

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

Welcome to The **ASCENSION of the LORD, Year A, 24th May 2020.**

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:19-20 "Go therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always" Read the full text in the bulletin.

Reflection: "...you will always find that [Jesus] is there, that he will give you the courage to continue God's work in this world that needs God's love so badly."

<https://fatherhanly.com/journey-with-father/theascension-of-the-lord-year-a/>



O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender Mother of humanity, at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children, we entrust to you our nation, Australia, and all who live in this country. We commit to your intercession all the members of our community, beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick, the disabled and the elderly. We commit to you our families, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious. We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who have lost their livelihood or employment, our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time. We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis. Reign over us, Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us and around us, as it has reigned and triumphed in you!

Emergency Priest Contact

Fr Raul ph: 0450 115 099

Fr Alex ph: 0432 947 245

Parish Contacts

Parish Administrator **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 **Joanne Helm** ph: **0424 763 734**
email: jo.helm@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Secretary **Helen Bath** ph:4352 1011

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 Email:

wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Website:

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

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

Parish Pastoral Council

email: wyongcatholicparishppc@yahoo.com.au

PPC Secretary; **Kerry Bugden** ph 4388 2938

IMPORTANT NOTICE

WE HAVE EXCITING NEWS

Weekend and Weekday Masses have resumed with **limitations of 10 people per Mass**. If you wish to attend Mass please contact Jo from the parish office on 0424 763 734 to book your attendance.

Please note: The dispensation for all the Faithful in the Diocese from the obligation to participate at Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of obligation (cc.87§1 ;1247) is still in effect. The Faithful are encouraged to keep the Lord's Day holy and celebrate Sundays as a domestic church by taking time to pray together as a household (c. 1248§2).

Please join us as we Live-stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am on Facebook. please use this link, don't forget to like and follow our page.

www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

We are now booked out for this weekend, please call Jo 0424 763 734 on Monday to book in for the weekend of 30th/31st May.

Weekend and weekday Masses

Have resumed with limitations of 10 people per mass

Given that it is possible for only a very small number of people within the parish to attend Sunday Mass - **the suspension of Sunday obligation remains for all the Faithful.**

The live-streaming of Mass on Sunday will remain for the time being.

This is the link for our Livestream Sunday Mass 9.30am

www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

ST CECILIA'S CHURCH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Masses 4pm and 5pm

Sunday Masses 8.30am, 9.30am and 10.30am

Weekday Mass times Monday to Saturday 8am

ST JOHN FISHER MASS CTR

Saturday Vigil Masses 4pm and 5pm

Sunday Masses 8.30am, 9.30am and 10.30am

Weekday Mass times Monday to Friday 8am

IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND MASS PLEASE CONTACT JO FROM THE PARISH OFFICE ON 0424 763 734 TO BOOK YOUR ATTENDANCE.

SAINT: 24 May – Our Lady Help of Christians:

In the early days of Australia there were no Catholic priests sent to the colony and Mass was not allowed, except for one brief year, until 1820. In those early days it was the recital of the Rosary which kept the faith alive. Australian Catholics remained faithful to Mary and was the first nation to choose her under the title Help of Christians and principal Patroness. Mary Help of Christians, Pray for us.

<https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/24-may-ourlady-help-of-christians/>

Welcome to the Sunday of the Ascension of our Lord

Let us live the hope we have in Christ and be hope in a world that at times seems hopeless. May we always remember that we are an Easter people whose eyes are fixed on our saving hope, Jesus. We are called, through the Great Commission, to share the good news with all those we encounter; to take Jesus to our neighbours so that they may experience the love, hope and saving graces of our Lord Jesus Christ.



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

Sunday Mass 24th May 2020 The ASCENSION of the LORD THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING ACTS 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

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it is an irish honour.*



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SECOND READING EPHESIANS 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION MATTHEW 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL MATTHEW 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

REFLECTION FOR 24TH MAY

For forty days after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, he appeared to his disciples, sometimes to one person, sometimes to a small group and on one occasion to more than 500 people, as St Paul reports. Then after about forty days these appearances ceased and the disciples realized that he had returned to the Father having completed his mission on earth. He had ascended into heaven.

Jesus' return to the Father does not however mean that he is no longer with us. St Matthew wrote his Gospel to reassure Christians that Jesus is still with us. At the very beginning of his Gospel, the angel tells Joseph that the child will be called Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us'. And in the very last words of his Gospel, which we hear today, Jesus says, 'and know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time. 'And in the middle of the Gospel Jesus says, 'when two or three come together in my name, I am there with you' (Mt 18:20)

While Christ is with us in spirit, we are now the hands and feet and heart of Christ in our world. It is we who must go out and proclaim Christ to the ends of the earth. It is through us that people will meet the risen Christ.

Reproduced from God's Word 2020: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

For Deacons

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

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KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.

Sick: Len Miller, Victor Gibbs, Harriet Powell, Danae Roe, Peter Ford, Harry Hall, Michael Briggs, Christine Heffernan, Jennese Thompson, Martin Wicks, Leeann Hazelton, Catherine Amey, Philip Dwyer, Bernadette Kiely, Ross Tollow, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, William Martin, Terence (Ted) Dafter.

