

## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

### PARISH BULLETIN, 5TH SEPTEMBER 2021

*Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.*

**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*



**St Teresa of Calcutta  
Feast day 5th September**

*“Let us always meet each other with a smile, for a smile is the beginning of love.”*

### **REFLECTION 5TH SEPTEMBER Mk Mk 7:31-37**

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

The prophet Isaiah, more than seven centuries before Jesus' birth, wrote of a coming age when the surviving remnant of his displaced people would rebuild peace and justice under the leadership of a future descendant of David. He pointed to the signs that would accompany this new age in such verses as the following: 'Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened / the ears of the deaf unsealed, / then the lame shall leap like a deer / and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy' (Isaiah 35:5-6). If we know the Gospel narratives well, we will have no trouble in relating such texts to healing events in Jesus' ministry. These are some of the criteria that Jesus himself invoked when asked by John the Baptist's disciples if he was the long-awaited Messiah (Luke 7:22). The situation of the pagan deaf mute in today's reading was similar in some respects to that of the leper in Jesus' day. Unable to communicate freely with others, he lived a life of social isolation. Unemployable, he was completely dependent on the charity of others. Note how sensitively Jesus interacts with the man, using relevant physical contact in a context where mere words would have meant nothing to him.





*We wish all father's a very Happy Father's Day and may all God's Blessings be with them.*



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marilyn 3/9/1936  
Michael Drain 4/9/1947  
Kerry Bugden 13/9/1938

Please contact the parish office with your Birthdays and Anniversaries, we will have a Mass said for you. 0424 763 734

## **IMPORTANT - LOCKDOWN EXTENDED FOR REGIONAL NSW UNTIL MIDNIGHT FRIDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER.**

Due to this announcement St Cecilia's Church and St John Fisher Mass Ctr will remain closed until the stay home order is lifted. The Parish office is not open to visitors at this time, you can contact the office on 0424 763 734.

Please join us as we livestream Mass this Sunday at 9.30am on Facebook.

Please see the link below, don't forget to like and follow our Facebook page.

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

We know this is a very difficult time so if you, your family or anyone you know is in need of assistance please call either Fr Raul 0450 115 099, Fr Alex 0432 947 245 or Jo 0424 763 734.

## **HOPE OUT OF HORROR Webinar on Refugees**

Thursday 23 Sep 7.00pm to 8.00pm

In the wake of the tremendous difficulties currently being faced by those in Afghanistan and by Afghans currently in Australia on temporary visas.

**SJAB** (*Social Justice Around the Bay*), **St. Vincent de Paul**, Northern Sydney / Central Coast Regional Social Justice Committee and **Jesuit Refugee Service Australia (JRS)** are holding a Webinar titled:

**Hope Out of Horror – Seeking Refuge in Australia**  
Thursday, 23 September, 7.00pm – 8.00pm

This is a chance to hear the stories of those seeking Refuge and Asylum in Australia and to join a cry to Canberra to:

1. Offer Permanent Protection to all Refugees
2. Enable access to Family Reunions for Refugees
3. Offer a Safety Net, including Medical and Financial Assistance to those in need of refuge

### REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS ESSENTIAL

To register click on the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/stories-of-hope-and-courage-seeking-refugee-in-australia-tickets-166888717647>

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it is an irish honour.*



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**Plenary Council**  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

## FAN THE FLAME

Towards Plenary Assembly One  
October 2021

*'He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'*

*Mark 7:31-37*

The Church hears the cries of the poor and the groans of the earth. It seeks to stand in solidarity with the poor and the marginalised, and to exercise good stewardship of the fragile ecosystems that support life on earth.

(Australian Catholic Social Justice Council, "A New Earth: The Environmental Challenge. Social Justice Statement 2002", accessed 23 April 2021, <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Social-Justice-Statement-2002.pdf>, 10.)

