

Gospel Reflection

Excerpt from; God's Word 2018 Daily Reflections

The feast of Epiphany is the proclamation of God's redeeming love for all peoples. In today's Gospel we find two contrasting figures—King Herod and the Magi. The Magi, defying all human logic set out to an unknown destination, following a star. On the other hand, Herod who had at his disposal all the means of knowing the Saviour, chooses to reject and destroy him. Vatican 11 reminds the Church that it has '...the duty of scrutinising the signs of the times and of interpreting them in the light of the Gospel' (GS 4). The Magi did read the signs of the time and met the Messiah. Herod did not understand the meaning of true kingship but chose a hostile approach to safeguard his power and went to the extent of massacring the innocents. We need to have the wisdom and vision of the Magi to read the signs of the times and to discover our Saviour present in our midst.



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WYONG CATHOLIC PARISH



St Cecilia's Church & St John Fisher Mass Ctr Under the Pastoral Care of the

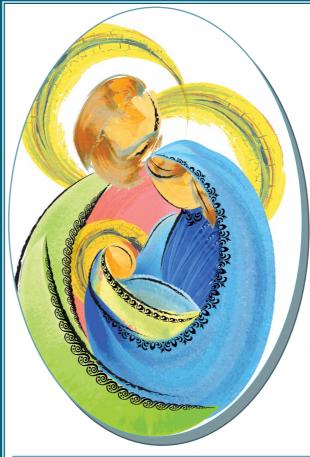
Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity (SOLT)

Vision

The Wyong Catholic Parish is a welcoming, caring dynamic community



We will live and proclaim the message of the Gospel Engage, Participate, Reach out and Transform



The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 31st December 2017 Year B

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families some- times pass. May we always have God at the center of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.

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All the readings of the feast of the Holy Family invite us to reflect on the Fourth Commandment of God. This commandment can be followed by striking a balance between love of God and love of one's neighbour. There are four possible approaches in following these two commandments: a) First Approach—Only Love of God: Christians who emphasise the cultic aspect of spirituality, Sunday obligation, family prayer and pious practices. But they have no time for their neighbours. This approach leads to self-righteousness. b) Second Approach—Only Love of Neighbour: Such people give no importance to Sunday Mass and family prayer. They are very comfortable with activities like a little service to their neighbour. This approach leads them to mere humanism. c) Third Approach—Neither Love of God nor Love of Neighbour: Such people neither have time for God nor for their neighbour. This approach leads to self-centeredness. d) Fourth Approach—Both Love of God and Love of Neighbour: Only a few Christians manage to blend the love of God with love of neighbour. In which of the above four categories can I place myself and my family?

A very warm welcome

to any new families and visitors to our Parish. We hope you enjoy you stay. Every Christmas the Christ Child in the manger at Bethlehem invites us to stop and to pay attention to the things that are especially important in our lives: our loved ones, our family and friends - and our loving God who holds us in existence, 'in the palm of his hand'.

When Christmas is over, an excellent way to grow in faith and to develop one's relationship with God is to be part of our community as we celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays. You will be most welcome!

If you would like to speak with a priest or a member of the parish staff, please call 43521011. We would love to hear from you!

May the New Year bring you and your family all God's blessings.

Fr. Raul, Fr. Alex and the Parish Staff Jo & Helen.

A BIG THANK YOU to all

those who organized and participated in all the Christmas Masses; you made the celebration of Christmas more meaningful and very memorable. May we imitate the Holy Family and make Jesus the center of our families. We wish you all the Blessings of the New Year as we strive to follow in the footsteps of Jesus in our everyday lives.



Christmas Blessings & A Happy New Year Fr. Raul, Fr. Alex, Jo & Helen

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits to be born again.
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time,
many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise Your glorious name.

Wyong Catholic Parish
Filipino Mass for January
will be held in honour of
THE INFANT JESUS
@ St John Fisher
Hicks Lane, Tumbi Umbi.
12pm, 21st January 2018
Please bring a communal dish
to share & BYO drink.
Everyone is Welcome



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Parish Office hours during the Christmas/School holidays 2018

The parish office will be closed from Friday 22nd December & reopen on Wednesday 10th January 9.30am 2018.