Recently Deceased: Grahame Lesha, Leone Corrigan, Gerald McCulloch, Irene Adams and Janet Milroy (mother of Rosie Jenkins)

Anniversary: George Hart, Mary Bugden, Edward Bath, Brian Myers, Mark Bastic, Mary Bastic, Deacon Jim Caulfield, Kay Taylor, Rodney Noble, Serapio Otones.

PRAYER: PRAYER: Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course. To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-04/letter-on-the-month-of-mayfull-text.html>

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Best Wishes

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Beth Hughes
John Dwyer
Gerard Byrne
Helen Beamish Happy 70th, 19/5/1950

Warmest Congratulations

ANNIVERSARIES

Kerry & Brian Bugden 12/5/1962
58 years
Jo & Mark Helm 22/5/1982
38 years
Enid & John Dwyer 31/5/1958
62 years
Caesar and Frances Franckin 31/5/1969
51 Years

**Please contact the parish office with your Birthdays and Anniversaries, we will have a Mass said for you.
Ph;4352 1011**



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Whilst we cannot worship together as we usually would, please know that there are many ways that you can still remain connected to us in the following ways:

- ◆ Contact Jo on 0424 763 734 to book your attendance at one of our Masses.
- ◆ Join our Facebook page to watch 9.30am Sunday Mass Live
www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish
- ◆ Keep in contact with Jo and Helen in the Parish Office on 4352 1011 or Jo 0424 763 734.
- ◆ Reconciliation by appointment. To make an appointment call 4352 1011, Fr Raul 0450 115 099 or Fr Alex 0432 947 245
- ◆ Prayer intentions—send an email or call the Parish Office with your prayer intentions. These will be prayed for by Fr Raul and Fr Alex in the daily Masses.
- ◆ If you know of someone who does not have an email or access to the internet, please advise the Parish Office, so we can arrange for the parish bulletin to be delivered to them.
- ◆ We have many resources that can be collected from outside the church for example: Weekly Bulletin, the Holy Rosary booklet and Stations of the Cross booklet.

As a community we invite you to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet each day with a special intention for those who are dying due to the COVID-19.

There are many ways that you can stay in contact with us: through email, by phone or checking our website.

Parish Email: wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Website: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/wyong/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

PARISH COLLECTIONS

We are delighted that we are able to support the faith needs of our Catholic community and grateful that we are still here and able to assist you. Please show your support for your parish and the commitments we have made, by giving whatever you can. As Jesus said, “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also”. (Matthew 6:21).

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

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

You can make your **donation directly into our bank account:**

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

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

You can give **by credit card** over the phone call Jo in the Parish office 0424 763 734 or you may even like to **post a cheque** to Po Box 385 Wyong 2259.

FUNDRAISING

Presbytery Roof

Wyong Catholic Parish
BSB 062 784 Account 13528001
reference: Roof
(Donation to date \$2190.00)

Craft Stall raised \$1060.00

Thank you Rae Bof for organising and running the stall.

Rae still has lots of goodies to sell so please have a look on Gumtree under St Cecilia's Wyong Fundraiser.

Return and Earn raised \$615.10 to date. Please remember to save all your bottles and cans.



LAUDATO SI' WEEK 2020

2020 marks the fifth anniversary of Laudato Si', which was signed on 24 May 2015. Pope Francis' encyclical on care for our common home, Laudato Si', is an inspiration during moments of difficulty. It encourages us to reflect on the values we share and create a more just and sustainable future.

The theme of Laudato Si' Week is "everything is connected." During Laudato Si' Week, we come together as one people around the world to prayerfully discern the lessons of this moment. While the world experiences a history-defining crisis, we reflect and prepare to build a better world.

Laudato Si' has been welcomed as a document of deep and abiding beauty, and it has prompted people around the world to reflect more deeply on Creator and creation. Its vision of integral ecology, which sees connections between how we treat God, nature, and each other, offers simple but profound truths about the bonds that unite us.

For more information please visit <https://laudatosiweek.org/>

BOOK CLUB - WITH LUCY THORNLEY

- ◆ Once a month on the 4th Thursday of the month.
- ◆ Commencing on Thursday 25th June at 4:30pm via zoom for an hour each month.
- ◆ **WE WILL STUDY POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL LAUDATO SI - ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME.**

The text can be purchased as a book or viewed as a pdf from https://w2.vatican.va/content/dam/francesco/pdf/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si_en.pdf

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST by sending your name and email address to wyoungparish@bbcatholic.org.au

You will be contacted by Lucy with a zoom meeting link before the end of May to give you time to read the first couple of chapters.

Gracious God,

We give thanks anew for your providence and presence. We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas. We pray for those in need of healing. We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving. We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response. We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders. We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable. This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*(Ecumenical prayer from the National Council of Churches.
We have been invited to pray this prayer at 7pm each day.)*



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 24 - 31 May 2020

This coming week is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, a week to remember our common faith in Jesus Christ and pray for unity with each other through the Holy Spirit.

Our theme is *"They showed us unusual kindness"* (Acts 28:2), which is taken from the kindness experienced by St Paul when shipwrecked in Malta and calls us to a greater generosity to those in need.

We recognise that we cannot face the storms of life alone. A boat moves forward when all row together. In the face of difficulties, we recognise the need to pull together and to unite our efforts.

We pray that all churches fix their course on Christ, the True Light, and that God will transform the many separations amongst our churches and faiths into harmony and our mistrust into mutual acceptance .