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 25TH FEBRUARY 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH ST CECILIA'S CHURCH, ST JOHN FISHER MASS CTR & ST PETER'S CHAPEL Under the Pastoral Care of the Society of Our Lady of The Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)

Reflection 25.02.24

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

'The observation of the English mystic poet William Blake that 'great things happen when men and mountains meet' is true of such pivotal events in the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures as Moses' reception of the Ten Commandments on Mt Sinai and the transfiguration of Jesus 'on a high mountain'. In the latter instance, as recorded by all three synoptic writers and now included in the luminous mysteries of the rosary by St John Paul II, Jesus is revealed as the long-awaited Messiah. Accompanied by representatives of the Law and the Prophets (Moses and Elijah), he is transfigured in the presence of Peter, James and John. His human bodiliness becomes the vehicle through which his inner reality as God-Man shines forth. Surely, this was a source of hope to his disciples after Jesus' prediction of his death by crucifixion became a reality. Alluding to this event Peter wrote: 'We had been eyewitnesses of his majesty ... while we were with him on the holy mountain' (2 Peter 1:16-18).



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St Cecilia's Church, Wyong

Every Friday evening during Lent at **6:30pm.** Please join us, as we prayerfully walk the Way of the Cross.

Project Compassion

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women from three different corners of the world. They are facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow *for all future generations*. Together, we can help vulnerable Communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *For All Future Generations*. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting <u>lent.caritas.org.au</u>, or by calling **1800 024 413**.

World Day of Prayer

Invitation to the ladies of Wyong Catholic Parish We would love to share our prayers with you. Place: Wyong Baptist Church—100 Alison Rd, Wyong Date: Friday 1st March 2024 Time: 10:30am Morning tea will be served

Countries to be focused upon are: Palestine

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. The movement aims to bring together women of various races, cultures and traditions in a yearly common Day of Prayer, as well as in closer fellowship, understanding and action throughout the year.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR	250 Club Update					
OUTSTANDING SUPPORT	DATE	Туре	1 ST 2 nd		2 nd	
250 NUMBERS SOLD Weekly Prizes are $$50 - 1^{st} & $20 - 2^{nd}$ Monthly Prizes are $$200 - 1^{st} & $50 - 2^{nd}$ and will be last weekend of the month.	24th/25th February	weekly	63	Marie-Anne Johnson	47	Paul Flynn





Adam Dewey

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WYONG PARISH COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS 2024

Each year as a parish we have three donated item collections supporting the disadvantaged members of the community. These collections are in Feb/March/April (Wyong Neighbourhood Centre), June (Vinnies Winter collection) and December (Vinnies Christmas collection).

We ask that individual items are placed in the special collection trolley's or containers which will be available at the front of both churches. This collection drive will run from: **<u>14th February</u>—7th April 2024**. Collection baskets will be emptied each week.

This year we are supporting **Wyong Neighbour Centre.** Please see below suggested items which can be donated. These items are those specifically needed by the disadvantaged people the charity supports.

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

Suggested donated items may include:

Long-life milk, Noodles, Pasta, rice, good quality tinned fruit, food and meals (with ring pulls), Soups, spaghetti, Museli bars and long life snacks, Breakfast Biscuits/Cereal, UHT Milk, Noodles, Crackers, , Lollies/ Chocolate, Chips, Tea, Cappuccino sachets, Water/Juice, Beanies, Gloves, Scarves, socks & Blankets.

Please place all donations into the special trolley or the plastic containers provided at the front of the church. Thank you for your generous help which is most appreciated.



Thank your and the second seco

INVITATION – Lenten prayer mornings at St Peter's Catholic College

As the season of Lent begins, we are excited to extend a warm invitation to you to join us **every Thursday 10am** at St Peter's College for our Lenten prayer mornings.

During these Prayer mornings we will come together to reflect, pray & delve into the spiritual richness of the Lenten season.

