

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
PARISH BULLETIN, 3RD APRIL 2022

*With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate*

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*

Station of the Cross
St Cecilia's Church

Friday evenings in Lent
6.30pm Stations of the Cross

Please join us, as we prayerfully
walk the Way of the Cross (Pope
Benedict XVI version)

REFLECTION 3rd April 2022

GOSPEL JOHN 8:1-11

Reproduced from God's Word 2022: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield

The readings today are a reminder that God has done, and will continue to do, great things in our lives. Isaiah, however, reminds us that there is no gain in continually dwelling on the past; rather we are called to notice God 'doing a new deed' as God calls us into the future, The woman brought before Jesus knows she has already been judged by the crowd around her and expects the same from Jesus. Yet, in her misery she finds Jesus offering her mercy and compassion. He releases her from her past and offers her a future full of possibilities, Paul says all he wants is 'to know Christ and the power of his resurrection'. What a great mantra for this final week of Lent! We too are 'straining ahead for what is still to come ... racing for the finish'. We only have a few more days with Jesus before he enters Holy Week. Can we allow him to look at us in the way he looked at the woman--to accept the mercy and compassion he offers and to be rescued from behaviours and judgements that may in the past have been harmful to others? There is still time to glimpse the new deed God is doing in us.

PALM SUNDAY CROSSES

All are welcome to come and help make our Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday Masses. Please RSVP to Jo 0424 763 734

Wednesday 6th April at 1pm in the Parish Hall 23 Byron Street Wyong. Afternoon Tea will be provided.

Also if anyone has any palms that would be suitable to decorate our Churches for Palm Sunday could you please speak to Fr Raul or Fr Alex after mass.

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on **Tuesday, 12 April** at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

The priests of our Diocese gather for this celebration with Most Rev Bishop Anthony Randazzo to renew their priestly commitment.

During Mass, the oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the Chrism is consecrated and then taken back to each parish for use in various Sacramental liturgies throughout the year.

Parish fundraising

Tickets for the Parish Easter Egg Raffle will go on sale this weekend at all Masses. (Money raises will go towards Pastoral Works)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

We ask that you keep the children in our parish who are preparing to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation in your thoughts and prayers.

Reconciliation is a beautiful sacrament as it allows us to reflect on our actions and brings us closer to God.

Reconciliation 2nd form of the Rite of Reconciliation

St Cecilia's Church 6pm
Wednesday 6th April.

Reconciliation 1st form of the Rite of Reconciliation

St John Fisher Mass Ctr
2nd April Saturday Vigil
Reconciliation following the 5pm Mass
3rd April Sunday
Reconciliation following the 5pm Mass

Holy Thursday

14th April
Mass of the Last Supper
St John Fisher Tumbi 7pm
Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
(Reconciliation will be available)

Good Friday

15th April
Stations of the Cross
St Cecilia's Wyong 10am
St John Fisher Tumbi 10am
The Lord's Passion
St Cecilia's Wyong 3pm
St John Fisher Tumbi 3pm

Holy Saturday

16th April
Easter Vigil Mass
St Cecilia's Wyong 7pm

Easter Sunday

17th April
Mass of the Resurrection
St Cecilia's Wyong
7.30am & 9.30am
St John Fisher Tumbi
8.30am & 5pm

EASTER CEREMONIES

After discussions with Fr Raul, Fr Alex, The Parish Liturgy Committee and the Parish Pastoral Council, it has been decided to continue with the same format used the last 4 years for our Easter ceremonies;

Holy Thursday service in our Parish will take place at St John Fisher only, and that the Easter Saturday Vigil service will take place at St Cecilia's only.

This allows the opportunity for the whole parish to come together as one on these two significant occasions and allows our priests the opportunity of concelebrating Mass on the feast of the institution of the priesthood (Holy Thursdays Mass of the Last Supper) and the Mass which many regard as being the most symbolic in our liturgical year (The Easter Saturday Vigil).

Good Friday and Easter Sunday services will still take place at both Tumbi and Wyong as per previous years.

365 Pacific Highway
North Wyong NSW 2259
PO Box 736
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Anointing of the Sick

Friday 1st April

**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 Church Yarramalong

Mass will be celebrated at St
Barnabas Church, Yarramalong
Sunday 3rd April at 11.15am. All
are welcome.

Project Compassion

Please donate to Project
Compassion 2022 and help people
living with disabilities in India
gain access to education and clean
water, empowering them with
skills to build a better future.

