

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

"He must increase, I must decrease"

**Fr. Timothy Raj. M.S.F.S.**  
Administrator

**Fr. Philip Thottam. M.S.F.S.**  
Assistant Priest

**Office Staff**  
Helen Cameron & Raelene Spithill

**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

**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 © Colin D. Smith cfc



**Gospel Acclamation** *Alleluia, alleluia!* Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; he has shown pity on all people. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 12th May 2019  
Acts 13:14, 43-52; Apoc 7:9, 14-17; Jn 10:27-30.

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

**Recently Deceased:** John Hedevang, Vera Karazinov, Margaret Davin, Paul Kuether.

**Anniversaries:** Leo Bugeja, Alfred Bugeja, Geoffrey Benson, Tom Fauvette, Reg Hogan.

**Sick:** Vicki Pirie, Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morreti, Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis Aloisio, Olive Brittliff, Helen Taylor, Amanda Sheridan, 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, Carolyn Jupp, Ed Hyland, Maureen Frost, Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty, Mary Dolan, John Corrigan, Hanna El Khatib, Tim Parker, Lorraine Smith, Alison Richmond, June Townsend, Kathy Ward, Audey Barsenbach, Ken Joyce, Josie Weate, Ernie Mullins, Guy-Denis Farla, John Cregan, Francis Flagan.

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**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**

**Third Sunday of Easter**

**5 May 2019, Year C**

**Gospel Reflection © Richard Leonard SJ.**



*The Shawshank Redemption* was the hit film of 1994. In it we follow the incarceration and escape plans of Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman. Robbins is condemned to life imprisonment for the murder of his wife and her lover. Freeman says he is the 'only guilty man in Shawshank Prison'. Based on Stephen King's novella, this uplifting film is a surprise package from a writer whose fame comes from the horror genre.

The longer we watch the film, the more we realise that Stephen King has modelled his story on the Gospel of John. It is, in many respects a more modern parable about John's portrait of Jesus. Tim Robbins' character, Andy, like Jesus,

is an innocent man, treated harshly by the authorities of his day. He has to endure the condemnation and cruelty of the leading religious zealots who are keepers of law and order, while he inspires others to think of a world free of subjection and oppression where they can be free to live the life of which they dream. Like John's Jesus, Andy has big dreams and often talks in riddles, but he leaves clues for others to follow him in their quest for freedom.

In the last part of the film, after Andy has successfully escaped and the governor of the prison has been exposed for the hypocrite he is, Freeman is paroled after serving 35 years hard labour. He decides to go where Andy has gone and, just as Andy promised when they were together in prison, he finds that Andy has prepared the way for him to follow. The moving climax of the film comes as Robbins and Freeman meet on a beach, embrace each other and share food and drink to celebrate the new life both of them have discovered.

Stephen King understands John's portrait of Jesus very well. For all of Jesus' assuredness and composure throughout the Gospel, the sense of care and intimacy in the encounters with his friends is deeply moving. In the Easter Gospel to which we have just listened, Jesus returns to where his friends have fled from Jerusalem. In a parable about the growing numbers of the early Church, the Eucharist and the suffering they are enduring, John reaffirms that Jesus is intimately present in their following of him and their suffering for the Kingdom. The only sense John can make of Jesus' death, the martyrdom of the apostles or the persecution of the early church is to see them all as acts of love. 'No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.'

Those of us who have been caught up in the net of God's love are heirs to the same promises of Jesus' fidelity. Christ is intimately present to us in every act of loving sacrifice we undertake for him. He continues to send us out to tell people of the place that has been prepared for them at the banquet of life and he gives us strength to gird our loins for the times when life takes us to places we would rather not go.

In this Eucharist let's be grateful for this Easter season when we celebrate again that we have been set free from the prison of our fears and shown the way to live a life of sacrificial love and undeserved redemption.



## Parish News...

**First Holy Communion:** Please pray for our children making their first Holy Communion at weekend Masses through to Pentecost Sunday.



