

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*

9TH APRIL 2023 SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

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 9.4.2023 SUNDAY of the RESURRECTION

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

All of the Gospels stress that Jesus' resurrection was completely unexpected by his disciples, even though Jesus had told them on a number of occasions that he would rise from the dead. It seems they did not understand what he was saying. In today's Gospel we see Mary Magdalene going to the tomb early in the morning while it is still dark. She is like you and me going to the cemetery to visit the grave of someone we love who has died. She is going to mourn, to grieve, to remember him, perhaps even to ask the question 'why'? Though she doesn't expect an answer. When she finds the stone rolled away and the tomb empty, she is shocked and confused. She thinks someone has stolen the body. The thought that he has risen doesn't enter mind.

Later, while still searching, she meets a man she thinks is the gardener and she asks him if he knows where they have put Jesus' body. The person says simply 'Mary' and suddenly, totally unexpectedly, she realises that she is in the presence of the risen Christ.

We also will meet the risen Christ in unexpected moments during this Easter season. Surely we will meet him in the Mass and in the sacraments, and in moments of prayer. But, like Mary, we will also meet him in our brothers and sisters, perhaps in the gardener, or in the stranger you meet along the way, or in those in need: 'For I was hungry and you gave me to eat, I was frightened and you comforted me, alone and you came to see me'. Then, like Mary, our joy will be full.

A very warm welcome to any new families and visitors to our Parish. We hope you enjoy your stay.

I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all those involved in any way in preparing our Lenten and Easter liturgies. We value the time and effort all our volunteers generously give to our parish. The care you give to your ministry is evident in our celebrations.

On behalf of Fr Alex and our Parish Staff Jo and Helen, I wish you and your families a very Blessed and Happy Easter.

May you feel Christ's Love in your Heart and be filled with His Peace & Joy this Easter Season and always!

Fr Raul

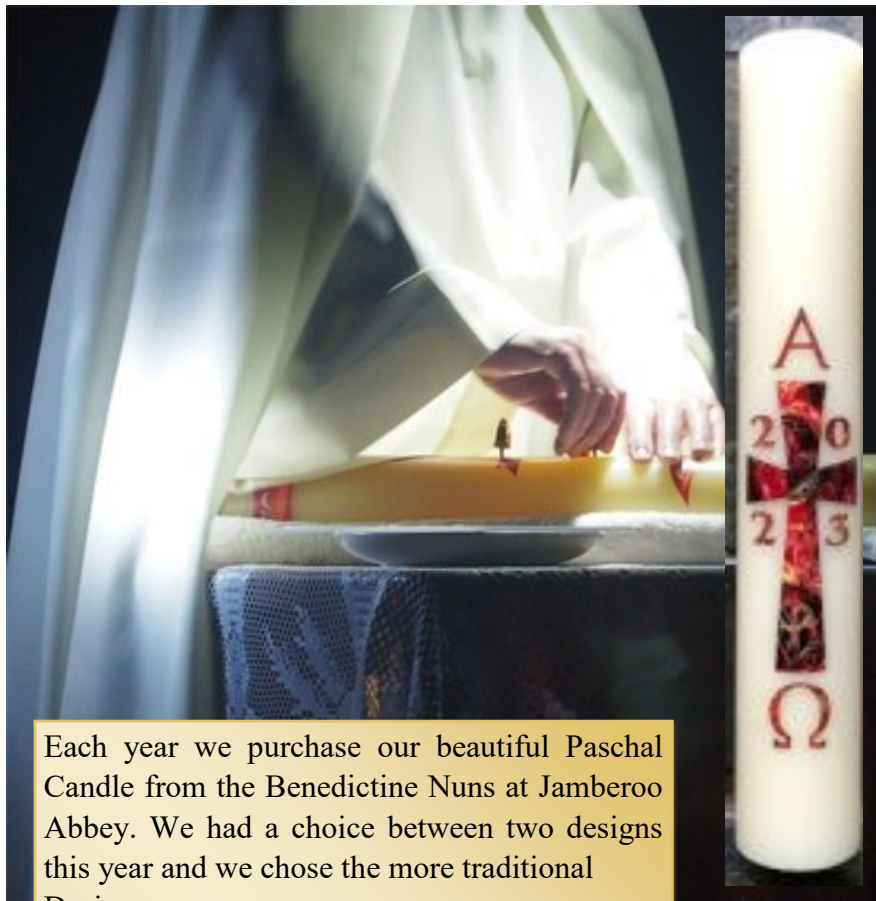
PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed Tue 11th and Fri 14th April.