This program paves a way for – *community bonding, guidance through the Lenten journey and enhanced understanding of Lent.*

For more information, please contact Jo Helm, Parent Engagement Co-Ordinator on 7256 1971 or joanne.helm@dbb.catholic.edu.au



Property Transfer Professionals

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PROPOSED PARISH CALENDAR DATES Up until APRIL 2024

(Modification of some dates may be necessary)

FEBRUARY

25th—Family Picnic at St Cecilia's Church 26th—Reconciliation Parent info night

MARCH

1st — World day of prayer 12th – PPC Meeting 19th — Relic meeting 22nd – 250 Club final sales 24th – Palm Sunday 25th — 1st Reconciliation Ceremony, Wyong 27^{th—}1st Reconciliation Ceremony, Tumbi 28th – Holy Thursday 29th – Good Friday Holy Places collection 31st – Easter Sunday

APRIL

6th / 7th – 2024 250 Club first draw - Charity collection for disadvantaged Concludes 25th— Anzac Day

TBC— Official Opening, Windows Repair Guests: Emma McBride MP & David Harris MP

PALM SUNDAY – PALM DONATION REQUEST If anyone has Palms that can be donated to our Parish for Palm Sunday Masses, please contact me in the office on <u>4352 1011</u> or <u>wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au</u> to discuss further. Thank you kindly, Margaret

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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

EMERGENCY PRIEST CONTACT

Fr Raul ph: 0450 115 099 Fr Alex ph: 0432 947 245 Fr Teody ph: 0414 494 823

PARISH OFFICE23 Byron Street WyongPhone:02 4352 1011PoBox 385 Wyong 2259OFFICE 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 PriestFr Alex Barnedo, SOLT ph: 0432 947 245Assistant PriestFr 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



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, David Myers, Adam Smith, Frank Laoulach

RECENTLY DECEASED: Richard Mahinay, Carol Dafter, Raymond (Ray) Baker, Fay King (Regina Preston's Aunt), Moira Grace, Maureen Murphy, Dorrie Betts **ANNIVERSARY FEBRUARY:** Bill Cullinan, John

Kiernan, Rosie Attard, Natividad Dieta, Rita Muscat, Rod McCarthy, Victor Gibbs., Frank Costa

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

Children's Liturgy at the following Masses

St Cecilia's 5:00pm Mass Saturday St Cecilia's 9.30am Mass Sunday St John Fisher 5pm Mass Sunday

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 Saturday—St Cecilia's & Wednesday—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

TUGGERAH SPORTS & SPINAL PHYSIOTHERAPY

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.

Ricky Li Registered NDIS provider Phone 4355 4445 www.tuggerahphysio.com.au

25 February 2024

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self - it is the Lord who speaks - because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the sea-shore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 115:10, 15-19

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading Romans 8:31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation cf Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Mark 9:2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



LENTEN PENANCE

The Season of Lent is a most important time of preparation for the celebration of Easter. It is an annual pilgrimage of grace whereby we are drawn more deeply into the mystery of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council taught that the Lenten liturgy has a twofold means of preparation. By remembering their own Baptism and undertaking penance, the liturgy assists in the renewal and ongoing formation of the *faithful* (cf. *Sacrosanctum Concilium* 109). The formation of *catechumens* via the various stages of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is equally an important part of Lent (cf. GIRM 27).

For both the local community of the faithful and the elect, Lent is a time of grace and mercy whereby the Holy Spirit greets and renews those who seek to live as disciples of the Lord Jesus, who is our light and our salvation (cf. Psalm 27).

The Season of Lent commences on **Ash Wednesday**. Lent is a particularly useful time to reconnect with our brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ; to reflect upon our spiritual pilgrimage both as individuals and as one community of disciples.

In our Catholic tradition, Lent is commemorated as a time for conversion, repentance, and renewal. Marking our foreheads with ashes in the sign of the cross on Ash Wednesday is an outward sign of internal conversion. It is also an invitation to "*Turn away from sin and believe the good news*". In this annual invitation, we acknowledge our human vulnerability, and we pray to be strengthened by God's grace, mercy, and love.

In imitation of Jesus our teacher and master, we also fast (cf. Matthew 4:1-11). Like Our Lord, we will journey into the desert places of our life. Where the Lord has gone, we hope to follow, and so we must expect some challenges and temptations because the Gospel reminds us that this too was the plight of Jesus. Christians are people of hope, so during these moments of vulnerability, let us take shelter in God's mercy and compassion.

