

**OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL EMERGENCY**  
0438 631 327

"He must increase, I must decrease"

**Administrator**

Fr. Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.

**Office Staff**

Raelene Spithill, Johnson Mani, Triona Meagher.

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

Vigil Saturday 5pm;  
Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES**

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds)  
Saturday and Public Holidays 9am.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK** First Friday  
4pm Mass

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE** Friday  
after morning Mass; First Friday  
3.30pm; Saturday 9:30am (after  
morning Mass) & 4.30pm; Sunday  
7.00am.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** Baptism  
Preparation - 9.30am second and  
fourth Sunday of the month  
Sacrament of Baptism - 11.00am first  
and third Sunday of the month . Please  
contact the parish office for more  
information.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT** Saturday after 9am Mass  
until 10am Monday until 9am (Public  
Holidays 10.15am) Thursday 7.30pm-  
8.30pm for the needs of the Parish.

**PARISH CHOIR** Enquiries: 4341 3367  
Practice Wednesday nights in the  
church @ 7pm.

**Christian Meditation** Thursday  
afternoons from 2-3pm and Monday  
evenings 6-7pm, in the Leo Mahon  
room. All welcome!

**St John the Baptist Church**  
Cnr Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

**Ethel Cox Parish Centre**

100 Blackwall Road Woy Woy

**Parish Office:** Open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.00pm

54 Victoria Road / P.O. Box 264 WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256

Phone: (02) 4341 1073 Fax: (02) 4341 0214

Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au

Website: www.woywoycatholic.org.au

**St John the Baptist Primary School:**

Principal: Nicole Cumming, 21a Dulkara Rd, South Woy Woy 2256.

P: 024341 0884 www.sjbwoywoy.dbb.org.au

Psalm Response

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**Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!* I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019

Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29; Heb 12:18-19, 22-24; Lk 14:1, 7-14

**Keep Us In Your Prayers** OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF:

**Recently Deceased:** Fr John Thornhill, Mary Dolan, Olive Brittliff,  
Edward Paul Hennessy, Dr William Hennessy.

**Anniversaries:** Paulina Menezes, Sebastien Lee Hee-Chang.

**Thanksgiving:** Melissa Walters.

**Sick:** Irene Beck, Kerry Baldwin, Brian Smith, Jason Simon, Vicki Pirie,  
Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morreti,  
Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Pam Player, Audrey Kirkman, Malin  
Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis Aloisio, Olive Brittliff,  
Amanda Sheridan, Audey Barsenbach, Marta Panczyna, Sue James,  
Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Jo Farrelle, Paul  
Hennessy, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Robert Parker,  
Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Sheila Rogan, Karen Chorazyczewska,  
Ian Wilks, Michael Hourigan, John Horrigan, Ed Hyland, Daphne  
McNab, Shirley Crotty, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Tim Parker, Lorraine  
Smith, Larry Cresswell, Ken Joyce, Alison Richmond, June Townsend,  
Josie Weate, Andrew Muggs, Sheila Houghton, Chrissy Toms,  
Frank Levy, Dorothy Fulton, Roger Mitchell.

Quotes from *Amoris Laetitia*... "The Joy of Love"  
Pope Francis

Here, I would also include today's fast pace of life,  
stress and the organization of society and  
labour, since all of these are cultural factors which  
militate against permanent decisions



# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

## St John the Baptist Catholic Church

**Mission and Vision**

**Bringing Jesus Christ to ALL, through:**

**Worship and Liturgy**

**Outreach**

**Our Parish School**

**Hospitality**

**Adult & Child Faith Formation**



**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**25<sup>th</sup> August, 2019, Year C (Psalter Week 1)**

**Gospel Reflection - © Fr Richard Leonard SJ**



Jesus and Satan have an argument as to who is the better computer programmer. This goes on for a few hours until they agree to hold a contest with God as the judge. They set themselves before their computers and begin. They type furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up and down the screen. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning strikes, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power is restored, and God announces that the contest is over. He asks Satan to show what he has come up with. Satan is visibly upset, and cries, 'I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out.'

'Very well, then,' says God, 'let us see if Jesus fared any better.'

