

# 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*

**2ND MARCH 2025—EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**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— 2nd March 2025

The call of today's Gospel is beautifully captured in the Gospel acclamation verse from Philippians. Using the imagery of light, we are invited to 'shine in the world' in the way that stars light up the dark night sky. Our mission is not to be judges of others, assessing their behaviour. Instead, we are called to develop a clarity of vision through the guidance of trusted teachers. The wisdom which Jesus shares with us in this parable illuminates the pattern of our own psychological structure. That is, in being judgemental towards another we are often projecting something of the shadow side of ourselves onto that person. Jesus wisely advises us that before we cast judgement on another's failings, we firstly examine the intentions of our own heart. Then with God's grace we are empowered to draw from the store of goodness dwelling within us.

Reproduced from God's Word 2025: Daily Reflections, Published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield.



### Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.



## WYONG PARISH COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS

2025

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 both churches.

This collection drive will run from:

**5<sup>th</sup> March—27th April 2025.**

This year we are supporting **Wyong Neighbourhood 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 Neighbourhood 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 in the Church.

Thank you for your generous help which is most appreciated.

### Extra Mower's Required

If there is any person who would be kind enough to join us in mowing on the Church grounds (to work in groups of 3) please contact Brian Bugden on 4388 2938.

We are looking for someone who would be available during the week and/or on Saturdays

**To make life a little easier our equipment consists of 2 ride-on-mowers and 2 self-propelled mowers. Thank you.**

**Catholics Returning Home**—An Open Door for Returning Catholics Welcome... Were you raised Catholic but do not attend Church anymore? Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from your faith? Would you like to know more about the Catholic Church as it is today? Would you like to feel at home in the Church again? No matter how long you have been away or for what reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with your faith. This is a six-week program of compassion, kindness and understanding. **When:** Monday 24th March 2025 **Time:** 6pm -7pm **Place:** St Cecilia's Church Meeting Room **Contact:** candice.little1@outlook.com or joanne.helm@dbb.catholic.edu.au

## AGE TO AGE

Our parish, to survive and flourish, must increase the numbers of people who are active participants. In this Jubilee year, the Holy Father has called on us to be Pilgrims of Hope as he knows 'in the heart of each person is the expectation of good things to come, despite not knowing what the future may bring.'

**The success of 'Age to Age' is to be our Hope and Challenge.**

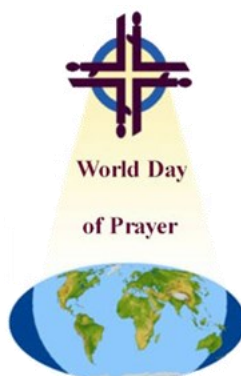
The program is designed to provide:

- opportunities to support youth development and well-being,
  - strong connections between youth, parents and parish,
  - establishment of active areas to achieve this connection,
  - understanding which will be carried into adult life
- Many parishioner volunteers are needed to take up this challenge. We know you will help.



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—Fri 7th March

The World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. Through preparation and participation in the worship service, we can come to know how our sisters of other countries, languages and cultures understand the Biblical passages in their context. We can hear their concerns and needs and can feel ourselves in solidarity with them as we pray with and for them. In this way, it is possible to enrich our Christian faith as it grows deeper and broader in an international, Ecumenical expression.



This year the World Day of Prayer is being hosted in this area by Wyong Catholic Parish. It will be held on **Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 10am in St Cecilia's Church, Wyong** followed by morning tea. This year the Country of focus is The Cook Islands with the theme being 'I made you wonderful'.

Please join us for this international ecumenical prayer service. If you can help with morning tea please contact Christine (0427 251 450) or Noela (0401 201 134).

*Kia Orana!* – a greeting that means 'May you live long and may you live well. May you shine like the sun. May you dance with the waves.'

## CATECHIST SUNDAY—1st & 2nd of March

This year catechist Sunday will be held on Sunday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. Our catechists will be commissioned for the year ahead at Parish Masses this weekend on the **1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> of March**. SRE catechists, sacramental catechists, RCIA catechists, children's liturgy of the word catechists and catholic school teachers, will be included in this commissioning. Thank you to all who are involved in this very important work for our Parish. May God continue to bless you all for your commitment and dedication.



### Project Compassion Sunday

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

**Or online at:** [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.



365 Pacific Highway  
North Wyong NSW 2259  
PO Box 786  
Wyong NSW 2259



Ph: 02 4351 8004  
Ph: 02 4392 8777

## BOWDEN FAMILY FUNERALS

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## PARISH CALENDAR

- Catechist Sunday 1st & 2nd March
- Shrove Tuesday 4th March—Palm burning & Sausage Sizzle 6pm @St Cecilia's
- Ash Wednesday 5th March -  
St Cecilia: 8am & 6pm. St John Fisher: 8am
- World Day of Prayer 7th March—Liturgy to be held at 10am @St Cecilia's

## Please RSVP

### Palm Burning Ceremony

**Tues 4th March 6pm**

**Palm Burning Ceremony (please bring your old palms)**  
followed by BBQ dinner (please bring plate of dessert to share) to be held at St Cecilia's Church and Parish Hall/Verandah

**RSVP** by 2nd March to Kerry on 024388 2938 for catering.

## Sacramental Volunteers

### Needed

We are after some volunteers who could offer 1hr on 4 Saturday afternoons to assist with classes for the sacramental program. You will not need to teach the class it will just be to help the teacher. Please contact the parish office if you are interested.

**Phone:** 02 4352 1011

**Email:** wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au



## First Friday of the Month Anointing of the Sick

**Friday: 7th March**

**St Cecilia's** During 8.00am & 11.30am Mass  
**St John Fisher** During 9.15am Mass

## Palm Cross Making

Dear Parishioners,

I hope this message finds you well. As we approach Palm Sunday, I am excited to invite you to participate in a special workshop aimed at crafting Palm Crosses for our parish's use at St Cecilia's Church and St John Fisher Mass Ctr on Palm Sunday.