### Charitable Works Fund

The assessment for our parish for the year 2018/2019 is \$35 198.

We collected \$21 306 in the first two appeals in August & November 2018.

The third & final appeal for this year will be held this weekend. We need \$13 892 to meet our quota. Please can we all give generously.

**Readers & Eucharistic Ministers Rosters** now available in the Servers sacristy.

**Expression of Interest:** Seeking volunteer/s to perform Sacristan duties on a rostered basis. Please speak to Fr Timothy or call the Parish Office.

**Easter Appeals:** Thank you for your generosity. Project Compassion received \$7 449.50 & the Good Friday, Holy Land collection raised \$1 598.85.

**Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 10/5/19:** Christine French, Kathleen Cullen, Anisha Burns & Michael French.

**Children's Liturgy 12/5/19:** Mary Wood, Francis Giunta & Rose Giunta.

**Morning Tea Roster 12/5/19:** Youth group.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Next meeting will be Tuesday, 14 May at 7pm. Parishioners with suggestions or ideas that they'd like discussed at that meeting should leave written details in the box on the gathering area table.

### Prayer for a New Bishop

Heavenly Father and Eternal Shepherd, you watch over and govern your flock with vigilance and concern.

In your immense love, grant to your Church a pastor who will please you by his holiness and aid us with his unfailing care.

In your time, grant us the joy of welcoming a shepherd formed after your own heart.

May he be an example of virtue to your people and, imbued with the power of the Holy spirit, fill their minds with the truth and beauty of the Gospel.  
Grant wisdom, O Lord, to those now discerning your holy will in the selection of our new bishop.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord and through the intercession of our mother, Mary Star of the Sea.  
Amen.



## Charitable Works Fund Appeal

This Weekend.

**"How marvellous it would be, if at the end of the day, each of us could say: today I have performed an act of charity towards others" - Pope Francis**

The Charitable Works Fund is working every day to support faith-based services for the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Supporting the CWF puts your gift to work in our local faith community.

Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your kindness, your thoughtfulness and your generosity.

**CatholicCare Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Practitioner Program** – where five Pastoral Care Practitioners reach over 3,000 patients, 700 families and over 180 hospital staff each year across seven hospitals in our Diocese.

**Confraternity of Christian Doctrine** – creating and updating teaching materials and training catechists who minister to public school students across the Diocese.

**St Lucy's School** – for primary school students with disabilities.

**St Edmund's College** – for secondary school students with disabilities.

**Ephpheta Centre** – serving the Catholic deaf community.

*When you give to the CWF, you can be assured that your donation is working for the faith and the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay.*

**The World Community for Christian Meditation Australia (NSW)**  
**INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**  
"Be still and know that I am God" psalm 46, v10  
YOU ARE INVITED TO A SIX PART SERIES  
**LEO MAHON ROOM, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**BLACKWALL RD, WOY WOY**

This free series provides an opportunity for those interested in finding out about Christian Meditation to experience the practice in a small group, to learn about its origins and the teachings of Fr John Main, and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer for the contemporary world.

**Monday Evening: 6 – 7 pm**  
**6 May, 13 May, 20 May, 27 May, 3 June and 17 June**  
For more information contact Marian: 0432 882 776

### Your Efforts Will Make Our Community More Inclusive.



Thanks to Fr Timothy and parishioners for supporting Alternative Housing for low paid workers on the Central Coast. None of the developments in the local papers are related to this policy.

The policy is a new initiative and will take at least 18 months to begin to make an impact. It is planned to be introduced over 10 years. It involves mixed tenure and a diversity of housing in the private market and some properties managed by local Not for Profit groups. Local people can not compete with the rise in housing costs. Victims of domestic violence, sudden illness, and full single pensioners will benefit.

Your efforts will make our community more inclusive.

Warnervale/Toukley Social Justice Committee.

[www.marymackillopsocialjustice.wordpress.com](http://www.marymackillopsocialjustice.wordpress.com)

**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 Joan 0422 272 339.

**"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.



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

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