

**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**  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*  
With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

Readings: 14th April 2019 Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Lk 22:14-23:56.

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

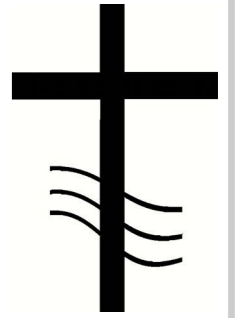
**Recently Deceased:** Oliver Kenny, Pamela Aarts.  
**Anniversaries:** Frank Savage, Gwen McCarthy, Yves Stanislas, Geertruida Voormeulen, Natalie Mrvica, Susana Alejga, Pedro & Damiana Bulual.  
**Remembrances** Mary, Katerina & Frank Justic, Sergei de Souza, Helen Goodwin.  
**Sick:** Vicki Pirie, 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, Leon de Pradines, Margaret Davin, 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, Carolynn Jupp, Ed Hyland, Carmel Diorio, Maureen Frost, Ian Wilks, Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty, Mary Dolan, John Corrigan, Anne Gan, