

# 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

**PARISH BULLETIN, 24TH OCTOBER 2021**

*The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy..*

**WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH**

**ST CECILIA'S CHURCH & ST JOHN FISHER MASS CTR**

**Under the Pastoral Care of the**

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

**VISION** *The Wyong Catholic Parish is a welcoming, caring dynamic community*

**MISSION STATEMENT** *We will live and proclaim the message of the Gospel :  
Engage, Participate, Reach out and Transform*



## **REFLECTION 24TH OCTOBER Mk 10:46-52**

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

What do you want me to do for you? What would I reply if Jesus asked me this question right now? The blind man not only knew what he wanted Jesus to do for him, he had no doubt that he would get what he wanted! This is a story about hope born of deep faith.

Bartimaeus had such hope-a deep certainty that this 'Son of David' he had heard so much about would have pity on him and restore his sight. The people around him didn't have quite the same certainty; instead they tried to keep him quiet. Bartimaeus was so certain of a cure that he threw his cloak off as he went to Jesus. If he'd had any doubt surely he would have clung onto his precious possession in case he couldn't find it again. Bartimaeus had hoped to see for so long and now he knew his time had come.

Jesus, increase my faith that I will be able to see what you do for me. May I be able to say with the psalmist: 'The Lord has done great things for me; I am filled with joy!'

## WE HAVE WONDERFUL NEWS!!!

It is with great joy we can announce, Bishop Anthony has advised our churches can be open to the public for Mass and Adoration, regardless of vaccination status, St Cecilia's and St John Fisher will resume Mass from Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October.  
(there is no need to book in for mass)

Places of Public Worship are exempt from the requirement of vaccination. Given that both vaccinated and unvaccinated may be present at Masses it will be important for us to convey to our people that they need to discern what may be in the best interests of their safety and that of their families.

In resuming Masses, it will be important for us to follow all COVID safety requirements around density of gatherings, QR registration, the wearing of masks and refraining from congregational singing. The government regulations do allow for a small choir of up to 10 people. We continue to celebrate Mass in the way that we have since the commencement of the pandemic, mindful of the many ways by which we ensure everyone's safety. The Chancery will continue to communicate with the parish on changes and requirements as they emerge.

It is important to be mindful that the status of vaccination does apply to facilities other than our churches, such as offices, meeting rooms and schools. In these locations, until further notification people who are not double vaccinated will not be allowed into locations other than the church for Public Worship.

## Update from Bishop Anthony Randazzo regarding NSW Government "Roadmap" & implications for Diocese

From the Tuesday 19/10/21, public Masses will resume for all, regardless of vaccination status of people who attend Church, or who undertake a ministry.

- a. Other rituals such as Baptisms and other services of prayer and devotion may resume, including Reconciliation.
- b. The number of people who can attend Mass and other liturgies and services of prayer is based on the 4sqm principle, including for funerals and weddings. Based on this, St Cecilia's church can permit 45 people and St John Fisher hall can permit 100 people to these services.
- c. Congregational singing will not be possible, but a musician and cantor are permitted.
- d. Those who wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue should wait until the end of the Communion Procession.
- e. The sign of Peace should only be given by a simple bow or nod of the head.

### 3. From 1 December 2021

- a. One person per 2sqm for indoor and outdoor gatherings will apply. Therefore St Cecilia's church can permit 90 people to gather and St John Fisher hall can permit 200.
- b. Congregational singing will be permitted.
- c. No restriction on the use of other parish facilities.

**4. It is essential that anyone visiting our churches use the QR code to register their visit, sanitize, and always wear a mask.**

## PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, you have delivered us through difficult and troubled times in our past. You have done great things for us; we are filled with joy. Help us to see your saving power in our world today. May we be restored in our faith just as Bartimaeus was in You. Amen

## FEAST:

### Pope St John Paul II (22 October)

Born in Krakow, Pope St John Paul II lived through tremendous suffering: experiencing the loss of all of his immediate family by the time he was 20, WWII, Communism and ill-health. Despite this, he showed the world how to keep hope amidst suffering and the true meaning of love through a life of service. He is also the most travelled Pope in history

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# Pastoral Discernment

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## Central Coast

The Central Coast project will be formally launched with the community on 31 October. Our Pastoral Discernment is an initiative to recall how the Spirit has guided our journey and will provide for opportunities to engage richly in the conversation and to listen to diverse experiences of faith and life. You are invited to join us for the online virtual event. During the launch, you will hear from Bishop Anthony Randazzo who will share his vision of the project and Patti Beattie, project facilitator will outline the scope of the project and ways that you can participate.