During January the Office will only be open:

Wed10th/Thur 11th, Wed 17th/Thur 18th, Tue 23rd/Wed 24th & Tue 30th/Thur 1st February.

Office hours will return to normal on **Monday** 5th February. Mon to Thurs 9.30am to 2.30pm & Fri 9.30am to 12pm

Phone: 4352 1011 Po Box 385 Wyong NSW 2259

Email: office@wyongcatholicparish.com

Website: www.wyong.dbb.org.au Parish Pastoral Council email:

wyongcatholicparishppc@yahoo.com.au

The Epiphany of the Lord Readings: 7th January 2018 **First Reading** Is 60:1-6; **Second Reading** Eph 3:2-3,5-6; **Gospel** Mt 2:1-12

2nd in Ordinary Time Readings: 14th January 2018 **First Reading** 1 Sam 3:3-10,19; **Second Reading** 1 Cor 6:13 -15,17-20; **Gospel** Jn 1:35-42

You may view next week's readings by visiting this web site:http://www.usccb.org/bible/

Keep Us In Your Prayers

Prayer: The most valuable gift you can give someone.

Sick: Sebastian Martino, Laura Valtarel, Eoin McAweaney, Eileen Thorpe, Gail Parsons, Michael Briggs, Paris Tabernaberri, Michael King, Maria Mercedes, Ferraresi, John Susovich and daughter Wendy, Paul Wright, Cherie Gurtner, Leeann Hazelton, Rose Attard, Deb Roy, Dianna Williams, Juan Tabernaberri, Colleen O'Neill, Les McDonald, Zoila Vasguez, Myriam Iviviani, Dianna Chapman, Miguel Magno, Marisa Martino, Charles Richards, Maria Luisa Bazan, Baby George, Jim Kelly, Margaret Skimming, Ilaria McMahon, Jannese Thompson, Bailey Ferris, Haydn Kaltanbacher, Kevin Brien, Amelia Dunn, Aurora Estrella, Jean, Scotty, Margaret Shepherd, Pat Willemsem, Justus Cesca, Hettie Meulen, Peter McEvoy, Josephine Riediger, Luigi Schiavo, Talitha Milroy, Nora Dillon, Emma Carroll, Dianne Powell, Sue and Len Miller, Cecily Briggs, Tony Fish, Terry, John Bof, Maureen Roast, Penny Taylor & Ann Brady.

Emergency Priest Contact

Fr Raul ph:0450 115 099 Fr Alex ph:0432 947 245

Parish Contacts Fr Raul Balute, SOLT

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Assistant Priest ph:0432 947 245

Joanne Helm

Parish Coordinator ph:0424 763 734 jo.helm@dbb.org.au

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Mass Times

St Cecilia's Church 23 Byron St Wyong

Sat Vigil 5.00pm Sun 7.30am & 9.30am

St John Fisher Mass Centre Hicks Lane Tumbi Umbi

Sat Vigil 5.00 pm Sun: 8.30am & 5pm

Weekday Mass

St Cecilia's : Mon-Sat: 8.00am St John Fisher:

Mon, Wed, Thurs 8:00am Tue & Fri: 9.15am

Eucharistic Adoration

St Cecilia's Daily 7am-8am
St John Fisher 1st Friday 8.15 - 9.15am
St Cecilia's 1st Friday of the month 7pm
mass followed by prayers - Mass Midnight
concluding 1am Saturday

Reconciliation/Confession

St Cecilia's Saturday morning after the 8am Mass & Saturday at 4.30pm
St John Fisher Saturday at 4.30pm

Anointing of the Sick (First Friday)

St Cecilia's During 8.00am &11.30am Mass

St John Fisher During 9.15am Mass

Monthly Mass

St Barnabas Yarramalong 1st Sunday 11.15am

Filipino Mass Every 3rd Sunday 12pm Lunch served after mass. All welcome

Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sat St Cecilia's & Wed St John Fisher (after the 8:00am mass)

Devotion to the Divine Mercy

St Cecilia's Fri after the 8am Mass **St John Fisher** Fri after the 9:15am Mass

St Cecilia's Church

Rosary Group 2pm Tuesdays Legion of Mary 8am Wednesdays

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Ricky Li (Parishioner) Phone 4355 4445 www.tuggerahphysio.com.au

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