### Workshop

**Date:** Wednesday, April 9th, 2025

**Time:** 10:30 AM to 12 PM

**Location:** St Peter's Catholic College, 84 Gavenlock Road, Tuggerah (held in the T3 Trade Center)

A delicious morning tea will be provided.

If you're available, I would deeply appreciate your assistance during this event. Your presence and help would greatly contribute to the success of our preparations.

If you can help, kindly call or text me on 0424 763 734 otherwise please let Margaret know in the parish office.

Blessings,

Jo Helm  
Parent Engagement Coordinator  
St Peter's College and St Cecilia's Primary School

## RECONCILIATION SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025

**RECONCILIATION CEREMONY—Year 4 & above**

**St Cecilia's— Mon. 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**St John Fisher—Tues. 8<sup>th</sup> April**

If you would like to enrol into the Reconciliation Program please use the QR code below. If you have any questions please contact our sacramental coordinator, Christine at **wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au** or Phone: 02 4352 1011.

*Use the QR codes to enrol your child into our Sacramental program.*

**Saint John Fisher Students**

**St Cecilia's & State School Students**



## Lenten Program 2025

Dear Parishioners

We are excited to extend a warm invitation to you to join us for our Lenten Prayer Mornings/Evenings, followed by morning tea/supper which will take place **Monday mornings of 17th and 31st March and 7th April at 9am or if evenings suit you better Tuesday Evenings of 18th and 25th March and 8th April at 6.30pm.**

**Please RSVP to either Jo Helm on 0424 763 734 or to Margaret in the parish office 4352 1011.**

During these prayer mornings/evenings, we will come together as a community to reflect, pray, and delve into the spiritual richness of the Lenten season. Our sessions will be guided by a beautiful Lenten booklet provided by the Broken Bay Diocese, offering a structured and meaningful journey through this sacred time.

Participating in a Lenten program provides numerous benefits for individuals and the community as a whole:

- **Spiritual Reflection:** Lent is a season of self-examination, reflection, and spiritual growth. Engaging in a Lenten program allows you to take intentional time for self-reflection, deepening your connection with faith and fostering personal growth.
- **Community Bonding:** Coming together in prayer fosters a sense of community and shared purpose. These prayer mornings provide a space for parents to connect, support one another, and strengthen the bonds within our St. Peter's School community.
- **Guidance Through the Lenten Journey:** The Lenten booklet from Broken Bay Diocese serves as a valuable guide, offering insights and reflections to enrich your Lenten experience. It provides a structured framework for prayer, meditation, and personal growth.
- **Enhanced Understanding of Lent:** Participating in a Lenten program helps deepen your understanding of the significance of Lent and its traditions. It allows you to fully immerse yourself in the season, making it a more meaningful and transformative experience.

We look forward to welcoming you. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me on 0424 763 734 or email [joanne.helm@dbb.catholic.edu.au](mailto:joanne.helm@dbb.catholic.edu.au)

May this Lenten season be a time of reflection, growth, and grace for all.

Blessings,

Jo Helm  
Parent Engagement Coordinator  
St Peter's Catholic College



## 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](mailto: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 Secretaries **Margaret Vandenberg & Christine Sassine**

**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)

### 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

### KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

**SICK:** Finn McConnon, Irene Dainty, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Michael McDermott, Michele Bolton, Jeanine Doueihi, Lisa Glanville, Jackson Ticehurst, Margaret McDermott, Dave Rodney, Danae Roe

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Peter Vaughan, Manfred Merl, Ian Hughes, Philomena Pannell, Charlotte Claire Cabarrus

**ANNIVERSARY MARCH:** Myrtle & James Murphy, Reg Preston, Fr Tito Ayo, SOLT, Kevin Barry, Tony Cox



## TUGGERAH SPORTS & SPINAL PHYSIOTHERAPY

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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 on the contact details provided above; or, Anne Hooley: 0428 149 793 or, Maureen Roast: 0435 245 849.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading Sirach 27:4-7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,  
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.

The kiln tests the work of the potter,  
the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,  
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.

Do not praise a man before he has spoken,  
since this is the test of men.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 91:2-3, 13-16

**R.** Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Acclamation Philippians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

### Gospel Luke 6:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Parish Pastoral Council

The first meeting of the PPC in 2025 was held on 11<sup>th</sup> of February 2025. The focus of the meeting was updates on current items and planning for 2025.

These included:

Milva Kefu tendered her resignation for health reasons. Thank you Milva for your service to the Council. Your help and support were most appreciated.

An Expression of Interest has been submitted for a Volunteer Grant to support the new program, **Age to Age**.

‘Age to Age’ program to be developed to link youth, families and parishioners. Parishioner support will be essential for the program to succeed.

### Jubilee Year

A committee is to be formed to plan activities which will support and celebrate this special year of HOPE.

Our schools report the building programs are underway.

Catholics Returning Home will commence at end of March.

### Heritage Reports

A meeting with the Heritage Section of the Central Coast Council confirmed that our Church and Presbytery are a package which is listed on the Local Area Register. Confusion of this listing was caused by the council's technical error.

World Day of Prayer will be celebrated at St. Cecilia's 10:00am on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

This Ecumenical Service occurs each year across the different Wyong Church communities.

Following the Church Service, a morning tea will then be held in the Parish Centre.

PLEASE COME ALONG – EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

First Fruits Offering – this diocesan planned giving has been presented across all parishes of the Diocese. If you have any questions or areas of confusion, please contact the Parish Office for help.

### Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March – Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Ash Wednesday

“Neighbourhood Community Centre” Yearly collection begins.

