

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*

24TH DECEMBER 2023 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

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)

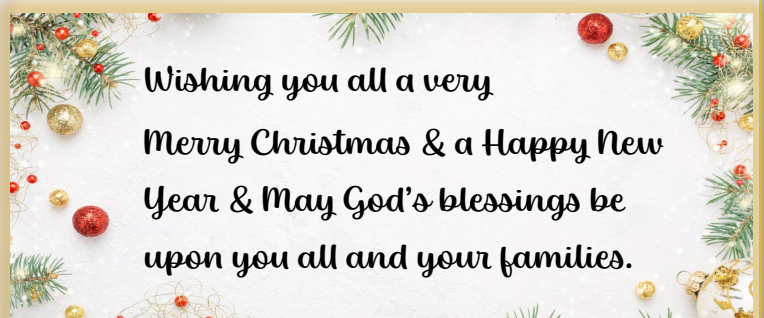
Reflection 24.12.2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B

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

Writing in the 12th century, St Bernard of Clairvaux offers a stirring drama of the annunciation to Mary. God seeks to enter the world anew after the error of Adam and Eve that shrouded the world in darkness. Now God knocks at Mary's heart. He needs human freedom, a free 'yes' to his will. His power is tied to the unenforceable 'yes' of a human being.

St Bernard addresses Mary: 'this is what the whole earth waits for, prostrate at your feet. It is right in doing so, for on your word depends comfort for the wretched, ransom for the captive, freedom for the condemned, indeed, salvation for all the sons (and daughter's) of Adam, the whole of your race... Open your heart to faith, O blessed Virgin, your lips to praise, your womb to the creator. See, the desired of all nations is at your door, knocking to enter. If he should pass by because of your delay, in sorrow you would begin to seek him afresh, the One whom your soul loves. Arise, hasten, open. Arise in faith, hasten in devotion, open in praise and thanksgiving.' Then came to sweetest 'Yes' ever said: 'I am the handmaid of the Lord; let what you have said be done to me.'



*Wishing you all a very
Merry Christmas & a Happy New
Year & May God's blessings be
upon you all and your families.*

Please note:

The Parish Office will be closed from Wednesday 27th of December 2023 and reopen on Tuesday the 9th of January 2024.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

St John Fisher, Tumbi
5pm Children's Mass

St Cecilia's Church, Wyong
5pm Children's Mass

10:30pm Christmas Carols followed by
Mass at 11pm

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

St John Fisher, Tumbi
8:30am

St Cecilia's Church, Wyong
7:30am & 9:30am



ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?

This is Clint Warren-Davey, Religious Education teacher at St. Peter's Catholic College. With the support of Fr Raul, Fr Alex, Fr Teody and Jo Helm (Parent Engagement Coordinator), I will be running **RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)** through Wyong Parish in 2023-24. This is for people who are curious about becoming Catholic, or lapsed Catholics who want to re-examine their Faith.

I will be explaining the core doctrines of Catholicism along with rational arguments for why we believe them. If you have any questions about the Faith, this is the place to ask them!

The program will run from November 2023 to March 2024, with a one-hour session every second **Saturday at 3pm at St. Cecilia's Church, Wyong.**

If anyone is curious about this, please contact myself or Joanne Helm.

Clint: clint.warrendavey@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Joanne: joanne.helm@dbb.catholic.edu.au

God's Word—Daily Reflections Book 2024

Books are now for sale \$20.00 each. Please come and see me in the office to purchase.
Margaret

VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

A huge thank you to all who donated food and cash to our appeal. The response has been fantastic. You are a very generous parish. To date we have received \$3855 in cash as well as a good supply of Christmas fare. It will be a big help for those struggling to make ends meet.

250 Club Update

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
OUTSTANDING SUPPORT**

250 NUMBERS SOLD

Weekly Prizes are \$50 – 1st & \$20 – 2nd
Monthly Prizes are \$200 – 1st & \$50 – 2nd
and will be last weekend of the month.

DATE	Type	1 ST		2 ND	
23rd/24th December	weekly	153	Val Martin	11	Clara Banda

Major Draw 15 December at Christmas Function

1st \$500 No 50 Maureen Cross
 2nd \$250 No 239 Anne Brady
 3rd \$150 No 215 Anonymous C
 4th \$100 No 113 Val Martin

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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it is an irish honour.*



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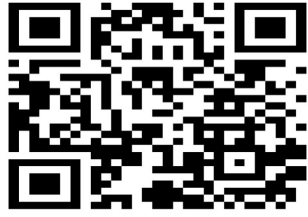
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Parish Vocations Volunteer

The Broken Bay Vocations Team is seeking your help to nurture a culture of vocations in our local Church. As a Parish Vocations Volunteer, you could play a vital role in promoting vocations awareness, encouraging prayer, and supporting local events in your parish. If you feel called to this rewarding service, your involvement would be greatly valued. To express your interest, simply scan the QR code provided and follow the prompts. In Christ, Fr Sam.



