

PARISH BULLETIN, 28TH MARCH 2021

**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*



*Palm Sunday*  
OF THE  
*Passion*  
OF THE  
*Lord*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION MARK 14: 1-15:47**

**28th March 2021**

*Reproduced from God's Word 2021: Daily Reflections, published by St Pauls Publications, Strathfield*

Notable for its intensity of feeling, Psalm 22 (21) is the lament of a good person who trusted in the Lord and yet endured immense suffering. The Psalmist's situation of distress is described graphically but the sacred writer never loses hope in God. The psalm ends with a promise to thank God publicly once the person has been saved by God from the ordeal.

The early Christian community saw in this psalm an expression of the turmoil and suffering Jesus must have experienced on the cross, and his trust in the rescue of God. It is well worth praying in its entirety as we begin Holy Week. It will enable us to enter intimately into the feelings of Jesus as he endured his passion.

Today's first reading speaks of another faithful servant of God who endured immense suffering. And we know that there are many good people in our world today who are enduring great suffering at the hands of evil people. We remember them during this Holy Week and pray that they also may be saved from their torment. Let us promise to thank God in the assembly once they too are released from their distress.



**HOLY THURSDAY Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper will be held 7pm, St John Fisher Tumbi Umbi.**

**GOSPEL REFLECTION JOHN 13:1-15**

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This night marks the beginning of the sacred Triduum (the three sacred days) and our Mass begins the single celebration of the central mysteries of our faith. We begin by signing ourselves with the cross and we will not bless ourselves again until the end of the Easter Vigil. Three days, one celebration, one continuous act of worship to our God. The Gospel tells us that Jesus showed the perfection of his love for his own by washing their feet. At the time of Jesus, washing a person's feet was an action only done by the lowest slave of the household, because it was smelly and dirty work. So, assuming the role of the lowest slave, the disciples' master gives them an example to follow. Not an example about physically washing feet but something much more demanding. It is about loving! It is about loving as perfectly as Jesus loves us. Are we ready, willing, and able to follow his example? Who are the people today who need us to 'wash their feet'? And are we humble enough to do it?



**GOOD FRIDAY  
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

**REFLECTION JOHN 18:1-19: 42**

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At the centre of the Passion of Jesus according to John is the trial before Pilate. Convinced that Jesus is innocent Pilate has Jesus scourged and then hands him over to the Roman guard for crucifixion. Jesus is despised and rejected by the Romans and the Jewish authorities and abandoned by all his disciples, save the handful at the foot of the cross. Yet, throughout the Passion Jesus is all knowing, majestic and fully in control of events. Today we see what yesterday's metaphor of love is all about. How has Jesus loved us? To death! Not our death, but his. As Isaiah tells us, ours were the sorrows, or more appropriately, the sins he carried. He died to wipe out our sins, so that when our physical life ends, our glorious new life with God could begin. In short, his death brings us the gift of everlasting life with God.



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## HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES 2021

### **Reconciliation 1st Rite** St John Fisher Mass Ctr

27th March Saturday Vigil Reconciliation following the 5pm Mass

28th March Sunday Reconciliation following the 5pm Mass

### **Holy Thursday**

**Mass of the Last Supper**

1st April

**St John Fisher Tumbi 7pm** Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

(Reconciliation will be available)

### **Good Friday**

2nd 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**

3rd April

**Easter Vigil Mass**

**Cecilia's Wyong 7pm** (If you would like to attend the 7pm Easter Vigil Mass at St

**Cecilia's please message Jo on 0424 763 734 to book your attendance.)**

### **Easter Sunday**

4th April

**Mass of the Resurrection**

**St Cecilia's Wyong 7.30am & 9.30am** (If you wish to attend either the 7.30am or

**the 9.30am Easter Sunday Mass at St Cecilia's Church please message Jo on 0424 763 734 to book your attendance.)**

**St John Fisher Tumbi 8.30am & 5pm**

## DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

In preparation for the Feast of Divine Mercy on 11th April, the Lord asked St Faustina to make known a novena of prayer from Good Friday to the following Saturday 10th 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 11th 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**