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March – World Day of Prayer

Tuesday 11 March – PPC Meeting



<b>29</b> DEC, 2024	<b>Mass for Diocesan Opening of Jubilee Year</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA	<b>31</b> MAY, 2025	<b>Mass for Patronal Feast of Broken Bay Mary, Star of the Sea</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA
<b>2</b> FEB, 2025	<b>Mass for Religious</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA	<b>1</b> JUN, 2025	<b>Mass for Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents and elderly</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA
<b>9</b> MAR, 2025	<b>Rite of Election</b> 2:00PM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA	<b>8</b> JUN, 2025	<b>Adult Confirmations</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA
<b>30</b> MAR, 2025	<b>Mass for Missionaries of Mercy</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA	<b>19</b> NOV, 2025	<b>Red Wednesday Mass</b> 7:30PM OUR LADY OF THE DOLOURS CHATSWOOD
<b>15</b> APR, 2025	<b>Chrism Mass</b> 7:30PM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA	<b>22</b> NOV, 2025	<b>Feast of Christ the King 2025 WYD &amp; ACYF Pilgrim Blessing</b> 5:00PM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA
<b>25</b> APR, 2025	<b>ANZAC Day Mass</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA	<b>28</b> DEC, 2025	<b>Mass for Diocesan Closing of Jubilee Year</b> 9:30AM OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL WAITARA



BBJUBILEE.COM.AU



## Liturgical Formation Series

Throughout the year we will be hosting a number of formation opportunities for those interested and engaged in Liturgical Ministries. Please see date claimers below:

- Saturday 15 March – The Art of Celebrating Holy Week
- Saturday 10 May – Back to Basics
- Saturday 16 August – RCIA – Practical Foundations | Liturgical Fundamentals | Ongoing Formation
- Saturday 25 October – Rekindle Our Wonder

## Sunday of the Word of God | 9 February 2025

Sunday of the Word of God is a day devoted to the **celebration**, **study**, and **spreading** of the Word of God. In Australia, Sunday of the Word of God will be celebrated on 9 February 2025. Pope Francis impresses that the relationship between the Risen Lord, a community of believers, and sacred Scripture is essential to who we are as Christians.

Resources, including details about the Broken Bay Bible Offer can be found on our [website](#).

## LENT 2025 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: **[https//BruceDownes.org/Lent](https://BruceDownes.org/Lent)**

Go to [BruceDownes.org](https://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

**Sandra Purcell** |Events and Outreach

The Catholic Guy Ministry

## WE ARE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE OUR NEW ACCREDITATION FOR **HOME CARE PACKAGES**

CatholicCare is our social care agency in the Diocese of Broken Bay and we have been supporting the Northern Sydney, Northern Beaches and Central Coast communities for 35 years.

We understand many seniors prefer to stay at home as they age. The Government's funding for Home Care Packages can help you live independently at home for longer.

We want to know if our Home Care Packages are of interest to you, or a loved one and want to prioritise the needs of our parishioners before we promote to the general public. As a Catholic organisation we want the seniors we support to know they are truly cherished and valued and we're confident our services will be very well received.

*There's no obligation to partner with CatholicCare. We may contact you to discuss your needs, but you're welcome to opt-out at anytime.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently have Home Care Package funding from the Government?

☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Unsure

Do you need help applying for a Home Care Package?

☐ Yes      ☐ No      ☐ Maybe

Is there any other feedback you'd like to provide?

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Take a photo of this completed form and email to [info@catholiccaredbb.org.au](mailto:info@catholiccaredbb.org.au) or text a photo of the form to 0481 602 046. Thank you.



The Catholic agency  
for international aid  
and development

## Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal

We urgently need your support.

The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the recovery long.

Gaza's people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild.

**Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.**

You can donate online [www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza) or phone 1800 024 413



## GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

A ceasefire means more aid can  
assist people affected in Gaza.  
Your support is urgently needed.



**DONATE NOW**

[www.caritas.org.au/gaza](http://www.caritas.org.au/gaza)  
1800 024 413



Photo: Caritas Jerusalem

# Father Ireneusz Czech's Jubilee Year 2025 Homilies Book

We are pleased to announce that hard copies of "Proclaiming the Truth Without Fear" by Fr. Ireneusz Czech, a collection of brief and simple homilies for Liturgical Cycle C, are now available for purchase!

**Price:** \$50 per copy

All proceeds will go to support Salvatorian seminarians from East Timor in the Salvatorian Australian Region, studying in the Philippines.

Support this important cause and get your copy today from:

*Sacred Heart Church Piety Store,  
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# **Magi Pilgrimages**

**Magi Pilgrimages** would like to invite you for a 16-day Pilgrimage of Hope (22/04/25 to 07/05/25).

This pilgrimage features Fatima, Valladolid, Lourdes, Nice, Turin, Padua, Assisi, Rotondo, and Rome for an all-inclusive early bird price of \$8990+tips.

The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest + English speaking professional guides.

For enquiries & bookings: Call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or Email us [pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au)

## **Magi Pilgrimages Australia is organising the following Jubilee Pilgrimages 2025.**

- 1.Streams of Mercy (May),
2. Italy & Poland (May),
3. Marian Shrines (June),
4. Shrines of our Lady (August),
5. Pilgrimage of Hope (October).

The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in Premium Hotels + All Breakfasts & Dinners + Catholic Priest +

English speaking professional guides.

For itineraries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561 or email us [pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au)

# Holy Heritage: A Pilgrimage to the Philippines! 16 February to 24 February 2025

All are welcome to join our pilgrimage and immerse yourselves in a spiritual journey through the rich and vibrant culture of the Philippines! Explore renowned churches and sacred sites, guided by our chaplain, Fr David Ranson!

The Philippines was under the Spanish Regime for 333 years, a period that greatly influenced the culture and religion of the Filipino people. The Philippines has the biggest population of Catholics in Asia, with 79%, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority's 2020 Census.