Thank You

Holy Land Collection for Good Friday

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 7th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Envelopes are available for donations.



Each year we purchase our beautiful Paschal Candle from the Benedictine Nuns at Jamberoo Abbey. We had a choice between two designs this year and we chose the more traditional Design.

PASCHAL CANDLE 2023

The Paschal candle is the first candle to be lit with a flame from the sacred fire, representing the light of Christ coming into the world. The cross is a sign of Jesus' resurrection and triumph over death, and is our symbol of hope and new life.

The letters alpha and omega, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet, symbolize the belief that God is eternal.

PALM SUNDAY CROSSES

Thank you to everyone who came to help make our Palm Crosses.

A special thank you to our Mums from St Cecilia's School who also popped in to help. It was a great effort by you all.



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it is an irish honour.*



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Pope Francis' Prayer Intention

April —For a culture of peace and non-violence

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

St Cecilia's Church 9.15am Monday Morning Mass

There will be **NO** Monday 9.15am Mass at St Cecilia's church for the following Mondays 10th, 17th & 24th April.

The next 9.15am Mass will be Monday 1st May.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

In preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy on 16th April, the Lord asked St Faustina to make known a novena of prayer from Good Friday to the following Saturday 15th April. These nine days of prayer in the upper room before the Feast of Mercy are like the nine days of prayer in the upper room before the day of Pentecost. For each of the nine days our Lord gave St Faustina a different intention.

Copies of this Divine Mercy Novena which commences on Good Friday are available in both Churches.

Divine Mercy Sunday 16th April

We will be having Benediction, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at St Cecilia's Church 2-3pm

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your Project Compassion box could you please return them to the Parish.

250 Club Update

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT
250 NUMBERS SOLD!

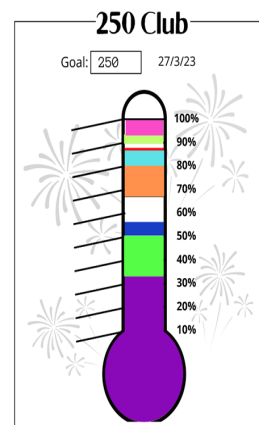
Although short of 250 when sales were finalised, generous parishioners have offered to purchase the remaining 10 tickets. The person wishes to remain anonymous.

Points to Note

Draws will be from 1/4/23 – 30/3/24. Results will be published in the Parish Bulletin weekly.

Weekly Prizes are \$50 – 1st & \$20 – 2nd
Monthly Prizes are \$200 – 1st & \$50 – 2nd and will be last weekend of the month.

The Christmas Draw will be at the Christmas Function in December. Anonymous prizes will be donated to the Youth Program.



DATE	Type	1 ST		2 nd	
1/4/23	Weekly	188	J Bentick	66	J Roche
8/4/23	Weekly	205	D Hanrahan	196	Not for publication
15/5/23	Weekly				
22/5/23	Monthly				

Any questions, please call **Maureen Roast 0435 245 849**
Anne Hooley 0428 149 793 **Kerry Bugden 4388 2938**

COMMUNITY COLLECTIONS

Please place your items into the collection baskets at both St Cecilia's and St John Fisher.

Thank you for your generous donations. Any help will be greatly appreciated.