Together, we can help vulnerable
Communities face their challeng-
estoday and build a better tomor-
row *For All Future Generations*.

You can donate through Project
Compassion donation boxes and
envelopes available from your Par-
ish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or
by calling 1800 024 413.

Wyong Parish COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS

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

We are changing from the 'shoe-box' collection to the 'WPCC' (Wyong Parish Community Collection).

Instead of donations being organized to fit in a shoebox, we are asking that individual items are placed in the collection baskets which will be available at the front of both churches. This collection drive will run from **26 March to 1 May**. Collection baskets will be emptied each week.

Three charities are being supported in 2022. These charities are **Wyong Neighbour Centre, Mary Mac's Place and We Care Connect**. Please see below suggested items which can be donated. These items are those specifically needed by the disadvantaged people the charities support.

More information on each charity can be found at the web addresses listed:

Wyong Neighbour Centre Inc

<https://www.wnci.org.au>

Mary Mac's Place

<https://.catholiccaredbb.org.au> > mary-macs-place

Long-life milk, Noodles, Pasta, and rice, Good quality tinned food and meals (with ring pulls), Soups, fruit, spaghetti, Museli bars and snacks, Breakfast Biscuits/ Cereal, UHT Milk, Noodles, Crackers, Muesli Bar, Lollies/ Chocolate, Biscuits/Chips, Fruit Cups/Tins, Tea, Cappuccino sachets, Cup of Soup, Water/Juice,

We Care Connect (Children's Charity in Wyong)

<https://wecareconnect.org.au>

Nappies, Baby wipes, Baby formula.

Please place all your items into the baskets provided at the front to the church. Thank you for your generous donations. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Prayer for Peace and Justice in Ukraine

God of peace and justice, who change the hardened heart and break the power of violence, we entrust the people of Ukraine to you. Protect them in this time of mortal peril; let them know not death but life, not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all; we are brothers and sisters.

**Give us the strength to live that truth in love,
choosing peace not war.**

Through Christ our Lord.

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

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

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

PARISH EMAIL: wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au

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

FACEBOOK: 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 Cecilia's 5pm Mass Saturday

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 Tues night 5pm to 6pm

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

PPC Secretary; Kerry Bugden

ph 4388 2938

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, 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, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Marie & Peter Rheinberger, Hannah Hopwood, Fay King, Joan Mabbutt, Irene Dainty, John Cornwell.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Kevin Barry

ANNIVERSARY MARCH: Myrtle & James Murphy, Reg Preston, Fr Tito Ayo, SOLT,

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 3rd April 2022
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD *Reproduced from Liturgia*

FIRST READING ISAIAH 43:16-21 (YEAR C)

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters, who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before.

See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it?

Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.

The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PS 125 (YEAR C)

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

SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 3:8-14 (YEAR C)

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION JOEL 2:12-13 (YEAR C)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL JOHN 8:1-11 (YEAR C)

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this, they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin anymore.'

We are now approaching the last days of Lent. Holy Week will begin on Sunday, 10 April or Passion Sunday.

Lent has been a time of reflection and preparation for Easter.

In the last week and last days perhaps we are inclined to put together our own personal report card. Has it been a time of repentance, have we stripped away the distractions and focused on the Lord?

Has it been a time of denial but also of giving? A time of renewal and recharging the heart and the soul? A time of prayer and recognising what it means to be a follower of Christ? And a time of forgiveness?

The Gospel reading this Sunday (John 8:1-11) tell us a lot about forgiveness – and mercy and justice. It is the story of a woman apparently caught in adultery who is brought before Jesus for judgement by the scribes and Pharisees. It's an attempt to trap Jesus as the law calls for the woman's stoning.

Jesus doesn't condone the woman's past but says "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her," before resuming his writing in the sand. We read that the accusers gradually leave and Jesus says to the woman, "Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."

Perhaps a note for our final Lenten reflections: all saints have a past and all sinners a future.



**Pastoral
Discernment**
Central Coast

Don't miss out on this opportunity to take part in our regional conversation about the Catholic Church. How are we called to walk together as pilgrim and missionary people of God? The deadline for online submissions in the local consultation is Thursday, March 31. Find out more and share your contribution at: www.bbcatholic.org.au/pdcc

Parish Fundraiser Easter Egg Raffle Tickets \$1 each