Inspired by this nation, its people, and our own catholic faith, we are organising a pilgrimage tour to the Philippines, centred on visiting renowned places, churches and Minor Basilicas:

## Places to Visit:

- Manila: Manila Cathedral, San Agustin, Intramuros/Rizal Park, Binondo Church, Quiapo (optional), Baclaran Church (optional)
- Iloilo: Jaro Church, Molo Church
- Guimaras: Tappist Monastery, Holy Family Hills, Mango Farm, Guisi Lighthouse, Pit Stop Café-Mango Pizza, Beach
- Cebu: Sto Nino, Cebu City Tour, Magellan Cross, Simala Church (optional)
- Bohol: Bohol Churches, Baclayon Church, Lobok River Cruise, Tagbilaran, Chocolate Hills, Tarsier Sanctuary, Blood Compact Shrine
- Bulacan: Barasoain Church
- Manaoag, La Union: Our Lady of Manaoag
- Vigan: Calle Crisologo, Bantay Church Bell Tower

Batac: Sites of Batac

\*\*\*Note: Itinerary may be subject to change

**Price:** AU\$3,500 (subject to change depending on number of participants)

To Reserve Your Place: We require a Deposit of 10% or \$350 (refundable)

## Please pay to:

Our Lady of Dolours

BSB No. : 062784

Account Number: 100001609

Reference: Philippine Pilgrimage

## Inclusions:

- Domestic flights
- Land and water transportation

Hotels with breakfast

## Exclusions:

- Plane fares from Sydney to Manila and back

Optional tours before and after the pilgrimage tour

## For inquiries:

Email: [philpilgrimage2025@gmail.com](mailto:philpilgrimage2025@gmail.com)

- Ditas Naguit: 0405 999 510

Rene Balboa: 0413 558 836



PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND AND ITALY | 16 DAYS

# POLAND & ITALY

## IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. JOHN PAUL II

**DATE:** 16 – 31 MAY 2025

**PRICE:** 8350 AUD/person + TIPS (GROUP 21 PERSONS)

**FLIGHT:** SYDNEY – DUBAI – WARSAW/ROME – DUBAI – SYDNEY (EMIRATES)

**ROUTE:** WARSAW – ZELAZOWA WOLA (CHOPIN) – JASNA GORA (CZESTOCHOWA) – AUSCHWITZ – KRAKOW – WIELICZKA SALT MINE – LAGIEWNIKI (SHRINE FAUSTYNA & JOHN PAUL II) – ZAKOPANE – WADOWICE – ROME – VATICAN – BOLSENA – ORVIETO – ASSISI



INFORMATION:

**FR GREG SKULSKI SDS ■ THE SHRINE OF SAINT JOHN PAUL II**  
E-MAIL: JPIL.CENTRE@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU



**ORLANDO TRAVEL** | POLISH INCOMING TOUR OPERATOR  
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PYMBLE CATHOLIC PARISH

19  
DAYS

# St Paul & Rome Jubilee Pilgrimage

*Every 25 years, the Church declares a Holy Year, a profound gift of grace and mercy for all believers. In this dedicated Jubilee year, experience the journeys of renowned saints, from St Paul and his companions who ardently spread God's word, to St Peter in Rome. Enter the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica and receive the Jubilee blessing in the Eternal City.*

**DEPARTS TUESDAY 13 MAY 2025 • 19 DAYS / 15 NIGHTS**

Athens (2 nights) • Acropolis • Ancient Corinth • Kalambaka (2) • Meteora • Berea  
• Thessaloniki • Kavala (2) • Ancient Philippi • Patmos (2) • Samos (1) • Kusadasi (2)  
• Ephesus • Rome - Jubilee (4 nights)



Accompanied by  
**Fr Ireneusz Czech SDS**



The Library of Celsus, Ephesus

*the genuine pilgrim experience*

**harvest**  
journeys



Athens



Meteora

**SYMBOLS:** (B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch, (D) Dinner

## Itinerary

### DAY 1: TUESDAY 13 MAY 2025 – DEPART FOR GREECE

### DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 14 MAY – ARRIVE ATHENS

Athens today is the thriving capital of Greece, but, more importantly, we have entered into the world of the New Testament where St Paul and his companions established the first Christian communities throughout his four missionary journeys.

On arrival in **Athens** we will be met and transferred to our centrally located hotel.  
*Athens overnight (D)*

### DAY 3: THURSDAY 15 MAY – ATHENS AND ANCIENT CORINTH

**Theme: The Athenians & The Corinthians**

When St Paul first came to Athens it was predominantly a city which worshipped pagan gods. St Paul was taken before the city council at the Areopagus Hill, a rough outcrop of limestone rock from which he preached the Gospel message to the Athenian philosophers (Acts 17:16-21).

We begin our pilgrimage with a tour of **Christian Athens** including the **Acropolis**, the **Areopagus** where St Paul delivered his famous sermon about the identity of "the Unknown God" (Acts 17:15-34). View the Ancient Agora and the **Plaka** (Old Greece) and explore the **Parthenon**.

Also see the **Kallimármaro Stadium**, dating back to 330BC and restored for the first modern Olympic Games held here in 1896.

Journey out to **Ancient Corinth** this afternoon where the apostle Paul lived for almost two years, teaching the people the

Word of God and converting many. Visit the ancient ruins and see the site where he preached the Gospel from the **Rostrum**. See the **Peirene fountain**, and the 6th century BC **Temple of Apollo** before an outdoor Mass in this stunning pilgrimage setting. Finally, we come to **Cenchreae**, the ancient port from where St Paul said farewell to the believers and departed for Ephesus (Acts 18:18).

*Athens overnight (BD)*

### DAY 4: FRIDAY 16 MAY – ATHENS TO KALAMBAKA

This morning we begin our day at the fascinating **Acropolis Museum**, built to house every artefact found on the rock of the acropolis and the surrounding slopes. We continue north today to **Meteora** and to the small town of **Kalambaka** built at the foot of the majestic grey rocks.

