once again be our hosts for this function.

Two fundraising activities are in the pipeline--- A Parish Recipe Book & 100 Plus Club.

More information on all these activities will be given over June & July.

Maintenance:

Wyong Car Park will receive major maintenance when weather permits. At least a full week of sunshine is essential before this work can start.

Stain Glass restoration - a Government Grant will be applied for to defray this cost. If we are successful, this work would not commence before December.

The next Council meeting will be held on 12 July.



Wyong Catholic Parish Cook Book

We have an amazing fund-raising project commencing, where the proceeds will go towards the cost of major maintenance of the St Cecilia's car park as well at an awning for the Chapel at St John Fisher. We invite parishioners to share there favourite/family recipes for this cook book.

We would love you to include photos of the recipes or the region of where they are from.

Please contact Milva Kefu by email to <u>milvakefu.mk@gmail.com</u> or can drop them off to Wyong Parish Office by 18 September 2022.



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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

Emergency Priest Contact

Fr Raul ph: 0450 115 099 Fr Alex ph: 0432 947 245

PARISH OFFICE 23 Byron Street Wyong Phone: 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: 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



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, Bernadette Kiely, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, William Martin, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Margaret Hobbs, Christine, John Baxter, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Carol Dafter, Dave Rodney, Gwen Dwyer, Helen Waters, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Marie & Peter Rheinberger, Hannah Hopwood, Fay King, Joan Mabbutt, Irene Dainty, John Cornwell.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Antonio Barnedo Jr **ANNIVERSARY MAY:** Mark Bastick, John Donnolley, Marie Murray.

ST JOHN FISHER MASS CENTRE Hicks Lane Tumbi Umbi Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass Times

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

> 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 Cecilia's 5pm Mass Saturday 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

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS Please call the parish office

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Vox Populi - The Voice of the People 19 May 2022

Euthanasia legalised in NSW

Church leaders, religious healthcare providers and pro-life groups are profoundly disappointed following a marathon debate in the Upper House of the NSW Parliament which now all but legalises voluntary assisted dying in this state.

Debate began on Wednesday in The Legislative Council that lasted until midnight before resuming Thursday morning when the amended bill was agreed to by a majority.

Already approved in The Legislative Assembly or Lower House, the bill now returns there largely unchanged, meaning its legalisation is all but guaranteed. Voluntary Assisted Dying, or as opponents refer to the legislation, State Assisted Suicide, will become legal.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay said it is an extremely disappointing situation when we accept the sanction of the State to determine who lives and who dies.

"Assisted suicide is a completely unacceptable solution to the problem of suffering," Bishop Randazzo said.

"A genuinely human society is not how we decide to eliminate those who suffer, but how we care for them.

"While deeply moved by many comments aired during the years of this debate, it is clear the social mood and the narrative has evolved in a way that the language of personal rights now dominates over our concern for the common good.

"We should be considering and caring for the rights of all citizens to be well, to have the care they need, and not lost to the margins.

"We now have to consider what this means to our health care and aged care, the vulnerable and confused."

A majority of tabled amendments were voted down during Wednesday night's debate, including a push to give aged and residential homes the power to block voluntary assisted dying taking place in their facilities.

Religious health care providers had expressed concern the bill would force them to facilitate assisted dying.

"While the legalisation of euthanasia is a disappointing development, legislative change does not alter the good news of Jesus Christ that every life is sacred," said Emma Baker, team leader for Life, Marriage & Family at Evangelisation Broken Bay.

"Fear, economics and access to healthcare should not determine how we respond to the end-of-life process.

"As we transition to a society in which assisted suicide is an option, we give thanks for the religious healthcare providers who continue to oppose this process and invest in the highest quality medical care for patients who are terminally ill," said Ms Baker.

"Let's ensure members of our family, friends, those who are alone, the vulnerable in our community know and understand that they are loved, that we will be with them in their journey, and that they are not a burden."

New South Wales will become the last state to allow voluntary assisted dying although it is not legal in Northern Territory or the Australian Capital Territory due to a Federal law banning the practice in both territories.

The Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 bill was introduced into the NSW lower house by Independent MP Alex Greenwich in October last year.

The bill was co-sponsored by 28 MPs from across the political spectrum, the highest number of co-sponsors for any bill in an Australian parliament.

Politicians from both major parties were given a conscience vote on the bill.

Labor MLC Greg Donnelly, independent MLC Fred Nile and Liberal MLC Damien Tudehope were the main opponents to the bill's passage in the upper house.

Once passed by both houses, the law will become effective next year.



Domestic Church is a movement for married Catholic couples and families who want to grow in mutual love and pursue sanctity together. The Movement helps spouses to build true unity and create a truly Christian environment in which to bring up their children. It provides lifelong formation in personal, marital and family spirituality.

The first meeting of an initial six meetings of the Domestic Church is on Sunday 22 May 2022 at 9.30am at St Patrick's parish, Gosford.

Please email <u>maria.and777@gmail.com</u> if you are interested in joining this program or for more details. Any families who are not from Gosford Parish and would like to join are more than welcome to do so. After attending a few monthly formation meetings at Gosford Parish, you will be able to start family circles in your own parish if you wish.



Family Connect and Support (FCS) is a state wide voluntary service for children, young people and families who need support to maintain a safe and positive family environment. It helps families who may be experiencing vulnerability or who require some level of support before issues escalate. It works on a networking model, connecting families with local services with expertise in areas such as:

- Parenting challenges
- Financial stress
- Substance use
- Family breakdown
- Housing issues
- Mental health
- Domestic and family violence ... and more.

We stay connected with you until you're matched to the right services or support. To access this service please call <u>1800 066 757</u> or visit <u>www.catholiccaredbb.org.au</u>.



CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME What does Ecological Conversion look like in our Parish Communities?

You are invited to join us at St Anthony in the Fields at Terrey Hills on 28 May 2022 10am - 12 noon Register at: www.bbcatholic.org.au Professor Neil Ormerod and Ms Thea Ormerod will unpack the theological and practical framework for parishes to care for our common home.



Walking in the Spirit National Prayer Pilgrimage for the Plenary Council

People across the country are invited to participate in a national prayer pilgrimage as the Catholic Church in Australia prepares for the Second Assembly of the **5th Plenary Council of Australia in Sydney from 3 -9 July**. We pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance and grace for the Members who will gather and also for ourselves and the Church, that we may have the courage to follow where God is leading us. Access Walking in the Spirit Prayer Resources at: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/walkinginthespirit

PROCESSION FOR THE FEAST OF **MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS** PATRONESS OF AUSTRALIA Praying for Peace in the World

SATURDAY 21 MAY 2022

10:30AM | ST PETER'S SURRY HILLS *Pilgrims Blessing and start of procession.*

12PM | ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL Mass in Honour of Mary Help of Christians



 Praying for World Peace with Bishop Daniel Meagher



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Katie Fullilove Fertilitycare Practitioner

RSVP: katie.fullilove@bbcatholic.org.au

2022 Planner

26 March 28 May 30 July 24 Sep 26 Nov