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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, Mon 9.15am

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

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:02 4352 1011 (Wed & Thurs)

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 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 8.45 - 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

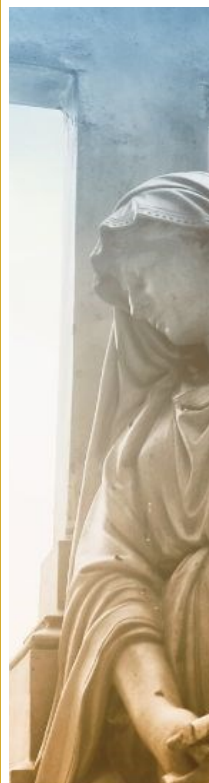
KEEP US IN YOUR PRAYERS

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, Danielle.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Tom O'Brien, Sr Clare Keating, Kathleen Pidgeon,

ANNIVERSARY APRIL: Aaron Collins, Kay Taylor, Leanne Smith, Leslie Smith, Beryl Moloney, Roberta (Robbie) Jones, Dominga & Eutiquio Diaz



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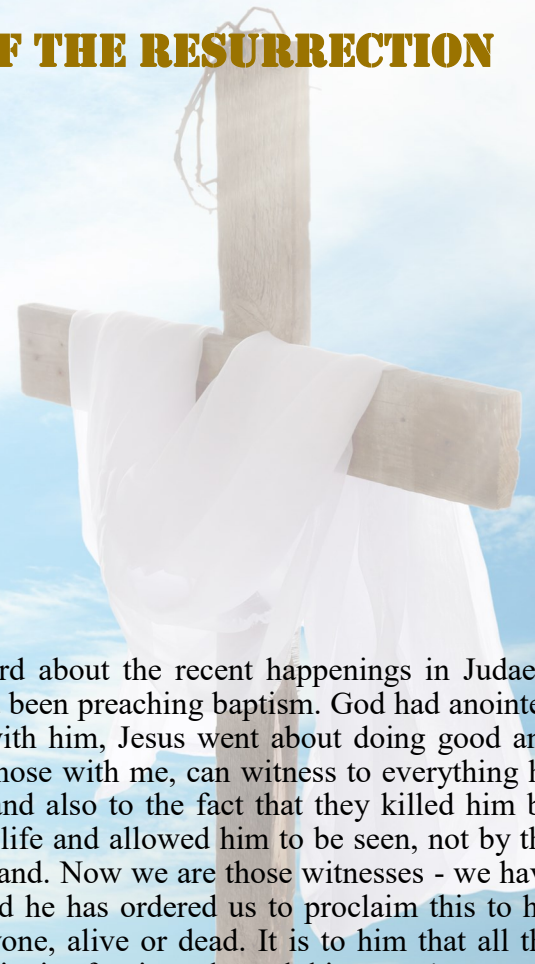
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Safeguarding Message

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.

SUNDAY 9TH APRIL 2023 SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (YEAR A)



First Reading Acts 10:34, 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

R. This is the day the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke, and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples. "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'



Office for the Bishop

Vox Episcopi 04 April 2023

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

If you search “Jesus” on Wikipedia you will find the following: Jesus of Nazareth (ca.4 BC – AD 30–33), commonly referred to as Jesus Christ or simply as Jesus or Christ, was a first-century Jewish preacher and religious leader; he is the central figure of Christianity, the world’s largest religion. Most Christians believe he is the incarnation of God the Son and the awaited Messiah (the Christ) prophesied in the Hebrew Bible.

What is interesting about this entry is that since I last looked, someone has removed the line, “that he rose from the dead after being crucified”.

It is a simple portrayal not accurately described which is not surprising in today’s world, where often only the appealing or comfortable bits of a story are recounted. This description is more or less accurate but powerless and impersonal.

Saint Paul recalls “we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him” (Romans 6:8). This is why the Son of God took flesh and broke into human history as the God-man Jesus Christ. This is why he was crucified. This is why he rose from the dead with all authority and promised to be with us to the end of time - to create a people whose sins are forgiven, and whose hearts are full of the love of God, and who are so animated by the victorious Christ, that they spend their lives with challenges and sacrifice and charity to assist others know and enjoy the magnitude of Jesus Christ for all eternity.