*Kalambaka overnight (BD)*

### DAY 5: SATURDAY 17 MAY – METEORA

**Theme: The Monastics**

We spend some time today marvelling at this unique phenomenon of nature – 24 perpendicular rocks where 600 years ago Byzantine monks chose to worship God and build their Monastic community of **Meteora**. We will visit some of these living monasteries and view the extraordinary collection of priceless religious frescoes and other treasures that will make this a remarkable visit.

Enjoy some free time this afternoon.

*Kalambaka overnight (BD)*

### DAY 6: SUNDAY 18 MAY – KALAMBAKA TO KAVALA

**Theme: The Bereans & The Thessalonians**

Today we journey north by coach to **Berea** (modern Veria). The "**Bema**" - an impressive monument to Paul - is believed

to incorporate the steps from the original synagogue from which he preached the gospel to the Jews, who welcomed the word of God and began to study the Scriptures (Acts 17:10-12).

Continue on to **Thessaloniki**, Greece's second city, founded in 315 BC, and where St Paul preached during the winters of 49-50AD and wrote the two epistles to the ancient Thessalonians. It was here that he established the first Christian Church in Europe.

Our visit will include the ramparts of the city, the triumphal **Arch of Galerius**, as well as the **Rotunda** where we can see pieces of the pulpit from which Paul preached. View the **Roman Agora** where he also preached. Nearby we shall visit **St Demetrios' Church** dedicated to a Roman soldier who converted to Christianity and was later martyred. View its valuable mosaics and frescoes before descending into the crypt where we find the remains of some ancient Roman baths and streets.

Continue east along the ancient route of the Apostle Paul to the port city of **Kavala** (ancient Neapolis), once named "Christoupolis" after being the first European city to accept Christianity. It was here that St Paul, St Timothy and St Silas first landed from Troas (Acts 16:11), one of the great moments in the history of Christianity in Europe.

*Kavala overnight (BD)*

### DAY 7: MONDAY 19 MAY – PHILIPPI

**Theme: The Philippians**

Arise and journey along the ancient route of the Apostle Paul to nearby **Philippi**, named after Philip II, father of Alexander the Great. It was here that St Paul won his first European convert, a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira (Acts 16:12-40).

Visit the **Baptistry of Lydia** for a beautiful outdoor Mass on the **River Zygaktis**



House of the Virgin Mary



and renew our Baptismal vows. Visit the **marketplace** (where St Paul and St Silas were brought before the rulers) and the **cistern** which tradition identifies as the place where St Paul was imprisoned. In the **ancient theatre** we will hear the story of Paul's arrest, imprisonment, and miraculous release.

Remainder of the afternoon at leisure to rest back at our hotel.

*Kavala overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 8: TUESDAY 20 MAY - KAVALA TO PATMOS

Today we are transferred to the airport for our flight to Athens. On arrival we will be transferred directly to the Athenian port of Piraeus to embark our boat transfer to the Dodecanese Island of **Patmos**, where St John the Beloved wrote the Book of Revelation.

*Island of Patmos overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 9: WEDNESDAY 21 MAY - PATMOS DAY

*Theme: The Patmosians*

Lying between the islands of Leros and Ikaria is the 'ascetic shaped' Patmos, called the 'Jerusalem of the Aegean' due to the overwhelming atmosphere of the island during the great celebrations of Christianity.

We begin our day with a walking tour of the main square of the village of **Chora**. This is the traditional settlement and capital of Patmos, where the narrow streets were designed to ward off pirates over the centuries. Ascend to the **Monastery of St John the Beloved**, a huge fortress-like building dating from the 11th century, for a visit and celebration of Mass.

Our exploration of this living monastery will culminate with time in the actual **Cave of Revelation** where God chose to reveal to St John the mysteries of the last book of the Bible – the Apocalypse.

The cave is now at the foot of the monastery, which houses priceless icons and

manuscripts, sacred relics, and vestments embroidered with silver or gold threads and bejeweled with precious stones.

Later continue to the active **Convent of Evangelismos (Annunciation)** built by the hieromonk Nikiphoros who was cured from the plague after praying to St Luke the Evangelist. Visit the **Convent of Zoodochos Pigi** with icons dating from the 16th to the 18th century. Finally, we will enjoy a short scenic tour of the island.

*Island of Patmos overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 10: THURSDAY 22 MAY - PATMOS TO SAMOS

Today, we depart Patmos by ferry and make our way to the picturesque island of **Samos**, nestled in the heart of the Aegean Sea. Renowned for its lush landscapes, pristine waters, and rich ancient heritage, it is a destination of both natural beauty and spiritual significance.

*Island of Samos overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 11: FRIDAY 23 MAY - SAMOS TO KUSADASI

Depart Samos by ferry to **Kusadasi**, doorway to **Ephesus** and the **Churches of Revelation**.

On arrival in Kusadasi we will be met and transferred by coach to our centrally located hotel.

*Kusadasi overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 12: SATURDAY 24 MAY - EPHEBUS

*Theme: The Ephesians*

We travel directly to **Ephesus** this morning, the most famous of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev 2:1-7) where St Paul spent more than two years in the course of his third missionary journey. It was to the Christian community of Ephesus that St Paul wrote his greatest and most challenging letter (the epistle to the Ephesians) and also succeeded in converting many away from

worship of the god Artemis.

Our visit today will include the ruins where St Paul lived and preached. See the **prison of St Paul**; walk through the ancient marble streets founded in the 10th century BC and see this most 'complete' Roman city providing us with an excellent window into Imperial Rome. Pass the **Temple of Hadrian**, the **Library of Celsus**, the enormous **amphitheatre** (Acts 19:29-31), and finally come to the ruins of the **Christian Basilica** where the Third Ecumenical Council took place in 431AD, and where Our Lady was proclaimed "Mother of God". We ascend the hill to the **House of the Virgin Mary** where it is said Mary spent the later years of her life. We celebrate our group Mass here in one of the chapels. Finally, we visit the restored remains of the 6th century **Basilica of St John at Celcuk** where a small church was originally built over the tomb of St John the Evangelist.

