

**31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B**  
**PARISH BULLETIN, 31ST OCTOBER 2021**

*All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.*

**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 31ST OCTOBER Mk 12:28-34**

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

The words 'I love you' imply a total commitment of heart, soul, mind and strength one to another, a promise given freely and for all time. This is the kind of commitment Jesus speaks about to the scribe-loving God unreservedly, loving myself and my neighbour in the same way that God loves me. What awe-inspiring words—'God loves me'. God loves me unreservedly. God is there for me no matter what. In return, I want to love God and to express that love in real ways. Jesus commends the wisdom of the scribe who seemed to really understand that this was the only way to keep the commandments. Why not take a few moments today to hear God saying 'I love you'. As Moses said to Israel, let these words be written on your heart. What do I want to say in return? Can I respond wholeheartedly in the psalmist's words: 'I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour'?

## CONDOLENCES

The Parish extends our deepest condolences to Frances Costa and family on the passing of her beloved husband Frank Costa.

Frank was a dearly loved member of our parish community and he will be sadly missed.

Frank's funeral will be held on Thursday 28th October at St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Church, Warnervale at 10.30 AM.

We know and pray that Frank is in God's loving hands. May he rest in peace. Amen

### November Month of Remembrance

It is customary for us to acknowledge All Souls in November.

***"It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins."***

***2 Maccabees 12.46***

Our Book of Remembrance (Memorial) in the parish will be put up near the Sanctuary of St Cecilia's Church from All Souls Day and will remain throughout November.

### NOVEMBER MASS OFFERINGS

There are envelopes available for you to write the names of your beloved deceased. Please put the envelopes into the special box near the sanctuary or into our weekend collection baskets. All Masses in November will be offered for our departed brothers and sisters.

## 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.**

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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.

### **1<sup>st</sup> November All Saints Day**

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

**READINGS** Apoc 7:2-4, 9-14; 1Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12

#### **Reflection**

Surely the passage we call 'The Beatitudes' is one of the best known and most loved sections of Jesus' teaching in the Gospels. Jesus affirms each of us no matter how we are feeling or what we are experiencing. Jesus does not deny life's struggles but reminds us that all who stand for him will be blessed', will be 'happy'-not at some shallow superficial level, but at our core, day by day, and finally be rewarded with a place in heaven (the heart of God). On this 'All Saints Day', John the Evangelist also affirms us when he tells us that 'we are already the children of God', and that in the future 'we shall see God, as he really is!' Today honours the fact that the saints in heaven intercede for us, while All Souls Day (tomorrow) affirms that we pray for all who have died.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> November All Souls Day**

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

**Readings** Isaiah 25:6-9; Romans 5:5-11; Mark 15:33-39; 16:1-6

#### **Reflection**

Death hurts! Death is an ending of life as we know it. Death is also inevitable. All that has life must die ... and yet today's readings encourage us to see beyond the pain of loss. Yes, we must grieve the deaths of those we love with honesty, but as people of faith we live with the promise of the more than we can ever imagine or know in this life. In the first reading the prophet Isaiah tells the people that God will destroy death forever. In the second reading St Paul reminds us that 'we are filled with joyful trust in God', and the Gospel tells us that Jesus who died 'is risen'. How can this be? We have no neat answers, but by faith we believe that death has become a doorway into greater life as only those who have died can know and they wait to welcome us.

### **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.

#### **PRAYER:**

Almighty God, we love you with all our strength and we take to heart your words. You alone are our creator, saviour and advocate. Help us we pray, to love you and to love our neighbour by living in accord with your commandments and the teachings of Jesus Christ your Son. Through the Holy Spirit, we pray today and always. Amen



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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: 4352 1011 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, Carol Dafter, Dave Rodney, Gwen Dwyer, Helen Waters

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Frank Costa, Maria Galea, Dennis Booth, Patrick Smyth, Gerard Byrne, Tony Pilay

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

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### **Welcome to the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

The Gospels give us many accounts where the Jewish religious leaders question Jesus, sometimes trying to catch him out. In this case, however, they seem to ask a very reasonable question. A scribe asks Jesus which is the greatest of the commandments. Jesus responds with authority and amazing clarity. As always, Jesus' response shows remarkable insight as he cuts through the many regulations to get to the very heart of a faith-filled life. Jesus' two statements, to love God and love neighbour, are two commandments that cannot be separated. How may we seek to better realise both this coming week?