A BIG THANK YOU

To all our wonderful volunteers for organizing and running our Christmas get-together dinner. It truly was a beautiful night and great opportunity to catch up with fellow parishioners. The food was prepared with love and was delicious. May God Bless you all.



Property Transfer Professionals

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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: 0414 494 823

PARISH OFFICE 23 Byron Street Wyong

Phone: 02 4352 1011 Po Box 385 Wyong 2259

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, 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: 0414 494 823

Parish Secretary **Margaret Vandenberg** ph: 02 4352 1011

Youth Co-Ordinator **Gabbi Scherer:**

Email: gabbi.scherer@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH EMAIL: wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au

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

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

Children's Liturgy at the following Masses

St Cecilia's 5pm Mass Saturday

St Cecilia's 9.30am Mass Sunday

St John Fisher 5pm Mass Sunday

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE

Mass St Barnabas, Yarramalong

1st Sun of month 11.15am

Filipino Mass St Cecilia's Church

3rd Sun of the month 12pm

Anointing of the Sick

First Friday of the Month

St Cecilia's During 8.00am & 11.30am Mass

St John Fisher During 9.15am Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

St Cecilia's Daily 7am-8am

St John Fisher 1st Fri 8.45 - 9.15am

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual

Help Sat St Cecilia's & Wed St John

Fisher (after the 8am Mass)

Devotion to the Divine Mercy

St Cecilia's Fri after the 8am Mass

St John Fisher Fri after the 9:15am

Mass

Prayer groups

St Cecilia's Rosary Group Tues after

8am mass followed by Divine Mercy

St Cecilia's Legion of Mary 9am Wed

Meetings

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

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

PPC Secretary; Kerry Bugden

ph 02 4388 2938

KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.

SICK: Harriet Powell, Danae Roe, Peter Ford, Harry Hall, Michael Briggs, Christine Heffernan, Jennese Thompson, Leeann Hazelton, Bernadette Kiely, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Christine, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Dave, Rodney, Gwen Dwyer, Helen Waters, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Marie Rheinberger, Hannah Hopwood, Joan Mabbutt, Irene Dainty, Eoin, Paula, Peter Meury, Jai Coleman, Danielle, Frank Farrugia, Betty McDermott, Marc Sabat, David Myers, Adam Smith, Darcy, Frank Laoulach,

RECENTLY DECEASED: Richard Mahinay, Carol Dafter, Raymond (Ray) Baker, Fay King (Regina Preston's Aunt), Moira Grace, Maureen Murphy

ANNIVERSARY DECEMBER: Bill Martin, Larry George Hooley, John Taylor, James Bastic, Rove Varman, Claire Baxter, John Taylor



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Safeguarding Message

Wyong parish is committed to safeguarding. All children, young persons and vulnerable adults have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you have a concern about the safety of anyone in the parish, please raise your concern with Fr Raul, Fr Alex or Fr Teody. The contact details are on the back to the Bulletin.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

A reading from the second book of Samuel

The kingdom of David will be established for ever in the sight of the Lord.

Once David had settled into his house and the Lord had given him rest from all the enemies surrounding him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I am living in a house of cedar while the ark of God dwells in a tent.' Nathan said to the king, 'Go and do all that is in your mind, for the Lord is with you.'

But that very night the word of the Lord came to Nathan:

'Go and tell my servant David, "Thus the Lord speaks: Are you the man to build me a house to dwell in? I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader of my people Israel; I have been with you on all your expeditions; I have cut off all your enemies before you. I will give you fame as great as the fame of the greatest on earth. I will provide a place for my people Israel; I will plant them there and they shall dwell in that place and never be disturbed again; nor shall the wicked continue to oppress them as they did, in the days when I appointed judges over my people Israel; I will give them rest from all their enemies. The Lord will make you great; the Lord will make you a House. And when your days are ended and you are laid to rest with your ancestors, I will preserve the offspring of your body after you and make his sovereignty secure. I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Your House and your sovereignty will always stand secure before me and your throne be established for ever."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 88:2-5, 27, 29

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading Romans 16:25-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The mystery kept secret for endless ages is now revealed.

Glory to him who is able to give you the strength to live according to the Good News I preach, and in which I proclaim Jesus Christ, the revelation of a mystery kept secret for endless ages, but now so clear that it must be broadcast to pagans everywhere to bring them to the obedience of faith. This is only what scripture has predicted, and it is all part of the way the eternal God wants things to be. He alone is wisdom; give glory therefore to him through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:

may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

You will conceive and bear a son.