**Date of launch:** Sunday 31 October 2021

**Time:** 12 noon (AEDT)

**Online:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/pdcc](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pdcc)

Details of the project can be found at [www.bbcatholic.org.au/pdcc](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pdcc) which includes details of both the Launch and Briefing Circle registrations.

We look forward to you joining us for the launch of this very important initiative.

**We congratulate Fr Roger Delmonte,  
Fr Sam French, and Fr Aldrin Valdehueza  
May all God's Blessings be upon you.**

*We pray for the newly ordained, Fathers Roger, Aldrin and Sam  
That God will grant them a spirit of joy and generosity in their  
vocations.*

*Let us also pray for priestly vocations in the Diocese of Broken  
Bay: May God raise up from among our people, shepherds who  
are ardent but gentle servants of the Gospel.  
Amen..*



## **Pope Francis'**

**Prayer Intention for October**

## **Missionary Disciples**

We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.



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## MASS TIMES

### ST CECILIA'S CHURCH

23 Byron St Wyong

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass Times

Sat Vigil 5.00pm Sun 7.30am & 9.30am

**Weekday Mass**

Mon-Sat: 8.00am

**Reconciliation/Confession** Saturday morning after the 8am Mass & Saturday at 4.30pm

### ST JOHN FISHER MASS CENTRE

Hicks Lane Tumbi Umbi

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass Times

Sat Vigil 5.00 pm Sun: 8.30am & 5pm

**Weekday Mass**

Mon, Wed, Thurs 8:00am Tue & Fri: 9.15am

**Reconciliation/Confession** Saturday at 4.30pm

### EMERGENCY PRIEST CONTACT

Fr Raul ph: 0450 115 099

Fr Alex ph: 0432 947 245

**PARISH OFFICE** 23 Byron Street Wyong

Phone: 0423 763 734 Po Box 385 Wyong 2259

**OFFICE HOURS:** Mon to Thurs 9.30am to 2.30pm &

Fri 9.30am to 12pm

### PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest **Fr Raul Balute, SOLT** ph:0450 115 099

email: [frraul\\_solt@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:jo.helm@bbcatholic.org.au)

Parish Secretary **Helen Bath** ph:4352 1011 (Wed & Thurs)

**PARISH EMAIL:** [wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

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

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish](https://www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish)

### Anointing of the Sick First Friday of the Month

St Cecilia's During 8.00am & 11.30am Mass

St John Fisher During 9.15am Mass

**St Barnabas, Yarramalong**

1st Sun of month 11.15am

### Eucharistic Adoration

St Cecilia's Daily 7am-8am

St John Fisher 1st Fri 8.15 - 9.15am

### Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Sat St Cecilia's & Wed St John Fisher (after the 8am Mass)

### Devotion to the Divine Mercy

St Cecilia's Fri after the 8am Mass

St John Fisher Fri after the 9:15am Mass

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

### Children's Liturgy

St John Fisher 5pm Mass Sunday

### Prayer groups

**St Cecilia's** Rosary Group Tues after 8am mass followed by Divine Mercy

**St Cecilia's** Legion of Mary 9am Wed

### Meetings

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

### Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

PPC Secretary; Kerry Bugden  
ph 4388 2938

### Catechist Meeting

### Liturgy Meeting

### Sacramental Team Meeting

### Social Justice Meeting

**BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS**  
**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE**

### KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Dennis Booth, Patrick Smyth, Gerard Byrne, Tony Pilay

**ANNIVERSARY OCTOBER:** Kerry Baldwin, Eileen Preston, James Smith

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## **Welcome to the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

As our Sunday Gospel readings move through the Gospel of Mark each week, Jesus and his disciples move closer to their destination, Jerusalem. In today's reading, they're not too far off, in Jericho. There they are interrupted by Bartimaeus, a blind man, yelling for Jesus' attention. Jesus stops, and calls for him. The crowd has a role here, to bring him to Jesus. After previously trying to silence him, they now encourage him. Once his physical sight has been restored, we see that Bartimaeus has gained much more – a renewed spiritual sight as shown by his following of Jesus at the end of the passage. In our own lives, are we persistent in searching out Jesus? Do we actively encourage others to come to Jesus?