*Kusadasi overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 13: SUNDAY 25 MAY - FLY TURKEY TO ROME\*

This morning, we set out towards **Izmir**, once the site of ancient **Smyrna**, one of the Seven Churches of Revelation (Rev 2:8-11). This was home to a lively Christian community under the pastoral care of its bishop – the saintly **Polycarp**. After Mass, we are transferred to Izmir airport for our flight to **Rome**, the Eternal City, rich in the traditions of our Church, and the focus of many Jubilee Holy Year activities.

Upon arrival in Rome, we will be met and transferred to our accommodation.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

*The Jubilee Year is a time for the faithful to renew their commitment and strengthen their relationship with God. It is also a time for*

CONTINUED →



Rome



Vatican Museums

Catholics to come together as a community and to celebrate their faith. The 2025 Jubilee Year is sure to be a memorable and meaningful event for people around the world, to be blessed and refreshed for the mission that lies before us.

\*Please note the itinerary in Rome is dependent upon the Jubilee circumstances and activities and may be subject to change.

#### DAY 14: MONDAY 26 MAY - ROME - CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025\*

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to **St Peter's Basilica** for Mass. Then we visit the **Vatican Museums**, home to one of the world's greatest art collections, and Michelangelo's breathtaking **Sistine Chapel**. Then, we are back at **St Peter's Basilica** for a guided tour of the largest church in Christendom, built over his tomb, where we can spend a few moments to pray at the **tomb of late Pope John Paul II**.

This afternoon enjoy a walking tour of the historical centre of Rome. See some of the most famous sites in the Eternal City - **the Pantheon** (outside), **the Spanish Steps**, **Trevi Fountain**, **Piazza Navona**, **Piazza Venezia**, **the Colosseum** (outside).

Rome overnight (BD)

#### DAY 15: TUESDAY 27 MAY - ROME JUBILEE\*

The journey this afternoon will take us to the majestic **Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls**. Originally consecrated in 324, the saint's tomb is visible now under the Papal Altar. We will celebrate Mass here as a special tribute to the Church's greatest evangelist.

Continue then along the ancient **Appian Way**, the oldest road from Roman times to

the **ancient Catacombs** for a memorable guided tour to marvel at these underground burial tunnels for Christians and Hebrews. Rome overnight (BD)

#### DAY 16: WEDNESDAY 28 MAY - ROME JUBILEE\*

We will return to the Vatican and join with pilgrims from around the world for a memorable **General Audience with Pope Francis** (subject to the Pope's presence in Rome).

We continue on this afternoon with Mass and a visit of the impressive **St Mary Major Basilica**, followed by the **Basilica of St John in Lateran**, the first papal residence. Adjacent are the **Holy Stairs**, which were brought from Jerusalem to Rome in 326AD by St Helena. From here we visit the **Basilica of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme** with its extraordinary collection of relics from the Holy Land.

Rome overnight (BD)

#### DAY 17: THURSDAY 29 MAY - DEPART ROME

Enjoy free time until your transfer to the airport. (B)

#### DAY 18: FRIDAY 30 MAY - IN TRANSIT

#### DAY 19: SATURDAY 31 MAY - ARRIVE HOME



### PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

TOUR CODE	PV25118
STARTS	Tuesday, 13 May 2025
FINISHES	Saturday, 31 May 2025
AIR & LAND	AUD \$9490 (Twin Share) *
SINGLE ROOM	AUD \$2260 Supplement
PREPAID TIPS	AUD \$240 Per Person

\* Costs have been based on prices as at November 2024 and must remain subject to possible change in the event of significant exchange rate variations, airfare or tax increases or minimum group size factors beyond Harvest's control. Refer to Harvest Booking Terms & Conditions for more details.

### INCLUDED

**AIRFARES:** Return Economy Class group airfare from Sydney • One-way Economy Class group airfare Izmir-Istanbul-Rome

**ACCOMMODATION & MEALS:** Based on reputable local 3-4 star superior hotels or quality religious houses as applicable • Meals as specified in itinerary

**TOURING & TRANSPORTATION:** Deluxe Air Conditioned Coach touring • Professional Local Guides • Sightseeing and Entrance Fees

**OTHER:** Fully Escorted by Priest Chaplain • Porterage at hotels (where available) • Harvest Backpack, Pilgrim Journal and Travel Wallet

### NOT INCLUDED

Other meals not listed • Passport and Visa Costs (if applicable) • Items of a personal nature including phone calls, laundry, beverages, etc. • Travel insurance • Prepaid Tipping



#### BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES

harvestjourneys.com/pv25118

AU Free-Call: 1800 819 156

NZ Free-Call: 0800 819 156

info@harvestjourneys.com

#### Harvest Journeys

PO Box 6087

Alexandria BC

NSW 2015

Australia



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CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

10  
DAYS

# Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope

*Every 25 years, the Church proclaims a Holy Year, a special gift of grace and mercy for all God's people. Not only is Italy a land of unforgettable charm and beauty, it is also a land made rich in grace by its colourful history of holy men and women. In this dedicated Jubilee year, be inspired to encounter the pathways of some of the Church's greatest saints, from St Francis and Clare in Assisi to St Peter and Paul in Rome, the Eternal City, where we cross the threshold of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica and receive the Jubilee blessing.*



Accompanied by  
**Fr Hien Vu**

**COMMENCES WEDNESDAY 01 OCTOBER 2025 • 10 DAYS / 9 NIGHTS**

Rome Airport vicinity (1) • Assisi (2 nights) • Orvieto • Rome - Jubilee (6 nights)



"The Jubilee Year 2025 calls us to rediscover the centrality of Jesus Christ in our lives and to deepen our relationship with Him, as the Door through which we enter into the fullness of life."

**– Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD, JCL,  
Bishop of Broken Bay**



The dome of St Peter's over the River Tiber, Rome

*the genuine pilgrim experience*

**harvest**  
journeys

Assisi



Orvieto



MEAL CODE: (B) = Breakfast (D) = Dinner

## Itinerary

### DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 01 OCTOBER – ARRIVE ROME

Welcome to Italy! On arrival at Rome airport, please make your way to the group hotel where this evening we will enjoy our first group dinner.  
*Rome overnight (D)*

### DAY 2: THURSDAY 02 OCTOBER – ROME TO ASSISI

This morning we will travel north to the pilgrimage centre of **Assisi**, where St Francis tended the poor and sick and founded the Franciscan Order.

We will visit the **Basilica of St Mary of the Angels** down on the plains where St Francis spent most of his life. Here we will see the **Portiuncula** (meaning 'small portion of land') where St Francis returned for prayer, the thornless rose bush, and the chapel where he died in 1226. On Palm Sunday 1211, Francis received in this church Clare of Assisi and dedicated her to the Lord.

*Assisi overnight (BD)*

### DAY 3: FRIDAY 03 OCTOBER - ASSISI

This morning we awake to the sound of chapel bells, cobblestone footsteps and the tangible spirit of St Francis preserved within the medieval walls of this holy town.

Our day begins with Mass and a guided exploration of the buzzing **Basilica of St Francis** which occupies the entire western end of the upper town. Construction began in 1228, just two years after the death of Francis and was finally completed in 1250. The Upper Basilica houses the famous fresco cycle of the life of St Francis, historically attributed to Giotto. Wander through the marvels of the Upper Basilica before our tour descends to the crypt of the Lower Basilica where Francis was laid in

1230 and where we will take some time to seek the intercession of this spiritual legend.

We then walk to the **Church of Santa Maria Maggiore - Sanctuary of the Spogliazione**, where we are blessed with the opportunity to visit and pray at the tomb of **Blessed Carlo Acutis** – a young Catholic from Italy with a passionate devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and an aptitude for computer programming. From the ages of 12 to 14, he designed a website cataloguing Eucharistic miracles that have occurred around the world, which he launched in 2005. He died of leukemia a year later at the age of 15, offering his suffering for the pope and for the Church.

Onto the **Church of San Damiano** and the actual chapel where it all began when the voice of Christ spoke to Francis in the year 1205 (some may prefer to approach by foot down the hillside path in the spirit of St Francis). Adjacent to the chapel we find the first monastery of the Order of St Clare where Clare built her community in close friendship with Francis.

Our day concludes with a visit to the **Hermitage** (Eremo delle Carceri), an oasis of peace and tranquillity in the woods built on the site of a simple cave where St Francis often withdrew to spend many hours in prayer. The cave and the Chapel of Our Lady are preserved in the Hermitage grounds.

An (optional) opportunity presents itself before dinner to attend **Vespers** in the **Basilica of St Clare** and listen to the angelic voices of the Poor Clare nuns. Housed in this church is the famous crucifix from which Jesus spoke to St Francis.

*Assisi overnight (BD)*

### DAY 4: SATURDAY 04 OCTOBER - ASSISI VIA ORVIETO TO ROME

We farewell Assisi and journey south to the amazing medieval town of **Orvieto** with its **Duomo** (Cathedral), which has one of the world's most famous facades. The feast of the Body of Christ (Corpus Christi) was first proclaimed here in 1263 following the Eucharistic Miracle of Bolsena. We celebrate Eucharist in the chapel where the sacred cloth

from that event is preserved and enjoy a special visit to the **Signorelli Chapel**.

After our visit we then travel on to **Rome**, the Eternal City, rich in the traditions of our Church.  
*Rome overnight (BD)*

### DAY 5: SUNDAY 05 OCTOBER - ROME: CHRISTIAN MARTYRS

*The Jubilee Year is a time for the faithful to renew their commitment and strengthen their relationship with God. It is also a time for Catholics to come together as a community and to celebrate their faith. The 2025 Jubilee Year is sure to be a memorable and meaningful event for people around the world, to be blessed and refreshed for the mission that lies before us.*

*Some of the spiritual activities that pilgrims are encouraged to participate in during our time in Rome are:*

- Attend Mass and receive the Eucharist
- Make a pilgrimage to the many shrines and holy sites in Rome
- Pray for forgiveness
- Renew our commitment to our faith
- Strengthen our relationship with God
- Come together as a community and celebrate our faith

Following Mass this morning we will proceed to **St Peter's Square** where the Holy Father is expected to pray the **Angelus** with pilgrims from around the world (*subject to the Pope's presence in Rome*).

This afternoon we enter into the most visited attraction in Rome - the **Colosseum**. In 1749, Pope Benedict XIV declared the Colosseum a sacred site, as it was a place where early Christians had been martyred. View also the **Circus Maximus** and the **Roman Forum** en route.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

### DAY 6: MONDAY 06 OCTOBER - ROME: THE VATICAN & MAJOR BASILICAS

Commence our pilgrimage with a spectacular Mass at **St Peter's Basilica** before coming to the nearby **Vatican Museums**. Wander the spectacular chambers leading to the **Sistine**



Vatican Museums



Roman Forum



St John Paul II



St Peter



St Paul



St Francis



St Clare



Bl Carlo Acutis



St John

**Chapel** to view Michelangelo's masterpieces, including the magnificent fresco of the Last Judgment. Continue through to the awe-inspiring St Peter's Basilica, the largest church in the world for an informative exploration. Our guided tour will feature among other highlights Michelangelo's stunning **Pieta**, the **tomb of Pope St John Paul II**, the **great Confessional** and the **Crypt** containing the tombs of several Popes.