Jesus enters a command, and the screen comes to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir pour forth from the speakers.

Satan is astonished. He stutters, 'But how? I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact! How did he do it?'

God looks up over his glasses and chuckles, 'Ah you see, Jesus saves.'

Salvation has, rightly, always been the big issue. Who was going to make it, how it was going to happen and when would Christ return in glory have captured the imagination of each generation of believers.

The roots of this thinking can be found in today's Gospel. The earliest Christians, especially the Gentiles, saw that the Jews had been given every opportunity for salvation. They were the Chosen people. They had the Law and the Prophets. They were looking for the Messiah. Jesus, however, did not come as they expected or act as they hoped, so they rejected him and his followers. Within a generation after Jesus' death the Jews were persecuting the Christians and expelling them from the synagogues. The Christians took comfort from saying that in the salvation race the Jews might have started as the favourites, but they had missed the start and were now coming last.

This way of thinking had a strong effect on the Church. While we have always believed in the mercy and love of God, at different times we have been hostile to other religions, other denominations and the secular world. We have often needed to express this in absolute terms about who was going to be saved and, more importantly, who was not!

The Second Vatican Council, however, reflected on the Church's experience of working side by side with religious people and secular humanists throughout the world who were as committed as we are to justice, love and freedom. In the 'Declaration on the relationship of the Church to non-Christian religions', the bishops thought more generously about how God has a relationship with all people who in turn relate to God, even if they do not name it in the same way we are able to. The Council did not resile from believing that Jesus is the way to the Father, but they also affirmed that God can work in an infinite number of ways to assist people to salvation. It is Church teaching now that our relationship to all people who share the best of our values must be characterised by acceptance, collaboration, dialogue and charity.

This does not make salvation any less important. It just clarifies for us that it is God, not us, who does the saving and the judging. Christian salvation marks us out as people who know who we are following, where we are going, how we are getting there and why this world, and the next, matters to us. Salvation gives our lives meaning, direction and purpose.

The way we live out this salvation should be irresistible to others. As the folk hymn sings, 'They will know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.'

# Parish News...

**LED Lighting:** If you would like to donate, envelopes are on the gathering table. We are thankful for your kind and generous support towards this project.

**Justice of the Peace:** Jeff Freeman is a registered J.P. If you are requiring his service he will be available before 5pm Mass every Saturday.

**Planned Giving Envelopes:** Planned Giving Envelopes are available for collection in the gathering area. New envelopes will commence on 1 September. Sincere apologies for the delay.

**Thank you** to Parishioners and Friends who attended our Songs of Praise concert to honour Our Lady last Sunday. Melodious voices filled the air and the organ rang out to hymns both new and old. It was a wonderful afternoon. Donations of \$300 were received and this has been added to the LED lighting fund for our Church maintenance.  
*Del Matheson on behalf of the Music Ministry.*

## NEXT MONTH (SEPTEMBER) IS SAFEGUARDING MONTH IN THE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

This year the Diocese of Broken Bay is celebrating the theme; *A safe community is one in which all experience a sense of belonging.*

All clergy, parishioners and the wider community are invited to the Diocesan **Liturgy** which signifies the start of SAFEGUARDING MONTH.

**LITURGY OF INCLUSION AND CARE, Tuesday 3 September 2019, Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara, 7.00pm.**

**Bus Trip celebrating the month of the Rosary** to the Schoenstatt Sisters of Mary Shrine and Retreat Centre. Departs 0800 Thurs 10 October. Cost approx \$15-\$20. Contact Carrie Shepherd 0403 147 776.

## Rosters

**Volunteer Church Cleaning 06/09/19:** Pam Hickey, Tom French, Veronica Jordan.

**Children's Liturgy 08/09/19:** Frances Giunta, Rose Giunta, Jenny Fitzgerald.

## ATTENTION READERS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Rosters are now available for collection from the servers sacristry. If you particularly want your roster emailed would you please advise me of your email address. An updated telephone number would also be appreciated. My email address is [dorothy.fulton@bigpond.com](mailto:dorothy.fulton@bigpond.com).