The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the House of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. He went in and said to her, 'Rejoice, so highly favoured! The Lord is with you.' She was deeply disturbed by these words and asked herself what this greeting could mean, but the angel said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid; you have won God's favour. Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son, and you must name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David; he will rule over the House of Jacob for ever and his reign will have no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can this come about, since I am a virgin?' 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you' the angel answered 'and the power of the Most High will cover you with its shadow. And so the child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Know this too: your kinswoman Elizabeth has, in her old age, herself conceived a son, and she whom people called barren is now in her sixth month, for nothing is impossible to God.' 'I am the handmaid of the Lord,' said Mary 'let what you have said be done to me.' And the angel left her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Installation Process for the St Cecilia Reliquary



Timeline

<u>1 May 2023</u>	Father Raul approached Bishop Anthony to determine the authenticity of the relic.
<u>17 May 2023</u>	Bishop Anthony decreed the relic is authentic and would be installed.
<u>September 2023</u>	A committee was formed to begin the liturgical processes required
<u>October 2023</u>	The committee determined the date for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the official launch, • preparation of banner and • prayer cards.
<i>OFFICIAL LAUNCH</i>	9:30 am Mass on Sunday, 26 November 2023 , followed by a celebratory morning tea.
<u>December 2023</u>	Committee will visit the Shrine of St John Paul at Gosford. Father Skulski will provide information on the process for the development of our Shrine and many other considerations.
<u>2024</u>	Throughout 2024, the committee will investigate and determine the best ways to meet all liturgical and other requirements. These include Safety, Presentation (incl memorabilia), Location and Security Measures for the relic itself, as well as infrastructure and policy changes necessary to ensure these can be met.
<u>November 2024</u>	INSTALLATION OF THE RELIC
<u>Ongoing Activities</u>	Pastoral Activities e.g., Pilgrimages, Faith Formation, Workshops Shrine Activities e.g., Special Masses, Healing Evenings.

The Christian's Final Journey: Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria and partner, the ACU Centre for Liturgy, are offering a one-day workshop on Catholic funerals on **13 February 2024**.

It has been designed for all those interested in Catholic funerals including parishioners, clergy, Funeral Directors, Bereavement Teams, Pastoral Associates, Parish Secretaries and Family Faith Educators, and all school staff. Catholic practices around burial and cremation will be investigated as well as **preparation of a funeral (for future discussion with the funeral celebrant)** and how to support the grieving.

It will be held at Club Ashfield, 1-11 Charlotte Street Ashfield NSW. Time: 9am-5pm (registration from 8.30am). Registration is essential by 7 February. Cost: \$60 (includes lunch and a workbook) (\$120 for Funeral Directors who will receive certification for 5 years.)

Enquiries: CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au or 02 9701 4751. For more information, and to register, go to **www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training**

15 November 2023, Volume 18

ST PETER'S NEWS

CHALLENGING OUR STUDENTS THROUGH A FOCUS ON EXCELLENCE



WHAT'S INSIDE:

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TRANSFORMING EDUCATION: THE VISION BEHIND EILEEN O'CONNOR SCHOOL

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Students

Our Bishop, Most Rev Anthony Randazzo, has been committed to ensuring that Catholic Schools Broken Bay provides an inclusive model of education which caters for all students with a disability. In response to this commitment Catholic Schools Broken Bay is transforming inclusive education by establishing a new school, Eileen O'Connor School.

Eileen O'Connor School (EOS) will provide a flexible and responsive model of education for students with disability through the structure of a Base School and a network of Support Classes in local parish schools. Transition between the Base School and Support Classes, or Support Classes and local parish school enrolment is facilitated.

The Eileen O'Connor school base school will be constructed on our site here at Tuggerah. The base school will be a K – 12 school where educators and allied health professional work collaboratively to provide resources and service that will help our children with disabilities flourish. The base school will have capacity for up to 200 students and will feature small adult to student ratios. It will have 20 general Learning areas catering for 2 streams of primary school classes and a single stream of secondary. The site will host flexible workspaces for Kitchen, technologies and Visual Arts as well as a state of the art library. Sensory indoor and outdoor play spaces and complimentary learning spaces will provide the support best needed to cater for the needs of the students who attend the school.

Building works are scheduled to begin on our site in 2025 with the first enrolments of the base school commencing in 2027 with Year 1, Year 2 and Year 7 students.

This is an exciting project for our system and will provide quality learning for students with a disability as well as supporting our families in an inclusive model that will enable the participation and success of all learnings.

If you would like more information about the Eileen O'Conner school please use the QR code or the CSBB website <https://csbb.catholic.edu.au/our-strategy/eileenconnor/>

Tim Hildebrandt
Principal



Eileen O'Connor School
represents a key
NSW education
initiative.



