

# W E L C O M E

**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*

**5TH FEBRUARY 2023 5th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME Year A**

**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 5.2.23 5th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time Year A**

*Reproduced from God's Word 2023: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield*

In a world that appears dark, what kind of light will people turn to? Perhaps it depends on how we understand the dark. Are the problems Godlessness, secularism, relativism, sex, drugs and rock n' roll? Or is the darkness more timeless: fear, loneliness, regret and despair? It seems that Jesus discovered these darkneses two thousand years ago, just as Isaiah found before him, and we find today. And the light, as ever, is 'Good News for the poor': it is a light of hope and healing; love and liberation. We demonstrate our faith and our integrity by serving the needy and offering justice to the oppressed. We become the light that others turn to, which attracts attention and trust. Only then will we be able to speak out of the power of God and not our own. As St Paul VI put it, today's world 'listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if [it] does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.' So let us be lights that shine for everyone.

# Word of God Sunday



*In September 2019, Pope Francis instituted the celebration of Word of God Sunday when issuing the apostolic letter *Aperuit Illis*. The letter encouraged the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God.*

*In Australia, Word of God Sunday is celebrated on the first Sunday in February each year.*

## Word of God Sunday Mass 5th February 2023

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### First Reading Isaiah 58:7-10

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin.

Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you.

Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.'

If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

#### Responsorial Psalm Ps 111:4-9

R. A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

#### Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

#### Gospel Acclamation John 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

#### Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

365 Pacific Highway  
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Wyong NSW 2259



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Ph: 02 4392 8777

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## SAVE THE DATE

### Palm Burning Ceremony

Tuesday 21st February

Palm Burning Ceremony followed by BBQ dinner (please bring dessert to share) to be held at St Cecilia's Church and Parish Hall/Verandah  
For catering purposes please RSVP to Kerry on 024388 2938

## All Welcome!

### Parish Brunch

Monday 6th February 11am

Parish Hall/Verandah

23 Byron Street Wyong

Please RSVP to Jo on 0424 763 734

## RAE'S STALL

### ST JOHN FISHER

On the 4th/5th February at Saturday 5pm and Sunday 8.30am Masses

### ST CECILIA'S CHURCH

On the 11th/12th February at all Wyong Masses, Rae will be running a Stall.

All money raised will be going towards our Pastoral Works quota.

There will be some lovely Succulent plants for sale as well as various other items.

## Extra Mower's Required

We are appealing for more mowers

If there is any person who would be kind enough to join us in the mowing and general maintenance of the Church (approx. 1 hr four times a year depending on the numbers we have) please contact Brian on 4388 2938.

We are also after a volunteer to joint our Saturday team (approx. 1 hour four times a year)

To make life a little easier our equipment consists of a ride-on-mower and a self-propelled mower.

Thank you.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention

### February For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

## A Prayer for the Students and Teachers in our Parish Schools for the New School Year

God of all wisdom, we praise you for gifting us with curiosity and learning.

Give to all students, teachers, and caregivers a clear sense of your love.

May they feel your presence throughout this school year. Guide their choices, their quest for knowledge, and their relationships.

Use their successes and failures as opportunities to grow in understanding of who you would have them to be.

Continue to shape them, that they may walk in the way of Christ, grow strong in Spirit's love for all people, and know the complete joy of life in you.

In the name of Christ our Great Teacher, we pray. Amen.

*Linda Witte Henke, adapted, "From the Vine," in [Marking Time: Christian Rituals for All Our Days](#), Moorehouse Publishing 2001, p. 63.*

## 250 Club Update

Numbers went on sale last weekend. 83 numbers were sold.

Thank you to those who have already signed up.

7 weeks to go until the draw starts.

See the volunteers after masses to sign up this weekend.

Any questions, please call one of the numbers below

Maureen Roast

0435 245 849

Anne Hooley

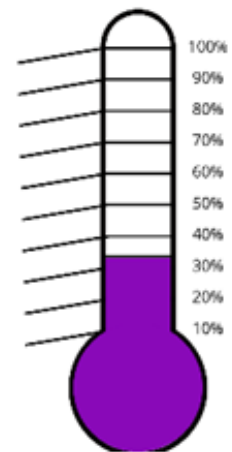
0428 149 793

Kerry Bugden

4388 2938

## 250 Club

Goal: 250 30/1/23 83 (33%)



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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: 02 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: [raul.balute@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:raul.balute@bbcatholic.org.au)

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:02 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)

### Children's Liturgy at the following Masses

St Cecilia's 5pm 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 8.15 - 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

### 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

### 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, William Martin, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Margaret Hobbs, Christine, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Carol Dafter, Dave Rodney, Gwen Dwyer, Helen Waters, Rod & Pauline Cornwell, Marie Rheinberger, Hannah Hopwood, Fay King, Joan Mabbutt, Irene Dainty, Eoin, Paula, Peter Meury, Lyn Nash, Jai Coleman, Kathleen Pidgeon

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** His Eminence Cardinal George Pell, Peter Rheinberger

**ANNIVERSARY FEBRUARY:** Bill Cullinan, John Kiernan, Rosie Attard, Natividad Dieta, Rita Muscat, Rod McCarthy, Victor Gibbs.

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



## **Vox Populi - The Voice of the People**

Last week, 25 January 2023, we celebrated the feast day of The Conversion of St Paul. It marks one of the most important moments in Christianity.

Although he never walked with Christ, not being one of the originally chosen, St Paul is today recognised as the great evangelist.

Born in Tarsus he was known as Saul. He was zealously opposed to Jesus' teachings and persecuted many of His followers.

However on a journey to Damascus to imprison more Christians, Saul has an experience that not only changed his life but resulted in him becoming one of the most important figures in the spread of Christianity.

Blinded by a light he fell from his horse and heard the words of Jesus saying "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Saul had to be led into Damascus where after three days fasting and praying he converted, and was baptised, taking the name Paul.

Now able to see, and with an extraordinary missionary zeal, Paul travelled extensively preaching the death, resurrection, and lordship of Jesus Christ, and proclaiming that faith in Jesus guarantees a share in His life. His ministry had a profound impact.

He became known as the Apostle to the Gentiles but importantly for us today St Paul helps us understand just what conversion means.

Following his dramatic conversion he had a change of heart, seeking to do God's will, and strive to do what He is calling us to do.

At the beginning of a new year it is a good time to ask ourselves what is Christ's message for each of us? With St Paul and his extensive writings as a guide, we can ask - do we hear an ongoing call to conversion, a change of heart to continually unlock and do God's will?





**More than 30 Josephite Sisters celebrated almost 2000 combined years of religious life at their diamond jubilee this month. Source: *The Catholic Leader*.**

Congregational Leader Sr Monica Cavanagh welcomed the 21 jubilarians, who celebrated 60 years of religious life, Sisters, and guests at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney.

“Sixty years ago these Sisters embarked on a journey, a journey with the divine spark of God’s love which led them into the midst of God’s people,” Sr Monica said.

“These Sisters have lived the spirit and charism entrusted to the Congregation by (St) Mary MacKillop and Julian Tenison Woods.

“They have done it with commitment, generosity, and faithfulness.

“We honour them for indeed God has done great things in them and it fills us with joy.”

Jubilarian Sr Eileen Lenihan moved from Ireland to Australia in 1959 and remembered feeling inspired by the mission and ministries of the Josephites.

“Like those Sisters, I wanted to do something spectacular and significant with my life,” Sr Eileen said.

“I read about the Sisters of Saint Joseph teaching children in Australia and I thought that is what I would like to do.”

“Looking back at 60 years, my initial aspiration to come to Australia to teach in rural areas shaped how I perceive life,” Sr Eileen said.

“I have a great appreciation of First Nations people, the experience of people being landless, a sense of justice and injustice in our society.”

Sr Monica invited all the jubilarians to renew their vows and celebrate their ongoing commitment to Jesus and his Church. Published by CathNews

### Full Story

<https://catholicleader.com.au/news/qld/sisters-of-st-joseph-honoured-for-their-decades-of-dedication-at-diamond-jubilee/>

By Hannah Kennelly, *The Catholic Leader*)

# LENT

## Opportunities for Evangelisation and Faith Formation

Lent is a graced time in our Church calendar year that offers opportunities for formation and evangelisation.

Join this webinar to discuss strategies to maximise the impact of formation initiatives such as the Lenten Program and ways to bring the Good News of Jesus to a wider audience.

**DATE:** Wednesday 1 February 2023 **TIME:** 7:00pm – 8:15pm **VENUE:** Online on Zoom

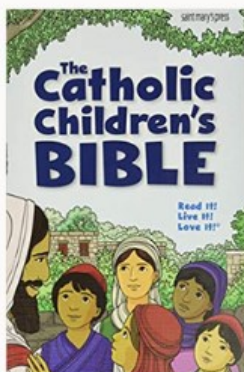
**Register at:** <https://tinyurl.com/4hy6xyfa>

**Presented by:** Pina Bernard, Team Leader Parish Renewal and Discipleship

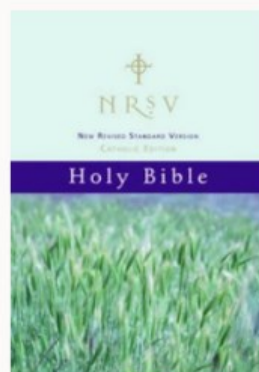
**Enquiries:** [faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:faith.formation@bbcatholic.org.au) or 0432 682 239

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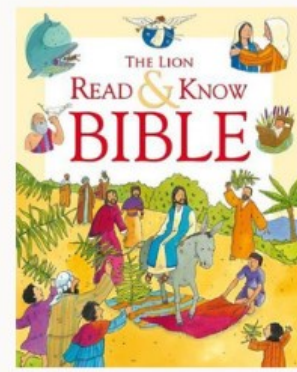
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or 8379 1627





## RETREAT SCHEDULE FOR 2023

### SPECIAL RETREATS

7th, 8th January- DRC volunteers Retreat  
9th-13th January- Greek Orthodox Community Retreat  
16th-21st January- Greek Orthodox Community Retreat  
10th-12th February- Greek Orthodox Community Retreat  
10th-12th March- Zimbabwean Women Group Retreat

### RESIDENTIAL RETREATS

STARTS ON FRIDAY, 5:30PM ENDS ON SUNDAY, 4:00PM

**13th-15th January**

Inner Healing Retreat,

**17th-19th February**

Inner Healing Growth Retreat,

**17th-19th March**

Lenten Growth Retreat,

**14th-16th April**

Divine Mercy Growth Retreat,

**12th-14th May**

Couples Growth Retreat,

**16th-18th June**

Spiritual Growth Retreat,

**14th-16th July**

Family Growth Retreat,

**18th-20th August**

Inner Healing Growth Retreat,

**15th-17th September**

Youth Retreat,

**13th-15th October**

Marian Growth Retreat,

**10th-12th November**

Inner Healing Growth Retreat,

**8th-10th December**

Advent Retreat,

For more info & bookings please contact: 02 4372 1598 or email: [drcretreatrego@gmail.com](mailto:drcretreatrego@gmail.com)

Special  
Dates to  
remember

**DIVINE MERCY FEAST** April 16th, 9:00am to 4:00pm.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL FEAST** September 24th, 9:00am to 4:00pm.

**ST FAUSTINA KOWALSKA FEAST** October 5th, 2:00pm to 4:30pm.

**NEW YEAR'S EVE** 31st Dec, 8:00pm- Confession 10:00pm- Praise and worship, Rosary, 11:00pm- Holy Mass

## MINISTRIES AT THE DIVINE

**ONE DAY WORSHIP PILGRIMAGE:** A one day retreat with a healing service is held on **the last Sunday of every month** Time: 9:00am - 4:00pm Admission FREE. Just walk right in. (BYO LUNCH)

**MALAYALAM RETREAT:** Every First Saturday of Month 10:00 am to 2:30 pm.

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** First Saturday of March, June, November Age 18+, 5:00 pm to 7:30pm

**CHILDREN'S RETREAT:** Making children enjoy their time with Jesus, we hold regular retreats for kids, children and Teenagers. (During the First Saturday- Malayalam Retreat and on Last Sunday during the One Day Worship)



## DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

160 Hensons Road, Somersby, SYDNEY-NSW 2250,

Tel: 02 4372 1598, email [drtsydney@gmail.com](mailto:drtsydney@gmail.com)

• [www.divineretreatcentre.org](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org) • [www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby](https://www.facebook.com/divineretreatcentersomersby)

The Divine Retreat Centre promotes the safety and protection of children and other vulnerable persons in its care.





“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” *Matthew 11:28*

## FEBRUARY 2023 PROGRAMS

**3rd**  
(Friday)

### 1ST FRIDAY HEALING SERVICE, CHATSWOOD

*Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, 94 Archer St, Chatswood NSW 2067, Tel 02 9410 9000*  
6:30pm - 8:30pm

**4th**  
(Saturday)

### ONE DAY MALAYALAM RETREAT

10:00am - 2:30pm

**17th-  
19th**  
(Fri-Sun)

### LENTEN GROWTH RETREAT (LIVE-IN)

*“Rend your heart and not your garments.” Joel 2:13*  
with Fr. Roni George VC and Fr. Joby Varghese VC

Friday 5:30pm - Sunday 4.00pm **BOOKING: [drcsyd@gmail.com](mailto:drcsyd@gmail.com)**

**20th**  
(Monday)

### SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT ST. PATRICK WALLSEND

7:00pm - 9:00pm, 11 Macquarie St, Wallsend 2287

**21st**  
(Tuesday)

### SPIRITUAL RETREAT AT ST. LUKE'S REVESBY

7:00pm - 9:00pm, 1 Beaconsfield St, Revesby, NSW 2212

**26th**  
(Sunday)

### ONE DAY PILGRIMAGE (LAST SUNDAY RETREAT)

9:00am - 4:00pm

with Fr. Roni George VC and Fr. Joby Varghese VC

• Praise and Worship • Preaching The Word • Eucharistic Adoration • Holy Mass

#### KID'S MINISTRY

FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN  
5 - 8 YEARS

#### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN  
9 - 12 YEARS

#### TEENAGER'S MINISTRY

FOR TEENAGERS AGED BETWEEN  
13 - 17 YEARS



## DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE

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# All About You



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