### **Sunday Mass 24th October 2021** **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** *Reproduced from Liturgia*

#### **FIRST READING JEREMIAH 31:7-9**

The Lord says this: Shout with joy for Jacob! Hail the chief of nations! Proclaim! Praise! Shout! 'The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel!' See, I will bring them back from the land of the North and gather them from the far ends of earth; all of them: the blind and the lame, women with child, women in labour: a great company returning here. They had left in tears, I will comfort them as I lead them back; I will guide them to streams of water, by a smooth path where they will not stumble. For I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 125**

**R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. R.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. R.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land. Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. R.

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing: they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. R.

#### **SECOND READING HEBREWS 5:1-6**

Every high priest has been taken out of mankind and is appointed to act for men in their relations with God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins; and so he can sympathise with those who are ignorant or uncertain because he too lives in the limitations of weakness. That is why he has to make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honour on himself, but each one is called by God, as Aaron was. Nor did Christ give himself the glory of becoming high priest, but he had it from the one who said to him: You are my son, today I have become your father, and in another text: You are a priest of the order of Melchizedek, and for ever.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION CF 2 TIMOTHY 1:10**

Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death, and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

#### **GOSPEL MARK 10:46-52**

As Jesus left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.' And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.' Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up; he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And immediately his sight returned and he followed him along the road.

## PARISH COLLECTIONS

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

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

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

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

**1<sup>ST</sup> COLLECTION; Society of Our Lady of The Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)**  
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**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION; Wyong Catholic Parish**  
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**Broken Bay News is now available online.**

Read it online here:

[https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken\\_bay\\_news\\_september\\_2021\\_issue\\_211](https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken_bay_news_september_2021_issue_211)

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# SOCIAL JUSTICE

## Cry of the Earth

How can we make the biggest difference on our Earth? **Tweaking three parts of our life (Home, Transport and Food) will make the biggest difference.**

### Transport

If you drive a traditional petrol or diesel vehicle, try to reduce the amount of time your engine idles. Research last year found Australian motorists are likely to idle more than 20% of the time they're driving. If idling was eliminated from all journeys, the emissions saved would equal that of removing up to 1.6 million cars from the road.

While some idling is unavoidable such as when stopped at traffic lights, drivers can turn their engines off while parked and waiting in their vehicle.

And drive smoothly, not aggressively. Driving with limited acceleration and braking has been found to significantly reduce emissions.

You might be thinking of making your next car an electric vehicle. While the cost of electric vehicles has traditionally been prohibitive for many people, the technology is expected to reach price parity with conventional cars in Australia in the next few years. And these days, you can even get a good second-hand deal.

There's a lot of misinformation out there about whether electric cars are a good choice for the planet. So where does the truth lie?

It's true that electricity used to charge an electric vehicle's battery is often sourced from fossil fuels. And energy is still required to make an electric vehicle - in particular, the battery. However, last year, research found in 95% of the world, electric vehicles were less emissions-intensive than traditional cars over their full life cycle – even accounting for the current emissions intensity of electricity generation.

If you buy an electric vehicle, it's important to ensure potential emissions savings are realised. One way of doing this is by recharging during the middle of the day when renewable electricity is most abundant. And don't forget, as renewable energy forms an ever-increasing share of the electricity mix, the climate benefits of electric vehicles become even greater.

And of course, don't forget about the obvious low- or zero-emission ways to get around: walking, cycling, catching public transport and carpooling.

### Food

Research earlier this year showed food systems are responsible for a third of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions. And recent studies show even if the world stopped burning fossil fuels immediately, emissions from the global food system could still push global temperatures over the 1.5°C warming threshold.

Reducing meat consumption is a well-known way to cut your carbon footprint. In fact, recent research from Sweden showed just how high emissions from meat and dairy products are, compared with substitute products. It found:

- lamb is 25 times more polluting than tofu
- milk is five times as polluting as oat drink
- dairy-based cheese is four times as polluting as vegan cheese.