365 Pacific Highway  
North Wyong NSW 2259  
PO Box 736  
Wyong NSW 2259



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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](http://www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish)

### Anointing of the Sick First Friday of the Month

St Cecilia's During 8.00am

& 11.30am Mass and

St John Fisher During 9.15am Mass

St Barnabas, Yarramalong

1st Sun of month 11am (4th April)

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 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 7 to 8pm

Catechist Meeting

Liturgy Meeting

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

PPC Secretary; Kerry Bugden ph 4388 2938

Social Justice Meeting

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, Leann Hazelton, Catherine Amey, Bernadette Kiely, Steve Durnford, Ann Durnford, Maureen Mulheron, Angela Watts, William Martin, Terence (Ted) Dafter, Finn McConnon, Margaret Hobbs, Christine, John Baxter, Joey Moloney, Noel Muir, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Frank Costa,

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Victor Gibbs,

**ANNIVERSARY MARCH:** JAMES & MYRTLE MURPHY, Reg Preston, Manuela Anisco, Raquel Cabiles, Anne Badge, Patricia Mutton, Trevelnne Sonter, Fr Tito Ayo, SOLT, Angelita Tabije, Rita Muscat, Margaret Leslie, Michael Conneely, Barbara Brigoli, Najividad Dieta, Jim Fagan, May McAndrew.

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## Easter Fundraising Stall last weekend at St Cecilia's Church Masses

Thank you Rae for going ahead and running the parish fundraising stall last weekend raising \$617.50 a tremendous effort. Thank you to all who supported this.

## Thank You

A very special thank you to Colleen, Wayne, Lachlan and Hayden Smith for donating to the Parish, the Book of the Chair to be used at St John Fisher. We appreciate your generosity.

## The next WOMEN'S GET TOGETHER GROUP will be held on Monday 12th April. (every second Monday of the Month)

All Welcome to join us @ 10.30am in our Parish Hall.

- ◆ Cake Coffee
- ◆ Companionship
- ◆ Chit Chat
- ◆ Craft - optional

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY Sunday 5pm Mass @ St John Fisher

We have exciting news!!! Children's Liturgy has returned to the Sunday 5pm Mass. The children come together to understand the Word of God at a level that is appropriate to them. They will participate in fun craft activities that are relative of the Gospel. We look forward to seeing you there.

**WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH** is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. We uphold that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult.

## 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 3 years for our Easter ceremonies;

Holy Thursday service in our Parish will take place at Tumbi Umbi only, and that the Easter Saturday Vigil service will take place at Wyong 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.

## Consultation for Women

Catholic women are being invited to participate in a national consultation via Zoom on 27 March. The event invites women to articulate and celebrate their contribution to and vision for the mission of the Catholic Church in Australia. The event is being organised by the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry.

Consultation Details:

**Date: Saturday 27 March**

**Time: 2pm-4pm AEDT**

**Platform: Zoom**

Participants must register to attend. Please register by **4pm, Friday 26 March**, using the [form on this link](#). (NOTE: There is a limit of 300 participants. Upon reaching capacity you are invited to register for the Wait List, which will keep you informed of availability and future initiatives):

Find more information at [www.nce.catholic.org.au/catholicwomen](http://www.nce.catholic.org.au/catholicwomen)

## SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB

Second Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2021, 7.30pm - 9.00pm

**The Grange Hotel Function Room Cnr: Renwick St & Pacific Hwy, WYOMING Bistro opens at 5-30pm.**

**Inquiries: 4365 9197 or 0498 588 261**

**THEME 2021: "INFLUENCES ON MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY"**

**TWO SPEAKERS: Lesley Earp.** Born in Nigeria, Lesley is a retired GP who rejoices in her 5 sons and 15 grandchildren. Her strong Christian faith has sustained her through tragic loss and difficult earlier periods. With Barry, Lesley travels on mission trips with Impact Nations to help change the lives of the poorest of the poor.