As we journey together through this most holy of weeks, I would invite you to spend some time, both individually and with our community of the Church, to recognise Jesus as the Christ. Remember that he is the lover of our souls, and his passion and death are for the forgiveness of our sins.

As we probe the mystery of faith, I pray that our words and actions, our love and compassion, might reveal to the world that Christ, the true Christ, the ever-living Christ in the Church which seeks to preach him, in whose body we are formed, is the saviour of the world.

Is this not what we were made for? Is there not something in your own soul that witnesses to you that this is true and worthy of full acceptance?

May the blessings of Christ, crucified and risen, be yours this Easter.

+Anthony

WYONG PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2023

We are delighted that you are bringing your child to receive the Sacraments, we look forward to sharing with you and your child, this journey of faith as he/she prepares to receive this sacrament.

In Baptism, your child began a life-long journey and a way of life. At Confirmation, the graces received in Baptism were sealed with the reception of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. First Eucharist completes their reception of the Sacraments of Initiation into the Christian life.

The Family plays a central role in the faith formation of children, and as parents, you are your child's primary teacher as he/she develops a relationship with the person of Christ and his Church. We are also grateful to the grandparents, godparents, aunts and uncles, older siblings, other relatives, and family friends who undertake this role.

As family, friends, parish personnel, teachers, and volunteers work with the children in the activity of preparing them for the sacraments, the Holy Spirit inspires and draws them into the relationship with Christ. It is a sacred time and we encourage you to enter this process whole-heartedly with the children as they prepare to receive this sacrament.

Wyong Parish will be commencing their Sacramental Program for 2023 in February. Please contact the Parish Office on 0424 763 734 to make arrangements for your child to receive instruction for Confirmation, Reconciliation, and First Eucharist. We look forward to seeing you at the Parent information night.

RECONCILIATION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE COMPLETED CONFIRMATION

Parent Information night 7 pm Monday 20th February St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong

Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 25th /26th February

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the Reconciliation Ceremony.

Reconciliation Ceremony Tumbi Monday 20th March 4 pm

Reconciliation Ceremony Wyong Tuesday 21st March 4 pm

CONFIRMATION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 3 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED

Parent Information night 7 pm Monday 29th May St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong

Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 3rd /4th June

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the Confirmation Ceremony

Confirmation Ceremony St Peters College Saturday 15th July

FIRST EUCHARIST FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 4 AND ABOVE WHO HAVE COMPLETED CONFIRMATION & RECONCILIATION

Parent Information night 7 pm Monday 7th August St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron Street Wyong

Enrolment Presentation weekend at all weekend Masses 12th/13th August

Children will be asked to attend Mass for the 4 weeks leading up to the First Eucharist Ceremony

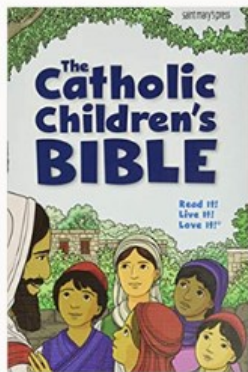
First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 8th September St John Fisher Mass Ctr 5 pm and 6.30 pm

First Eucharist Ceremony Friday 15th September St Cecilia's Church 5 pm and 6.30 pm

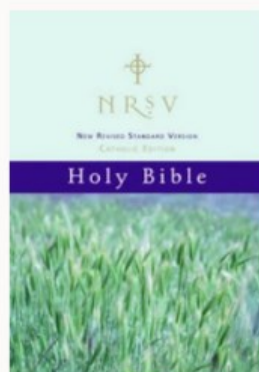
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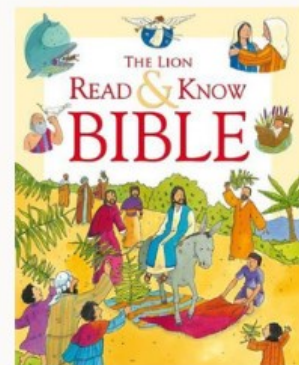
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