

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*

3RD MARCH 2024 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH

ST CECILIA'S CHURCH, ST JOHN FISHER MASS CTR & ST PETER'S CHAPEL

**Under the Pastoral Care of the
Society of Our Lady of The Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)**

Reflection 03.03.24

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

At this stage of your Lenten journey, how would you rate your zeal for God? Jesus' actions at the temple might shock us, yet his disciples realised that he was acting out of his zeal for the house of God. Jesus wasn't worried about what people might think of him for getting angry. His motivation was the law we hear in the reading from Exodus. We are to put God first and not satisfy our own selfish desires or think we have the right to judge others. That is, we are to let the love and mercy of God rule our lives.

According to the psalmist, the law will then refresh our souls, give us wisdom, rejoice the heart, enlighten the eye, and endure forever! It is worth noting that in his anger, Jesus actually makes the whip out of cord to drive everyone and everything from the temple area. What were his thoughts, what was his prayer as he plaited the cord into a whip? Next time you are angry, perhaps you could take time to plait your own whip as you discern with God the right course for your actions.

A time for:

- **Forgiveness** - It is a moment to let go of grudges, to seek peace within ourselves and with others.
- **Prayers** - A time to offer prayers for guidance, strength, and gratitude.
- **Almsgiving** - To extend a helping hand to those in need, practicing generosity and compassion.



TERRIBLE MARVELOUS DUST (artwork by Jan Richardson)

You are invited to a special time of parish renewal, let's gather, share, pray and be inspired this Lent.

Facilitated by Joy Bowen, these hours will lead you to a deeper appreciation of Lent.

Where: St Cecilia's Catholic Church 23 Byron St, Wyong

When: 10th March 2024 Time: 2.00pm- 4.00pm

RSVP: by 8th March by calling Kerry on 02 43882938 or Margaret on 02 43521011
Includes refreshments at 4.00pm



The Reliquary (Shrine)

All Parishioners are asked to provide input into the development of the shrine.

Slips of paper and a green box are available in both Churches for you to record and place your ideas.

The boxes final clearance is **11th March**.

The relic committee thanks you for your support for this momentous happening for our parish. Please speak to any committee member if you have any queries. Committee

Members: Father Raul, Anna Atayde, Maureen Roast, Maureen Kiernan, Noela Ahearn, Caroline McNamee, Jo Helm, Margaret Vandenberg, and Kerry Bugden.



Project Compassion

Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result.

Leaia lives with her five children, husband, brother and sister-in-law on the island of Upolu in Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water caused Leaia a lot of worry.

Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they had to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, Leaia had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at Leaia's home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.

"We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Laura Womersley/Caritas Australia



250 CLUB 2024

The 250 club in 2024 will run for the whole year, with prize results in the Bulletin each week.

Sign up notice information: This sheet is available at the church doors for those parishioners who were not at weekend Masses when these sheets were handed out. The full detail of the 2024 Club is part of this sheet.

Numbers Sale: Cost:

\$60 upfront or a payment of \$10 by **20th** of March, April, June, July, September and October. (This equates to less than **\$1.20 per week**)

Prizes: Weekly \$50 and \$20; Monthly \$200 and \$50 Christmas \$500, \$250, \$150, and \$50 All prizes are contingent on the sale of all 250 numbers. Updates of sales numbers will be in each week's bulletin.

Information contact persons are:

Maureen Roast 0435 245 849

Anne Hooley 0428 149 793

Kerry Bugden 4388 2938

Thank you for your support.

SALE OF NUMBERS HAVE REACHED 147 TICKETS. A GREAT RESPONSE SO FAR!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St Cecilia's Church, Wyong

Every Friday evening during Lent at **6:30pm.**

Please join us, as we prayerfully walk the Way of the Cross.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT

250 NUMBERS SOLD

Weekly Prizes are \$50 – 1st & \$20 – 2nd

Monthly Prizes are \$200 – 1st & \$50 – 2nd and will be last weekend of the month.

250 Club Update

DATE	Type	1 ST		2 nd	
2nd/3rd March	weekly	212	Anonymous D	154	Dee Dyksterhuis

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



Ph: 02 4351 8004
Ph: 02 4392 8777

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WYONG PARISH COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS 2024

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

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

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

More information on the charity can be found at the web address listed: **Wyang Neighbour Centre Inc—**
<https://www.wnci.org.au>

Suggested donated items may include:

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

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



We warmly welcome the children who are to be baptized this weekend into our Parish Community. May the grace of the Lord Jesus bless them and their families.

PROPOSED PARISH CALENDAR DATES

Up until APRIL 2024

(Modification of some dates may be necessary)

MARCH

- 1st — World day of prayer
- 10th — Easter Raffle sale
- 12th — PPC Meeting
- 17th — Easter Raffle sale
- 19th — Relic meeting
- 22nd — 250 Club final sales
- 24th — Palm Sunday
- Easter Raffle Draw
- 25th — 1st Reconciliation Ceremony, Wyong
- 27th — 1st Reconciliation Ceremony, Tumbi
- 28th — Holy Thursday
- 29th — Good Friday
Holy Places collection
- 31st — Easter Sunday

APRIL

- 6th / 7th — 2024 250 Club first draw
- Charity collection for disadvantaged
Concludes
- 25th — Anzac Day
- TBC** — Official Opening, Windows Repair
Guests: Emma McBride MP &
David Harris MP

PALM SUNDAY – PALM DONATION REQUEST

If anyone has Palms that can be donated to our Parish for Palm Sunday Masses, please contact me in the office on 4352 1011 or wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au to discuss further.

Thank you kindly,
Margaret

EASTER RAFFLE—PARISH FUNDRAISER

Raffle tickets will be sold on the **10th of March & the 17th of March** after Mass.

The raffle will be drawn on the **17th March—Palm Sunday—after Mass**.

Please come down and support us in this special Easter Parish fundraiser if you're able to.

Many thanks.



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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

Assistant Priest **Fr Alex Barnedo, SOLT** ph: 0432 947 245

Assistant Priest **Fr Teody Medina, SOLT** ph: 0414 494 823

Parish Secretary **Margaret Vandenberg** ph: 02 4352 1011

Youth Co-Ordinator **Gabbi Scherer**

Email: gabbi.scherer@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH EMAIL: wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au

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

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish

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

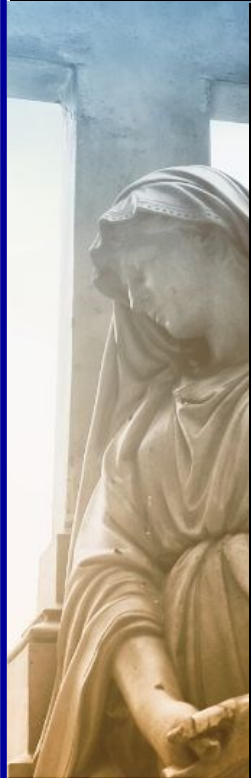
KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.

SICK: Harriet Powell, Danae Roe, Peter Ford, Harry Hall, Michael Briggs, Christine Heffernan, Jennese Thompson, Leeann Hazelton, Bernadette Kiely, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Christine, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Dave, Rodney, Gwen Dwyer, Helen Waters, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Marie Rheinberger, Hannah Hopwood, Joan Mabbutt, Irene Dainty, Eoin, Paula, Peter Meury, Jai Coleman, Danielle, Frank Farrugia, Betty McDermott, David Myers, Adam Smith, Frank Laoulach

RECENTLY DECEASED: Richard Mahinay, Carol Dafter, Raymond (Ray) Baker, Fay King (Regina Preston's Aunt), Moira Grace, Maureen Murphy, Dorrie Betts, Maureen Martin, Fr Michael Kelly,

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



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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. The contact details are on the back to the Bulletin.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading Exodus 20:1-17 (Year B)

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8-11 (Year B)

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 (Year B)

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

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 3:16 (Year B)

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

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

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

Gospel John 2:13-25 (Year B)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



LENTEN PENANCE

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

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

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

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

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

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

DAYS OF PENANCE

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

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

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

MOST REVEREND ANTHONY RANDAZZO BISHOP OF BROKEN BAY

PO Box 340, Pennant Hills NSW 1715, Australia P +612 8379 1614 E bishop@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au



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

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

PASCHAL PRECEPT

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

When: Saturdays 9 - 10.30am, commencing 16th March

Where: Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Parish The Entrance

What: The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a particular way of journeying with children toward God. It is grounded in scripture and the liturgy of the church, then framed by Montessori principles of education.

Cost: \$8 per week, \$5 for siblings



**CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY**

**To express your interest please email
centralcoastatrium@gmail.com or
call Ashleigh on 0466 255 033**

Dear Friends of SIP,

Spirituality in the Pub (SIP) Meeting 7.30-9.00pm **5th March** at the Grange Hotel, Wyoming (cnr. Renwick St & Pacific Hwy). The guest speaker is Derryck Klarkowski.

Derryck Klarkowski: Founder of the local Central Coast children's charity We Care Connect, Derryck comes from a background of a lifetime of faith and as a scientist working in both

Australia and with Médecins Sans Frontières. This year We Care Connect will reach out to over 5000 disadvantaged children in an amazing rendition of loaves and fishes. We Care Connect is centrally based on our responsibility to help others as set out in the sacred texts.

Tell anyone else who may be interested. Bistro opens at 5.30pm. SIP enquiries: 0415 129250 or 0439 678608.

Many thanks in anticipation,
Tony

Tony Voller
for SIP Committee
Mob. 0488 334446

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