**St Edward's College** Year 10 graduation class of 1994 is having a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion on Sunday 22 September 2019. The reunion commences at the College, 13 Frederick Street, East Gosford with a tour of the latest facilities from 11:30am to 12:30 pm (arrive from 11am) and continues with lunch at The Boatshed, Gosford Sailing Club from 1pm (Lunch served 1:30pm). Bring the family and catch up with old classmates. Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased at [www.trybooking.com/BCWLA](http://www.trybooking.com/BCWLA). Any catering/dietary requirements can be advised when purchasing tickets. Please RSVP by purchasing your tickets by Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019. For Further information, please contact Jeff Freeman on 0419 691 572. Hope to see you all there!

**World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - 1 September 2019.** Christian churches all over the world celebrate the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation* on 1 September, and the *Season of Creation* between 1 September and 4 October – the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. This year's theme is "The Web of Life: Biodiversity as God's Blessing". We pray that all people may learn to respect and celebrate the goodness of God's gift of creation in all of its variety. For further information and resources please visit [SeasonofCreation.org](http://SeasonofCreation.org). Join the global community by using the #SeasonOfCreation hashtag on social media.

**Bus Trip to Parramatta and Pennant Hills:** Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August, leaving 8:45am. Cost \$20. Please call Susie Casey for all enquiries on 0403 417 639.

## An invitation to SRE Catechists, Sacramental Teams and all those working in Children's Ministries

An opportunity to reflect on your role as a Catechist  
Discerning Discipleship in Ministry with Children

Presented by Sherry Weddell

(Author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*)

### Topics include:

- Exploring Intentional Discipleship
- Thresholds of discipleship, with a focus on ministry to children
- Discerning our own calling as disciples, and identifying our gifts

### Time/Date:

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
10.00am – 2:30pm

### Registrations Essential:

Colleen Smith  
[registrations@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:registrations@bbcatholic.org.au)  
or 8379 1643

This is a free event.  
RSVP by 6<sup>th</sup> September

### Venue:

Caroline Chisholm Centre,  
Building 2, 423 Pennant Hills Road Pennant Hills  
Limited parking available  
Four minutes' walk from Pennant Hills Station

*Do not look forward to the changes and chances of this life in fear; rather look to them with full hope that, as they arise, God, whose you are, will deliver you out of them. He is your keeper. He has kept you hitherto. Do you but hold fast to his dear hand, and he will lead you safely through all things; and, when you cannot stand, he will bear you in his arms. Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. Our Father will either shield you from suffering, or he will give you strength to bear it.*

**Saint Francis de Sales**

**Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta, 1964-1969 Golden Reunion, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019:**

Did you attend Year 7 at OLMC in 1964, or thereafter? Did your SC in '67 or your HSC in '69? If you left before your exams, you're still welcome at our 50th Reunion!

Contact Jennifer Newton: email [fiftyyearsonolmc64-69@hotmail.com](mailto:fiftyyearsonolmc64-69@hotmail.com) or Facebook page OLMC Parramatta 1964-1969 50th Reunion (September 2019).

**Cash Housie** every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30pm and finish 10.20pm, cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6pm. Proceeds benefit the Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990 818.

### St John the Baptist Youth Group:

Held once a fortnight during school terms for high school students (Years 7-12), in the Leo Mahon Room. For more information, contact Matthew French on 0411 792 587.

**St Vincent de Paul Society** on the Peninsula assist and give a hand up to people in need. We have two Conferences with volunteers sharing the visiting or office work. We always welcome new Volunteers to our Conference. Please ring Ken 0400 335 351 or Pat 0403 672 077.

**"Mary Mac's Place" Hospitality:** volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact 4341 0584.

**CALVARY FUNERALS**  
LOW COST FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Tel: 1300 663 753  
1/77 Rawson Rd Woy Woy

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**Bryan J. Reid Funeral Services**  
1/39 Victoria Road, Woy Woy.  
**Free Call:** 1800 032 225  
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**Hardwick's on Blackwall**  
(Opposite corner to our church)  
4/115 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy  
**Café and catering services**  
Ph 0422 561 439