[www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/](http://www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fanthe flame/)



**8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Reflection**

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

Writing to a community familiar with the Hebrew Scriptures, Matthew introduces his Gospel with a highly symbolic version of Jesus' genealogy. Traced back through Joseph, who is identified not as the father of Jesus but as 'the husband of Mary', it should be seen not as an historical document but as a theological statement affirming Jesus' messiahship. Importantly, it links Jesus with God's promise to Abraham, destined to become the father of a multitude of nations' (Genesis 17: 4), and to prophecies concerning David from whose stock would come a great and virtuous king, the saviour of his people (Isaiah 11:1; Jeremiah 23:5-6). We observe liturgically today the nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Jesus' mother; and we acknowledge her unique role in the history of salvation. Mary is also, in a spiritual sense, our mother and, as proclaimed from at least the 4th century, the "Mother of the Church". As a community of faith we celebrate with joy her natal day.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September

### **An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle**

We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.



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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: 0423 763 734 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](mailto: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](mailto:jo.helm@bbcatholic.org.au)

Parish Secretary **Helen Bath** ph: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](http://www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish)

### 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

St Barnabas, Yarramalong

1st Sun of month 11.15am

### 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 5pm to 6pm

### Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

PPC Secretary; Kerry Bugden  
ph 4388 2938

### Catechist Meeting

### Liturgy Meeting

### Sacramental Team Meeting

### 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, Leeann 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, Jacqui Stacey, Josie Campbell, Frank Costa, Carol Dafter, Dave Rodney, Gerard Byrne, Gwen Dwyer.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Lucy Smith

**ANNIVERSARY AUGUST:**

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## PARISH COLLECTIONS

**1st Collection (PRIESTS)** The financial support for Fr Raul and Fr Alex comes solely from our Parish first collection and this goes towards their upkeep and living expenses. Our Parish Priests are not financially supported by the Diocese.

**2nd Collection (PARISH)** goes towards all the pastoral and operating expenses of the Parish: phones/photo copier, electricity, insurance, rates, priests vehicles, staff wages, Presbytery, Church and ground maintenance just to name a few.

- Many parishioners assist us by donating to our plan giving program via automatic credit card donations weekly or monthly.
- As we are becoming a more cashless society we ask you to please consider this option. If you wish to donate by credit card, please complete the attached credit card form or call Jo in the parish office on 0424 763 734. You can also give **by credit card** over the phone.
- For parishioners who would like to continue using plan giving envelopes, for your convenience, you are welcome to use the credit card option on the back of the plan giving envelopes.

Or you can 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

**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION; Wyong Catholic Parish**  
BSB 062 784 Account 13528001



### Children and Young People's Participation in Catholic Communities

A Guide to Supporting & Engaging, Listening and Communicating with Children and Young People

This year the Safeguarding Offices of the Diocese of Broken Bay, Archdiocese of Sydney, Diocese of Parramatta and have collaborated on the development of a significant resource for all Catholic communities.

The resource is a publication which addresses Children and Young Peoples Participation in Catholic Communities: A guide to supporting & engaging, listening, and communicating with Children and Young People.

**To show our support for National Children Protection Week our resource will be launched online Wednesday 8 September.**

To access the guide go to the [www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/safeguarding-month-2021)

**For more information contact:** [safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au) or P 8379 1651



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Supporting & Engaging | Listening | Communicating





**Please join us as we livestream Mass Sunday at 9.30am on Facebook. Please see the link below, don't forget to like and follow our Facebook page.**  
[www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish](http://www.facebook.com/wyongcatholicparish)

**Sunday Mass 5th September 2021**  
**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD** *Reproduced from Liturgia*

**FIRST READING ISAIAH 35:4-7**

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 145:7-10**

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. R.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. R.

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. R.

**SECOND READING JAMES 2:1-5**

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION MATTHEW 4:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL MARK 7:31-37**

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

**Most Rev Anthony Randazzo**  
**Bishop of Broken Bay**

**Message for BBNeighbourhoods**  
**31 August 2021**

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Over the past few weeks, I have heard and seen some of the struggles and worries that are being shouldered in our community of the Church. I have been asked why I don't speak out more and defend the Church, especially with reference to the closure of our church buildings.