In Australia, the range of meat alternatives is growing quickly. In just one example, Sydney-based All G Foods is developing plant-based mince, sausages, chicken and bacon, as well as “cow-free” dairy products. Helped along by \$5 million in federal government funding, the company's first product launches this month.

Another food that promises to help cut your carbon footprint is seaweed. Australia is only just catching on to the benefits of commercial seaweed production, which can be grown with few environmental costs.

Australia's first factory manufacturing food-grade seaweed products opened in New South Wales last year. It has the capacity to put seaweed into pastas, and even muesli!

### Reduce, reuse, inspire

Reducing your climate footprint is not just about buying “green” stuff: it's also about avoiding consumption in the first place. So try to buy less – and if you can't avoid it, try and buy second-hand.

You never know, you might start a revolution. Evidence suggests people who observe their peers undertaking environmentally friendly behaviour often adopt similar actions.

## **Vox Episcopi**

In a special edition of the Vox Episcopi, Bishop Anthony shares with us his homily from the Ordinations of Fr's Roger, Aldrin and Sam, that took place at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral on Monday 18 October.

For those interested the Livestream of the ordination is still available to watch at [www.bbcatholic.org.au/ordination](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/ordination)

**Homily given by Bishop Anthony Randazzo**  
**Bishop of Broken Bay**  
**Homily for the Ordination to the Priesthood**  
**Deacons Rogelio Delmonte, Aldrin Valdehueza, Samuel French**  
**Feast of Saint Luke**  
**Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral**  
**18 October 2021**

In the Christian Tradition it is agreed that the third Gospel account was written by Saint Luke, whose feast we commemorate today. Tradition also ascribes Antioch in Syria as the birthplace of this physician, come missionary, come evangelist. A follower of Saint Paul, Luke accompanied the great Apostle on his missionary journeys to Philippi, Jerusalem, as well as being Paul's companion during his second imprisonment in Rome.

Luke did not know Jesus in the flesh, nor was he an eyewitness to the preaching of Christ. His encounter was with the Risen Lord through the power of the Holy Spirit and the testimony of women and men in the early Christian community. Inspired by these witnesses, he penned the Gospel and recorded the Acts of the Apostles.

Saint Luke's purpose in writing was that we might know the "truth" concerning the faith: the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the movement of the Holy Spirit working in and through the living members of Christ's Body, the Church (cf. Dei Verbum, 19).

The Roman Martyrology recalls Luke as one "who suffered much for the name of Christ and died filled with the Holy Spirit" (RM 18 October, p.227).

Rogelio, Aldrin and Samuel, the life and work of Saint Luke provides for you a marvellous inspiration for your life and ministry as priests. He sums up the priestly vocation most eloquently in the words of Jesus, "*whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me*" (Luke 9:23). By placing the cross of Christ at the centre of your life, you will be sure to begin and end each day with the Lord Jesus, who is the Alpha and Omega, our beginning and our end (cf Rev 1:8).

The prophet Isaiah, whom we have heard this morning, recalls for us the words that Jesus would claim as his own at the beginning of his public ministry, "*The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me*" (cf Isaiah 61: 1; Luke 4:18). I invite you to make these words your own today as the mark of your priesthood. The Spirit animates you for mission, which will draw you to the heart of the community and urge you to go to the periphery. The Good News that you will proclaim is for the poor and the broken hearted.

Your ministry will be one of joyful proclamation of freedom from sin and all that diminishes the dignity of the human person. As priests you are commissioned in the Spirit to liberate women and men who are incarcerated because of crimes against society and sins against God.

Most importantly, as disciples of the Lord and priests of God the Most High, you will comfort God's Holy People by accompanying them in the faith, by nourishing them with the sacraments, by preaching and teaching with integrity and fidelity, and by praying for them without ceasing.

Continue next page....



Bishop Anthony shares with us his homily continued from previous page....

Do not be discouraged by the prophets of doom who have no hope in the Good News of Jesus Christ, who reject faith and reason, who propose the culture of death, who abandon the vulnerable, the sick, and the poor.

Your priestly ministry will be to take the lead through dialogue with the world. The community of the Church in the 21st century must have humble, faithful, dedicated priests to share in the mission of proclaiming God's Kingdom – the Truth that God reigns.