## **Sunday Mass 31st October 2021** **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** *Reproduced from Liturgia*

### **FIRST READING DEUTERONOMY 6:2-6**

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 17:2-4, 47, 51**

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour. My God is the rock where I take refuge; my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes. R.

Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me. He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed. R.

### **SECOND READING HEBREWS 7:23-28**

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION JOHN 14:23**

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL MARK 12:28-34**

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

# PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY

## November 2021 Appeal

St Edmund's College is one of the five beneficiaries of Pastoral Works Broken Bay.



The College supports 120 students with disabilities such as intellectual, sensory impairment or autism, providing skills and experience for them to fully engage in life.

Your generous donations help with vital fee assistance to families in our Catholic community so that their children can access the services offered by St Edmund's.

Watch the attached short film to see the amazing impact your donations support <https://youtu.be/3r5BE26o2H4>.

To donate, complete the collection envelope in your parish, or visit [www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks).

**Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.**



## 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)**  
BSB 062 195 Account 10229389

**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION; Wyong Catholic Parish**  
BSB 062 784 Account 13528001



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

I have called you to renew and rebuild.

**PASTORAL WORKS** Broken Bay

Donate to help families and parish communities in Broken Bay.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the new name for CWF. [www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks)

# CatholicCare

Diocese of Broken Bay

## CatholicCare Psychologist available now

CatholicCare is our social services agency in the Diocese. Psychologist Mary McMullen has capacity to take on new clients, and is available for Medicare rebates, Victims Services (VOC) and NDIS. She also can bulk bill depending on circumstance. Mary has a particular interest in working with clients living with anxiety and depression, PTSD and a range of mental health disorders relating to trauma. Mary is experienced in working with both adolescents and adults having worked in child protection, community mental health, parenting programs as well as in private practice. Right now Mary is providing telehealth sessions during lockdown, moving back to face-to-face appointments when safe to do so. For more information or to book an appointment call 1800 324 924 or visit [www.catholiccaredbb.org.au](http://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au).

# **Vox Populi - Spring Cleaning**

“Spring Cleaning” By Joanna Mak

It's that time of the year again: 'spring cleaning'

For most of us, 2021 has been a bit of an unpredictable year with its challenges. We've been in our homes a bit more due to the covid 19 lockdown but as we hear news of the 'roadmap out of lockdown', this may also be a good time to 'spring clean' and renew our faith and ourselves.

St Paul says in 1 Corinthians 3:16

'Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?'

Reflecting on this, I am aware that God's Spirit lives in me, but I don't always feel this way. I know that there have been times when I haven't been a living example of Jesus, when emotions get the better of me, or when I would rather scroll through social media instead of praying. But St Paul reminds us that we are individually God's temple and also collectively, his Spirit lives in the Church.

So if I am God's temple, how can I 'clean up my house' so I can be a living example of Christ?

Let's take a look at a few of the important rooms in your house.

## **Dining room**

This is the time we spend with our family.

How often do we spend quality time with our family; asking how their day has been and how they are feeling?

Having a strong relationship with our family is important because they will always support us. This is the same with our relationship with God. By spending time and listening to God, we experience God's love more and more.

## **Guestroom/playroom**

This is the time we spend with our friends and our relationships.

Do you take the time to ask how your friends are going? Do you make the effort to message or call up your friends, or catch up with them at youth groups. Do you volunteer or help those in need, such as the elderly or vulnerable?