I understand the burden and would simply ask that at all times when we engage in this conversation, that we maintain a sense of respect and charity towards each other. There is never any need to vent publicly on social media, nor is there justification to mail anonymous and abusive letters. This is the behaviour of uneducated, uncharitable, and pusillanimous people. It is directly opposed to the teaching of Jesus who said, "love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34). Sledging and sniping is certainly undignified behaviour from someone who professes to be a disciple of Jesus and a member of His Church.

It is rather naïve to think that angry public demonstrations and rude letter writing campaigns are the best way to have a voice in our society today. By all means, as citizens, each one of us has the right and the duty to make known our concerns about our community and society, but always in charity and with respect. Our civic leaders are dealing with a once in a century pandemic. No one has the perfect road map to navigate our way through this time. Mistakes will be made, but much good will also be achieved. Certainly, communication between Church and State can be improved, but to presume that no conversation is happening is simply false and misleading.

I am very mindful that the negative impact of this situation is not only physical and emotional, but also spiritual. As your bishop my greatest concern is your spiritual wellbeing. A small number of people have demanded that I reopen our church buildings. To do so at this time would place vulnerable people at risk. I am not prepared to do that. Mass is being celebrated throughout the Diocese on a daily basis by myself and the priests. They are not private Masses, as Mass is never a private affair. When the Mass is celebrated, the whole Church celebrates, and every member of the Body of Christ is present at the altar of sacrifice through the communion of saints. To argue otherwise is to misunderstand the very nature of the Church and the mystery of the Mass. In the ritual offering of the bread and wine, the priest gathers up and offers the prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of every member of the community of the Church.

My brothers and sisters, I urge you to remain strong in these challenging times. As soon as is reasonably possible, I will reopen the churches throughout the Diocese, however, in the meantime, I would entreat you to ensure that you have done everything reasonably possible to ensure that you are fortified against the COVID virus. Each member of the community must take responsibility for his or her own actions in caring for the whole community of the Church and of society.

As the community of the Church, it is important that we focus on our spiritual life by creating meaningful engagement with God and with each other, despite the lockdown limitations. I encourage you to continue to pray, to make spiritual communion, to read the Scriptures, and to sanctify each day through the power of the Holy Spirit.

My words this week may seem rather direct. I mean no offence. My prayer is for your wellbeing and that of your families and loved ones. Together we must endure the sufferings of this time and unite them with the sufferings of Christ on the Cross. In the communion of the Holy Spirit, we are one in the Body of Christ.

+Anthony



## Bay Connect

Evangelisation Broken Bay has launched a new program of online events called Bay Connect. The program provides an online program of regular activities commencing on 30 August, to converse, reflect and connect spiritually online during this challenging time.

The program commences on Monday, 30 August, and includes:

- **THE CHOSEN MONDAY**

Mondays @ 7:30-8:45pm via Zoom - Join us as we go through the first season of *The Chosen*, viewing one episode every Monday, breaking open some themes and coming to know Jesus in a fresh new way.

- **TUESDAY NIGHT LIGHTS**

Tuesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Instagram Live (@cybbaus) - A place for the community to come together for prayer and to praise God from the setting of your home. All youth, young adults, singles and families, parishioners and clergy are invited.

- **HUMPDAY HANGOUT W/ BR BERNARD**

Wednesdays @ 7:00-7:30pm via Zoom - Our jolly friar Br. Bernard Mary will host the session with time for prayer, 'Banger' of the week, casual chat and an entertaining selection of activities.

- **FORMATION FRIDAYS**

Fridays @ 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom - An opportunity to get some simple Catholic formation on various aspects of the faith, from the basics to the hot topics, featuring a different guest speaker each week, followed by some time for questions/discussion.

"Through this, we hope that those in our community who are seeking opportunities to come closer to Christ can do so in a new and fresh way," said Tomasz.