The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council remind us that the common vocation for the Christian people is the universal call to holiness (cf Lumen gentium, 40). The holiness of the people must be your criterion of life and pastoral action. In the words of Saint John Paul II, "*This means proposing a high standard of ordinary Christian life without giving in to mediocrity*" (JPII, Novo Millennio Inuente, 31).

Pastoral action requires renewed efforts, creativity, and joy to be more effective and proactive in meeting people in the Spirit of Christ. Engaging the world in this space will be your life's work as priests. It must be undertaken carefully with compassion; you must engage this work intelligently and humbly. Never allow your enthusiasm for the Truth of the Gospel to become a burden for others on the journey of faith. My sons, in the words of the Gospel, "*let your first words be, 'Peace to this house'*" (Luke 10:5).

Remember too, that this work does not belong to you or me. It is God's work. As priests, you are ordained to be co-workers – but the work always belongs to God.

Finally, Roger, Aldrin, and Sam, as you enter the Order of the Priesthood, I offer you Saint Luke as your heavenly patron. Saint Paul provides a wonderful insight into the character of the holy Evangelist. When all had abandoned him, he declares, "*only Luke is with me*" (2Tim 4:11). Luke is steadfast and he is faithful. When the chips are down, he does not run away, or abandon his co-worker, or neglect the community of believers. Instead, he unites himself more closely to the life and mission of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. Let this be your model of priestly life and service. And let the fidelity and mercy of God accompany you.

As you now put on the Priesthood of Christ, may Mary, the Mother of God, intercede for you as you declare yourself ready to follow Jesus her Son through Calvary to glory.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon you. May God keep you strong in faith and generous in love, for the glory of God and for the sake of God's holy people. Amen



## Bay Connect

Evangelisation Broken Bay has launched a new program of online events called Bay Connect. The program provides an online program of regular activities commencing on 30 August, to converse, reflect and connect spiritually online during this challenging time.

The program commences on Monday, 30 August, and includes:

- **THE CHOSEN MONDAY**

Mondays @ 7:30-8:45pm via Zoom - Join us as we go through the first season of *The Chosen*, viewing one episode every Monday, breaking open some themes and coming to know Jesus in a fresh new way.

- **TUESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS**

Tuesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Instagram Live (@cybbaus) - A place for the community to come together for prayer and to praise God from the setting of your home. All youth, young adults, singles and families, parishioners and clergy are invited.

- **HUMPDAY HANGOUT W/ BR BERNARD**

Wednesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Zoom - Our jolly friar Br. Bernard Mary will host the session with time for prayer, 'Banger' of the week, casual chat and an entertaining selection of activities.

- **FORMATION FRIDAYS**

Fridays @ 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom - An opportunity to get some simple Catholic formation on various aspects of the faith, from the basics to the hot topics, featuring a different guest speaker each week, followed by some time for questions/discussion.

"Through this, we hope that those in our community who are seeking opportunities to come closer to Christ can do so in a new and fresh way," said Tomasz.

**To find out more and register online, visit the Bay Connect page on the Diocese of Broken Bay website**

**<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news/covid-19-updates/prayer-resources/bay-connect>**



In March 2020, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops would be “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission”.

The actual Synod of Bishops gathering will be held in October 2023, however, the journey towards its celebration begins this month. Pope Francis opened the Synod on 9-10 October 2021 in Rome, and the Synod opened for each particular Church around the world on 17 October 2021.

This 2-year process allows a period of wide consultation and walking together as a worldwide Church : “It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium. This journey, which follows in the wake of the Church’s “renewal” proposed by the Second Vatican Council, is both a gift and a task: by journeying together and reflecting together on the journey that has been made, the Church will be able to learn through Her experience which processes can help Her to live communion, to achieve participation, to open Herself to mission. Our “journeying together” is, in fact, what most effectively enacts and manifests the nature of the Church as the pilgrim and missionary People of God.”

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has developed a webpage which contains information about the Synod at <https://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

It will be updated regularly and includes:

- Synod preparatory documents
- A video introduction to the Synod (4:30mins)
- Prayer card templates

[Download Prayer Card A5](#)

[Download Prayer Card A4](#)

You may wish to make use of this prayer in parish life in a variety of ways to start to give a focus to the upcoming Synod.