Jesus tells us that we need to love our neighbours as yourself. John 13:34-35 'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.'

Having a good relationship with our friends and helping our neighbours are essential to spreading the love of God to others.

## **Living room**

This space is for our hobbies and entertainment.

Do we spend a lot of time on social media or watching TV mindlessly? Or is there something educational we can watch? Personally, I have found The Chosen and shows on Shalom World a helpful way to learn about God.

What we do in our spare time shape the way we think and what our values are, hence it's important to use our time wisely so we can be God's temple.

## **Bedroom**

This is our personal space and our prayer space.

Do we include a prayer space in our bedroom for praying and listening to God? Do we have alone time with God and unwind after the day?

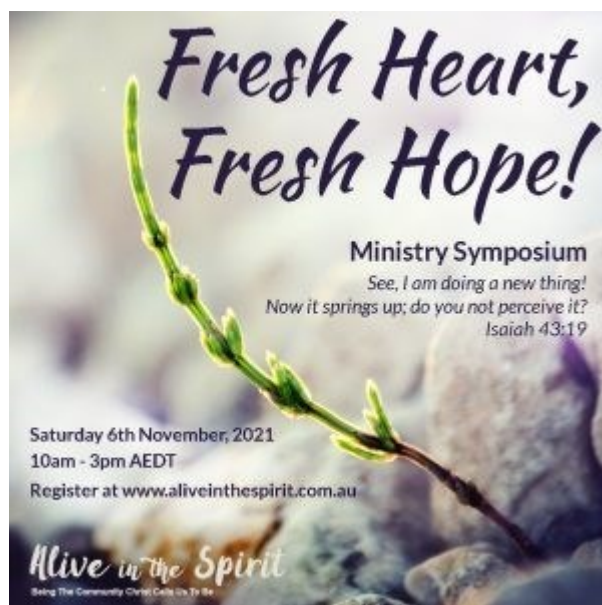
Matthew 6:6 'But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.'

I would say that this is the most important room. Our prayer and quiet time with God can help us to hear God speaking to us.

So these are some rooms in our house. What room can you 'clean' so that Jesus can dwell in you more fully?

Joanna Mak is the current Youth Minister for the Catholic Parish of Epping and Carlingford. She joined the Parish's Antioch youth group 6 years ago and travelled to the 2016 World Youth Day in Krakow which changed her life. She currently manages three youth groups; Cana (year 6-9), Antioch, (year 10-23) and Emmaus (23-30 years old). In her spare time, she enjoys running, hiking and rock-climbing.





In this one-day symposium, we explore best practices and pitfalls in our efforts to engage our communities and key groups to effectively grow our mission in Jesus Christ.

Our scenario is a fictional parish, planning for 2022. We will journey with its representatives through the experience of a live panel consisting of a Parish Priest; School Principal; Life, Marriage, Family Coordinator; Parent in the School; Pastoral Council Representative and Young Person. We explore three key moments in the life cycle of the parish, with the panel guided by a facilitator looking at:

**Session 1: Let's Dream Big!** Engaging with the community – both present and disconnected – in a new vision for 2022.

**Session 2: Managing Change** Managing the tensions, roadblocks, and opportunities for healthy conflict and collaboration as the vision starts to come to life.

**Session 3: Making it Happen** Determining how to align goals, resource actions, and keep people motivated through safe and healthy processes.

After each panel session, small group sessions further develop ideas and approaches.

In our rapidly changing world we are invited to consider new and innovative pathways in ministry. Fresh Heart! Fresh Hope! Offers inspiration through a practical scenario for getting going in 2022 with the Holy Spirit and your community for the sake of Christ's mission!

Emma Baker, Life, Marriage and Family Coordinator for the Diocese of Broken Bay will participate on the panel.

For more information and registration: <https://aliveinthespirit.com.au/symposium/>