

### Reflection for Holy Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April

In the famous words of St Francis, 'Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Water, which is very useful and humble and precious and chaste'. Washing his disciples 'feet, Jesus uses this element of water to symbolize his way of being in the world. It is a way that we who follow him choose too. Like water, Jesus is humble and helpful, coming to serve and not to be served. Like water, he is also precious and chaste; his beauty and goodness transform those around him. Water can be passive – receiving all as gift and finding a place of peace and stillness. And it can also be active – carving new paths in hard ground and washing what is soiled. Let us follow Jesus 'example and be like Sister Water today.

### Reflect for Good Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April

Once, for a university project, a fit young woman spent a day going around the city by wheelchair. She experienced all sorts of hurdles, discrimination and disadvantages. Afterwards, she wrote about her experience, to share her understanding of those who use wheelchairs every day, and to champion their interests. Today we see Jesus accepting a cruel criminal's death: the major consequence of his being truly human. He – and in him, God – identifies with us, understands us. He may have been young and fit, but he takes on this experience of disgrace as he has something greater to accomplish. In John's Gospel, Jesus' death is also his moment of glory. God redeems all our suffering and sinfulness in this one act of solidarity and identification. We are understood, we are loved and we are liberated through the cross of Christ.

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**Parish Pastoral Council**

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## 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)

**SUNDAY of the RESURRECTION, Year A ,12th April 2020**

**We wish you and your families a very Happy and Blessed Easter, may God Bless you and keep you and your loved ones safe.**

**Fr Raul, Fr Alex, Jo and Helen**

### Easter Ceremonies

If you wish to prayerfully unite yourselves from within your homes with Fr Raul and Fr Alex as they celebrate the Easter Masses, the times are as follows; Holy Thursday 6pm, Lord's Passion on Good Friday 3pm and Saturday Easter Vigil is 6pm.

The liturgies of the Cathedral will be live-streamed and celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo from Hornsby Cathedral Parish.

Holy Thursday 7.30pm.

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10am, Passion of Our Lord 3pm.

Easter Vigil 7pm

All services will be live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNenwlf7i14XB9TsVBrLvQ>

Channel 7 will broadcast the Lord's Passion on Good Friday (10<sup>th</sup> April) at 3 pm and the Easter Sunday Mass (12<sup>th</sup> April) at 10.30 am live from St Mary's Cathedral.

Please share this exciting news with your friends.

### Reflection for Holy Saturday 11th April

Tonight is the Mother of all Vigils, the Father of all Rites! We enter the church in darkness and we come out in light. We hear the epic story of our salvation, as the readings move dramatically from the creation of the universe to its new creation in the risen Christ. 'In the beginning' God sees all and names it 'very good'. Rescues the Israelites from the Egyptians, renewing the people's faith. Then desires to free us also 'from the slavery of sin'. Comes to our dark world in the light of Christ so that, in his rising from the dead, 'we too might have a new life'. Throughout the whole journey, with its highs and lows, God seeks to bless the earth and its creatures, showering mercy and compassion on a world always in need of healing. Let us welcome God's light in our lives tonight.

*Reproduced from God's Word 2020: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield.*

### Reading Sunday's Gospel – Matt 28:5-6

"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."

Read the full text at <http://www.usccb.org/bible/>  
Or at <https://liturgyhelp.com/> (create a free account)

### Reflection:

"This morning as we celebrate and experience the Resurrection of Jesus, let us follow Marys Magdalene's example; let us go and share with others our own good news; Jesus is risen, death has been defeated, light and goodness have triumphed"

<https://oblates.ie/gospel-reflection-easter-sunday/>

### Important Notice

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the Diocese has advised that effective from Friday 20 March, in the Diocese of Broken Bay: **All public Masses are hereby suspended until further notice. Our Churches are to remain closed as well.**

Accordingly, this includes a dispensation for all the Faithful in the Diocese from the obligation to participate at Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation (cc.87§1 ;1247).

The Faithful are encouraged to keep the Lord's Day holy and celebrate Sunday as a domestic church by taking time to pray together as a household (c. 1248§2).

We understand that is a great concern for many of you. Please see the latest up to date correspondence on the Diocesan website:

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

**Please note: We have various resources to enable you to continue to nurture your faith in these difficult times. These are available for you near our noticeboard of St Cecilia's Church.**

Another way for the Parish to keep you up to date with the current changes is through our E-Bulletins. To subscribe to this please email the Parish Office on

[wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

## Easter Sunday, Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ

This is the greatest week in the Church's calendar, with an entire octave dedicated to celebrating Jesus, risen from the grave. Let us rejoice in the risen Christ and the mercy, hope and love of God poured out and promised to each of us.