In coming weeks, further information will be made available as to how we may all participate and give input as part of the consultation process.

The Official Synod of Bishops website is here: <https://www.synod.va/en.html>

## World Mission Day

Catholic Mission, as the Australian agency of the international Pontifical Mission Societies, work on behalf of Pope Francis to support Church-run mission programs around the world.

This year, we are invited to partner with the essential work of the **Good Shepherd Sisters in Bangkok, Thailand**, as they reach out to vulnerable mothers and their babies. These mothers find hope and a new start at the Mother and Babies Home at the Good Shepherd Centre.

By providing a loving home, a community of women from similar backgrounds, parenting skills training and pre- and post-natal medical care, the Good Shepherd Sisters are supporting women and their babies in need.

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by going online at [catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand) or by texting 'GIVE' to 0488 854 436. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

### For We **CANNOT KEEP FROM SPEAKING** about what we have **SEEN & HEARD** ACTS 4:20

Next week Catholic Mission will invite you to partner with Sister Chalaad and the Good Shepherd Sisters in Thailand as they reach out to vulnerable mothers, like Churai\*, and their babies, who would have nowhere to turn when they need support, love and kindness the most.

Next week you will have the opportunity to respond to what you have seen and heard, and the Home, as well as other vital mission programs supporting children and communities in need around the world.

Please come with an open and generous heart.

\*Name and images altered to protect identity



Freecall: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/thailand](http://catholicmission.org.au/thailand)



## FINANCIAL COUNSELLING AND EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAMS

LEARN MORE

CatholicCare  
Division of St Vincent's

### FINANCIAL COUNSELLING & EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAMS

Throughout Australia, housing prices are on a sharp increase. Therefore, you'd think that Australia's economy is booming too, right? After all, property sales are driving housing costs up, so this means that people have the means to purchase new houses and cars. Yes? Unfortunately, this isn't always the case. Currently record numbers of Australians seeking emergency relief services and financial counselling. CatholicCare can help. This recent article provides more information [www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/news/financial-counselling-emergency-relief](http://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au/news/financial-counselling-emergency-relief).

### GOT YOUR WEDDING PLANS UNDER CONTROL?

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit our web

site: [www.engagedencounter.org.au](http://www.engagedencounter.org.au)

Choose any of the coming Weekends: **Nov 13-14 2021; Feb 19-20 2022**

If COVID-19 restrictions prevent a face-to-face seminar, the CEE weekend will be held via Zoom.



“Come to me, all you that are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”  
*Matthew 11:28*

## OCT-NOV PROGRAMS

**31st**  
(Sunday)  
October

### ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE (LAST SUNDAY RETREAT)

9:00am - 1:00pm

Fr. Roni George and Fr. Joby George

• Praise and Worship • Preaching The Word • Eucharistic Adoration • Holy Mass

**5th**  
(Friday)  
November

### DIVINE MERCY FRIDAY

6:00pm - 8:30pm

**6th**  
(Saturday)  
November

### ONE DAY MALAYALAM RETREAT

10:00am - 2:00pm (BYO Lunch)

### DIVINE YOUTH MINISTRY,

5.30 pm to 9 pm, for Young Adults ages 18+

For more details pls call Melinda Rego on 0423786768

**28th**  
(Sunday)  
November

### ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE (LAST SUNDAY RETREAT)

9:00am - 1:00pm

Fr. Roni George and Fr. Joby George

• Praise and Worship • Preaching The Word • Eucharistic Adoration • Holy Mass

**MASKS MANDATORY**

• **BOOKING REQUIRED** • **LIMITED NUMBERS**

Pls contact 02 4372 1598, [drcretreatrego@gmail.com](mailto:drcretreatrego@gmail.com)

WITH  
COVID  
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NSW



## DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,

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• [www.divineretreatcentre.org](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org) • [www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby](https://www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby)



*"The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness  
has not overcome it."  
1 John 1:5*

# ADVENT RETREAT

**17th-19th Dec 2021**

*with Fr Roni George VC & Fr Joby George VC*

For more info & bookings please contact:  
04 6848 6782 or email: [drcretreatrego@gmail.com](mailto:drcretreatrego@gmail.com)



## DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE,

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