In the afternoon, visit the impressive **St Mary Major Basilica**. Onwards to the **Basilica of St John in Lateran** (First Papal residence) and the adjacent Holy Stairs brought from Jerusalem to Rome in 326AD by St Helena (as a favourite of pilgrims, these steps may only be ascended on the knees). Visit the **Basilica of Santa Croce in Gerusalemme** with its extraordinary collection of relics from the Holy Land.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 7: TUESDAY 07 OCTOBER - ROME: ST PAUL'S & THE CATACOMBS

Journey this morning out to the majestic **Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls**. Originally consecrated in 324, the saint's tomb is visible now under the Papal Altar. We will celebrate a wonderful Mass here as a special tribute to the Church's greatest evangelist.

Continue then along the ancient **Appian Way**, the oldest road from Roman times to the **ancient Catacombs** for a memorable guided tour to marvel at these underground burial tunnels for Christians and Hebrews. On the way, drive by **Domine Quo Vadis** - the chapel that stands at the site where, according to tradition, St Peter met Christ when he fled from Rome to escape martyrdom.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 8: WEDNESDAY 08 OCTOBER - ROME FREE DAY

Our day is free to discover more sights of Rome - perhaps throw a coin in the **Trevi Fountain**

before strolling to the **Piazza Navona** to soak up the vibrant atmosphere. Indulge in a gelato or enjoy a coffee while absorbing and admiring the history of this ancient city. Strolling through the streets is like walking through the pages of a history book.

OR

For the next two days participate in the Jubilee of Consecrated Life spiritual and cultural events taking place around Rome.

This evening join with fellow pilgrims for a prayer vigil.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 9: THURSDAY 09 OCTOBER - ROME: PAPAL MASS

We make our way to St Peter's Square this morning for a memorable **Papal Mass in celebration of the Jubilee of Consecrated Life**.

This afternoon, we explore the vibrant **Trastevere** district. Our first stop is the charming **Basilica of Santa Maria in Trastevere**, a historic church dating back to the 12th century. We continue on to the **Basilica of St Cecilia**, built on the site of the former house of the saint who was martyred in 230AD. The body of the saint is venerated in the crypt.

Afterwards, we wander on to enjoy an enchanting evening filled with food and traditional music at a typical Italian trattoria, marking our farewell to Rome and our pilgrimage.

*Rome overnight (BD)*

#### DAY 10: FRIDAY 10 OCTOBER - DEPART ROME

This morning we bid farewell to the Eternal City as we make our way to the airport for our homebound flights or ongoing travel connections. (B)

### PILGRIMAGE DETAILS

TOUR CODE	PV25102
STARTS	Wednesday, 01 October 2025
FINISHES	Friday, 10 October 2025
LAND COST	AUD \$5390 (Twin Share) *
SINGLE ROOM	AUD \$1950 Supplement *
PREPAID TIPPING	AUD \$150 Per Person

\* Costs are indicative and have been based on prices as at January 2025 and must remain subject to possible change in the event of significant exchange rate variations, tax increases or minimum group size factors beyond Harvest's control. Refer to Harvest Booking Terms & Conditions for more details.

### INCLUDED

**ACCOMMODATION & MEALS:** Based on quality religious houses or 3 and 4-star hotels • Meals as specified in Itinerary.

**TOURING & TRANSPORTATION:** Deluxe air-conditioned touring coach • Professional English-speaking Tour Escort and local guides • Sightseeing and entrance fees

**OTHER:** Fully escorted by priest chaplain • Daily Masses • Porterage (where available) • Harvest Travel Pack: backpack, travel wallet, pilgrim's journal and sunbrella.

### NOT INCLUDED

International airfares • Travel Insurance • Visits and entrances not listed • Passport and visa costs (if applicable) • Other meals not stated • Drinks with meals • Items of a personal nature • Prepaid Tipping

**Book Now**



[harvestjourneys.com/pv25102](https://harvestjourneys.com/pv25102)

**1800 819 156**

[info@harvestjourneys.com](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com)

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# Key Telephone Numbers

## KEY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

### **POLICE: 000**

Call the Police for immediate assistance.

### **1800 RESPECT: 1800 737 732**

A national 24-hour 7 day a week service, for advice or support in relation to sexual assault and domestic violence. The service also connects victims to the nearest help according to their location.

### **FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS**

Call 131 450 for an interpreter. Ask them to ring 1800 RESPECT for you.

### **CATHOLICARE BROKEN BAY**

CatholicCare provides a range of services to assist women and children experiencing domestic violence

Central Coast: 1800 324 924	Northern Beaches: 1800 324 924
Naremburn: 1800 324 924	Waitara: 1800 324 924

### **MEN'S REFERRAL SERVICE: 1300 766 491**

A national 24-hour 7 day a week anonymous and confidential counselling, information and referral service to help men stop using violent and controlling behaviour.

## FOR FEMALE MIGRANTS UNDER A TEMPORARY VISA

Migrants are especially vulnerable to abuse because they are in unfamiliar territory without knowledge of the laws and emergency services they can access.

If you are experiencing domestic violence, you can take out an Apprehended Violence Order (AVO) against your partner.

Under the Migration Act you can apply for permanent residency due to domestic violence.

Ring any of the following numbers:

<b>Immigration Advice and Rights Centre</b>	<b>02 8234 0777</b>
<b>Immigrant Women's SpeakOut Association</b>	<b>1800 656 463</b>
<b>Legal Aid NSW</b>	<b>1300 888 529</b> (business hours)

**PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE ARE SERIOUS INDICTABLE OFFENCES UNDER THE NSW CRIMES ACT 1900. It is an offence to fail to report knowledge or belief of a serious indictable offence. If in doubt, call 000.**

This parish resource has been developed by the Diocese of Broken Bay's Catholic Life & Faith Formation Team in consultation with the Safeguarding Office (Chancery) and CatholicCare Broken Bay. This booklet is part of a Parish Kit which assists parishes to respond to those experiencing domestic violence or those who are seeking help for their violent behaviour. The kit is available for download [www.bbcatholic.org.au](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au)

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



**CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY**

# 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**