*Water is a sign of life, the life of Christ begun at our baptism. Place a bowl of water on the table in front of you. Easter Sunday, the Day of the Lord's Resurrection, is an opportunity to renew our baptismal faith.*

### FAMILY PRAYER

**Leader:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**All:** Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Leader:** Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven, exult, let Angel ministers of God exult, let the trumpet of salvation sound aloud our mighty King's triumph! Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness. Rejoice, let Mother Church also rejoice, arrayed with the lightning of his glory, let this holy building shake with joy, filled with the mighty voices of the peoples.

**Reader:** A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus, we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

*Spend a few minutes in silence to think about the reading. Perhaps parents could share the story of their children's baptism*

**Leader:** Let us renew the promises of our baptism.

**All:** WE RENOUNCE Satan, and all his works, and all his empty promises. WE BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. WE BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father. WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

**Leader:** And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

**All:** Amen.

*Family members now take some of the Easter water and bless themselves with it. Make your own prayers for those who are sick or in need. Ask God to protect them. Finish each prayer with: Lord, hear us.*

**All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

**Leader:** Let us pray the family prayer of all the baptised as Jesus taught us:

**All:** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**Leader:** May God bless us and keep us safe.

**All:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Reproduced from Liturgy Brisbane*

## Keep Us In Your Prayers

**Prayer:** *The most valuable gift you can give someone.*

**Sick:** Len Miller, Victor Gibbs, Harriet Powell, Danae Roe, Peter Ford, Harry Hall, Michael Briggs, Christine Heffernan, Jennese Thompson, Martin Wicks, Leeann Hazelton, Catherine Amey, Philip Dwyer, Bernadette Kiely, Ross Tollow, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, William Martin, Terence (Ted) Dafter.

**Rec Deceased:**

**Anniversary:**

In these confusing and stressful times, we want to gratefully acknowledge the community of **Wyong Catholic Parish**. We have asked so much of you all over the years and your unfailing generosity has ensured that we have a strong community today. Whilst we cannot worship together in our churches for the time being, please know that there are many ways that you can still remain connected to us in the following ways:

Keep in contact with Jo and Helen in the Parish Office on 4352 1011 or Jo 0424 763 734  
Facetime Jo 0424 763 734 in the Parish office between 9.30am—2.30pm Mon—Thurs and 9.30am—12pm Friday.

Reconciliation by appointment. To make an appointment call 4352 1011, Fr Raul 0450 115 099 or Fr Alex 0432 947 245

We have many resources that can be collected from outside the church for example: The Holy Rosary booklet and Stations of the Cross booklet.

As a community we invite you to Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet each day with a special intention for those who are dying due to the COVID-19.

Prayer intentions—send an email or call the Parish Office with your prayer intentions. These will be prayed for by Fr Raul and Fr Alex in their private daily Masses.

If you know of someone who does not have an email or access to the internet, please advise the Parish Office, so we can arrange for the parish bulletin to be delivered to them.

There are many ways that you can stay in contact with us: through email, by phone or checking our website  
Parish Email: [wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:wyongparish@bbcatholic.org.au)  
Parish Website: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/wyong/> (our website will be undergoing some changes over the coming weeks).

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish](https://www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish)

## Parish Collections

For our Parishioners who donate to our Planned Giving credit cards, we are humbled by your generosity and thank you for your continued support.

For Parishioners who have supported us by placing your donations or envelopes on the collection plate, we couldn't exist without you. In our Parish, your contributions make up 95% of our income. Knowing that some people will not be able to contribute as they used to, we ask that you might like to consider going onto Planned Giving by credit card, to do this please contact the Parish Office.

You can also 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** (upkeep/living expenses for our Parish Priests)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection; Wyong Catholic Parish BSB 062 784 Account 13528001** (These donations provide for all the pastoral and operating expenses of the Parish)

or you may even like to post a cheque to Po Box 385 Wyong 2259. Giving to the church is a significant part of our worship and we encourage you to give what you can during this pandemic crisis.

**Presbytery Roof Wyong Catholic Parish BSB 062 784 Account 13528001 reference: Roof (Donation to date \$250)**

We will continue to pray for you and your families.

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