DAYS OF PENANCE

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, abstinence from meat is to be observed by those who have completed their fourteenth year of age. Those who are aged between 18 and 60 are to fast on these days. Priests should encourage those under their pastoral care to embrace the spirit of abstinence and fasting. This Lenten practice is not to be a burden upon those who have health issues or special needs. Clergy as pastors of souls, are asked to be particularly vigilant in encouraging the faithful to undertake the disciplines of Lent with moderation and care.

On all other Fridays of Lent the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

 Prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying with Mary and the Saints, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, the Rosary, or in other ways;



- Self-denial for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or desserts; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor in one's own country and elsewhere; limiting screen time on social media, or in other ways;
- 3. Helping others for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened or feeling isolated from our Church community, or in other ways.

Lent is from **Ash Wednesday** (14 February 2024) until the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** (28 March 2024) inclusive. Fasting is also observed on **Good Friday** and if possible, on **Holy Saturday** until the Easter Vigil.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is done between **Ash Wednesday** and **Trinity Sunday** (26 May 2023), unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year.

All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion (seven years old) are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year. Priests in the Diocese of Broken Bay are encouraged to make available to the faithful not only the first form of the Rite of Penance, but also the second form.

I encourage you to read the Scriptures in your homes, individually and as a family. Likewise, you may take the opportunity to be part of a Lenten prayer or discussion group, face to face or online. For this purpose, I offer to you the 2024 Diocesan Lenten resource; **Participating in the Mission of Christ**, as prepared by Mission Broken Bay.

The Paschal mystery is the heart of the Eucharist. Personal private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is a wonderful way to probe the mystery of faith. Our churches are regularly open outside of Mass times to assist the faithful in making a visit for prayer, contemplation, and adoration. This year in a particular way I invite all the People of God to participate in the **24 Hours for the Lord**. This initiative of prayer and reconciliation introduced by Pope Francis will be celebrated around the world on the eve of the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Chatswood Parish will be hosting our Diocesan event from Friday 8 to Saturday 9 March, with the focus being "Walking in a new life".

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ, I pray in these weeks ahead that our community of the Church of Broken Bay will be open to encounter new life in Christ. This Lent, may we humbly confess our sins, prayerfully perform our penance, and joyfully proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ through words and deeds of charity, mercy, and compassion.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL Bishop of Broken Bay 7 February 2024



Imagine a place... where children come to be with God to discover, to explore and experience God's love for them

> 3-6 year olds are invited to join us at the Central Coast's newly established Atrium

When: Saturdays 9 - 10.30am, commencing 16th March
Where: Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Parish The Entrance
What: The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a particular way of journeying with children toward God. It is grounded in scripture and the liturgy of the church, then framed by Montessori principles of education.
Cost: \$8 per week, \$5 for siblings



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY To express your interest please email centralcoastatrium@gmail.com or call Ashleigh on 0466 255 033

LENT 2024 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY, BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <u>https://BruceDownes.org/Lent</u>

Go to BruceDownes.org for more information.

Please pass this invitation on to your parishioners, families and friends and we pray this will be a time of great renewal for you personally and in the people whom you lead.

Kind Regards

Sandra Purcell The Catholic Guy Ministry

Installation Process for the St Cecilia Reliquary

	CLEHENS INCOMES S.R.E.CARD. MARKEN CONTRACTOR
CERCLINE	Universite et singele processes litteres ingentierie littere fanzieren en erste professionen et en

Timeline

1 14 2022	E-d - D-d	
1 May 2023	Father Raul approached Bishop Anthony to determine the	
	authenticity of the relic.	
17 May 2023	Bishop Anthony decreed the relic is authentic and would be installed.	
September 2023	A committee was formed to begin the liturgical processes required	
October 2023	The committee determined the date for	
	 the official launch, 	
	 preparation of banner and 	
	• prayer cards.	
OFFICIAL	9:30 am Mass on Sunday, 26 November 2023, followed by a	
LAUNCH	celebratory morning tea.	
December 2023	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.	
2024	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.	
November 2024	INSTALLATION OF THE RELIC	
Ongoing	Pastoral Activities e.g., Pilgrimages, Faith Formation, Workshops	
Activities	Shrine Activities e.g., Special Masses, Healing Evenings.	

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 Raul 0450 115 099
 Maureen Roast 0435 245 849 Anne Hooley 0428 149 793 Contact will be made with Dioscesean **Safeguarding Office Our Community is** SAFE