**Barry Earp.** Born in Tamworth, Barry practiced as a GP in Terrigal for 40 years. His Christian Faith and overseas mission work have always been important to him. In recent years, connection with Impact Nations has made mission work possible, and exposed him to God's supernatural power on many occasions.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

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

This week's message comes from Br John Verhoeven. Br John is a Pastoral Care Practitioner, working for CatholicCare, Diocese of Broken Bay at Wyong Hospital.

Pray not to be put to the test By Br John Verhoeven fsp

I am a Patrician Brother, working in Wyong Hospital with CatholicCare as a Pastoral Care Practitioner. I also volunteer in a few roles at OLR Parish, The Entrance. A few weeks ago, my fellow Patrician Brothers and I buried Br Mark Ryan. He was the one few expected would ever die. Often, this is the expectation of those I meet in hospital, death is rarely expected and plainly unwelcome. I notice that the readings for Palm Sunday suggest the same is true for Jesus.

I find myself in a privileged position at Wyong Hospital. The task of listening finds its fulfilment in the role of a Pastoral Care Practitioner. It is not simply being a pair of ears to hear with, but a soul and voice to assure the other that they are both heard and are in a safe place. Not everyone is in a frame of mind to immediately trust the stranger arriving at their bedside, yet when the trust flows I am not the only beneficiary. On those occasions I believe I get an insight into how God feels when people give themselves over to him in prayer. Paradoxically this sustains me, even when the process of dealing with many forms of grief is a draining one. We are indeed complex creatures, are we not?

Over the past 46 years my ministries (jobs) have varied a lot. I trained to be a Maths/Science teacher. Then a few Year 9 students revealed that I do not have the skills to manage a group of teenage boys. So, Parish work became a key part of my ministries from then on, mostly in a voluntary capacity.

Along the way I found further satisfaction in roles as diverse as labourer, Video Production Assistant, Pastoral Associate, Resource Centre Librarian, Vocations Adviser and Pastoral Carer. A life of prayer, within a dedicated community has remained the constant ground which gave purpose to these diverse activities.

In reflecting on the readings of Palm Sunday it is easy to miss the little things that make the journey of Jesus into Jerusalem different. Even when I remember how the cries of praise turned vicious, the reasons can be missed. Basically, the crowds, including many of Jesus' own disciples, wanted to use the miracle worker, Jesus, in a way that served them. How bitterly disappointed they were when Jesus led them in a significantly different direction.

Can I cope with this type of leadership? When Jesus leads me to a life significantly different to the one I expected, will I too turn on him? This is the question every holy week throws up for me; and most times I change the subject. Undoubtedly, Jesus would like too as well, he was not finished with his temptations in the desert, which we heard about four Sundays ago. During today's Passion, Jesus struggles with his fears to the point of sweating from grief (Luke 23:44) before his prayers afford him the grace to follow his Father's will to the full.

I sometimes wonder if my prayers have the power to overcome the fears which abound in me. To let me do the good God gave me the opportunity to carry out. If I could see God's guarantee, the risk of committing myself to following Jesus, would be a lot less daunting. Yet no one I know of, ever, has that level of certainty. In Gethsemane, it seems Jesus was tempted to take a less painful, less risky, path for changing the world. All very rational, perfectly logical too, I suppose: but clearly not what God wanted.

In the middle of these prayers, Jesus returns to his (small) community, for affirmation. If others were important to Jesus' prayer, how dangerous is it for me to overlook them in my prayer life. The role of Church community is a sacramental one, and I seek it out whenever I feel the need. If we all followed this practice of Jesus, I believe it would improve the quality of our Church community. It certainly couldn't hurt. At least fewer people would pray alone.

Living with complete faith that the God of miracles will do something completely mysterious to make good out of this deeply flawed creation is a risky proposition. Yet Jesus insists on it, by word and action, and is the way God has shown himself for millennia. The temptation to quit is a daily issue for me, thank God for the simple of ways in which he shows his blessing when I stop to listen for his grace. Pray today not to be put to the test.