To find out more and register online, visit the Bay Connect page on the Diocese of Broken Bay website <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news/covid-19-updates/prayer-resources/bay-connect>





## ANNOUNCEMENT

### Rebrand of CWF to **Pastoral Works Broken Bay**

We are delighted to announce the Charitable Works Fund (CWF) is rebranding to **Pastoral Works Broken Bay** from July 2021.

The purpose of the new name is to better reflect the authentic, life-giving pastoral work you are helping to support, and provide a name that uniquely connects it to our Diocese of Broken Bay.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay will play a vital role in building on the **six Pastoral priorities** for the Diocese, including giving vital support to life-changing ministries, nurturing families, and parish communities.

Each year, about 20,000 families and friends - those in hospitals, schools, parishes, and the wider community - will be assisted through the generous support of parish communities to Pastoral Works Broken Bay.

Thank you for your support of this important and historic initiative for the Diocese of Broken Bay.

My prayer is the change from CWF to Pastoral Works Broken Bay enables us to reach further and wider in helping our local community, and more deeply connects us to the mission of Jesus.

**Most Rev Anthony Randazzo** DD JCL,  
Bishop of Broken Bay

### August Appeal

At this time, we appreciate support that can be given, no matter how big or small. Our ministries continue to operate and provide vital services. We encourage donations at your parish website or [www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks).

All donations over \$2 are tax-deductible. Collection envelopes for Masses will be available when parishes re-open.

**Thank you for helping to renew and rebuild lives.**  
**Every gift makes a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community.**

An advertisement for Pastoral Works Broken Bay. It features a photograph of a man, a young boy with a beard, and a woman with glasses smiling together. The text "I have called you to renew and rebuild." is overlaid on the photo. In the top left corner of the photo is the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay logo. In the top right corner is the Pastoral Works Broken Bay logo. Below the photo, on a dark background, is the text "Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the new name for CWF. [www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks)". To the right of the photo, on an orange background, is the text "Donate to help families and parish communities in Broken Bay.".

**I have called you to renew and rebuild.**

**PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay**

Donate to help families and parish communities in Broken Bay.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the new name for CWF. [www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks)

PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay



## **FIRST PLENARY COUNCIL ASSEMBLY MOVING FULLY ONLINE**

At long last, starting 3 October 2021, the Catholic Church in Australia will gather for the first Assembly of the Plenary Council. Due to the current climate the format of the assembly has evolved from a large gathering, to smaller hubs and now to a fully online gathering with one person per device. While not ideal, and not what we had hoped, the national team will continue to assist and support the members and delegates so that they may participate as effectively as possible.

While many may question why we are proceeding with the Plenary Council at this time; the desire to fulfil Christ's mission, no matter how difficult the circumstances may be, is part of the thinking in moving ahead. It is precisely the challenges that people are now facing, the isolation and disconnect, that we are hoping the Church will be able to address. Please continue to pray for the Plenary Council, the members and delegates as they prepare to fulfill their role in the coming months.

You can keep abreast of all the latest news, access the *Instrumentum Laboris* and sign up to the Plenary Council Newsletter by heading to the National website:

<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>





## SUPPORTING PARISHIONERS ACROSS OUR DIOCESE

### **CATHOLIC CARE SUPPORTS AVAILABLE NOW**

As we enter another week of lockdown you may need some extra support. We are here to help and offer many services for people in need including emergency relief financial supports, homelessness and housing assistance, domestic violence support, counselling including financial counselling, disability and seniors supports and more.

Feel free to call 1800 324 924 or visit [www.catholiccaredbb.org.au](http://www.catholiccaredbb.org.au) for more information.



### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL - HELP AVAILABLE** **Lockdown assistance**

Although our stores are closed the St Vincent de Paul support centres are open to provide emergency assistance of food parcels and Coles cards. If you or anyone you know is in need of assistance, please ring Wyong Support Centre on 4353 5614 (option 1) to make an appointment. Interviews are conducted by phone with contactless food pickup at the door.