THE NEED

WE KNOW...

- Raising a child with a disability can significantly impact many aspects of family life.
- Searching for the ideal school for a child with a disability can leave parents feeling overwhelmed.
- Parents deserve the right to choose the most appropriate educational setting for their child.
- 1 in 12 school-aged children have a disability.
- Disability diagnoses among school students is increasing.
- 60,000 more children will be attending schools in NSW over the next decade.
- Demand for disability support is growing at 4 times the rate of enrolment.
- Successful transition between support and mainstream classrooms is reliant on building teacher capacity in specialised and inclusive education.

WE BELIEVE...

- All children have the right to quality education regardless of financial means.
- Children must be at the centre of decision-making.
- Education systems have a moral imperative to provide disability supports within an **inclusive model of education to enable the participation and success of all learners.**
- Large school systems should not continue outsourcing this responsibility to small scale providers.
- Effective and respectful partnerships between schools, parents and carers, and allied health professionals best supports students' engagement in an inclusive environment and curriculum.
- Streamlining education and therapy support and services places the child at the centre.

TRANSFORMING THE APPROACH

Catholic Schools Broken Bay (CSBB) is transforming quality, inclusive education for students with a disability by:

- **Building staff capacity** across the region to meet the needs of students with disability in mainstream classrooms.
- **Establishing a network of Eileen O'Connor Support Classes** across the region in existing CSBB Primary and Secondary schools, offering:
 - Small class sizes with skilled teacher and teaching assistant teams, typically 1:3 and no more than 1:4 ratio.
 - Opportunities for students to generalise their learnt skills in mainstream environments.
 - Opportunities for students to participate in school events and activities with their age-peers.
- **Building a K-12 Eileen O'Connor Base School** using land located within St Peter's Tuggerah - in the Central Coast region of the Diocese of Broken Bay, where educators and allied health professionals work collaboratively to provide resources and services that will help our children with disabilities flourish.

Eileen O'Connor School will provide an **inclusive model of education in action** - in purpose-built facilities - focusing on student strengths and high expectations for learning growth. Learning will be tailored to individual differences through systematic delivery of contemporary innovative curriculum to meet the needs of students with disability.

The establishment of Eileen O'Connor Base School and Support Classes will broaden

CSBB facilities and support for students with disability, affording parents with enrolment options tailored to the specific needs of their children.

Creating a **flexible and responsive model of education for students with disability** through the structure of the Eileen O'Connor School as a Base School and network of Support Classes in mainstream setting will:

- Provide appropriate resources and opportunities throughout a child's school journey.
- Provide opportunities for transition between Base and Support Classes, or Support Classes and mainstream classes.
- Allow greater accessibility to specialist services provided by the Base School for students across the region.
- Promote dissemination of pedagogy, staff expertise and curriculum delivery strategies developed by the Eileen O'Connor Base School across a broader teaching community in CSBB schools.
- Offer tailored adult: student ratios allowing for individualised instruction at students' point of need.
- Create smaller class sizes to provide safe, responsive learning environments.

Eileen O'Connor School will promote inclusive practices according to the Disability Discrimination Act (1992) and the Disability Standards for Education (2005). Placement in Eileen O'Connor Base School and Support Classes will be based on set criterion that will allow for flexibility to target the functional impact of the disability.



**Where education and therapy
come together to ensure positive
student growth**

EILEEN O'CONNOR BASE SCHOOL

A concept design and fly-through for Eileen O'Connor Base School has been created by Stanton Dahl Architects and includes:

- Capacity for 200 students.
- Small adult : student ratios (specialist teacher and teaching assistant teams).
- 20 General Learning Areas catering for 2 streams of Kindergarten - Year 6 and a single stream Years 7-12.
- Flexible workspaces for Kitchen, TAS/STEAM, Visual Arts.
- State of the art Library.
- Sensory indoor and outdoor play spaces.
- Complimentary learning spaces to
- support collaboration with allied health professionals for tailored interventions and in-class support.
- Amenities, storerooms and staffroom.
- Co-located on CSBB owned land alongside St Peter's Catholic College, Tuggerah.

Subject to funding, the Eileen O'Connor Base School will be constructed in 2 stages across 3 years.

- First enrolments will begin in 2027 with Kindergarten, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 7 students.
- The school will be at capacity by 2032.

Eileen
O'Connor
School

WHY DO WE NEED A PURPOSE-BUILT FACILITY?

60,000



more children will be in NSW schools over the next decade.

1 in 12



school-aged children have a disability.

4 x



demand for disability support is growing at four times the rate of enrolment.

EILEEN O'CONNOR SCHOOL

Learner diversity matters



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Broken Bay



csbb.catholic.edu.au/eileenconnor

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**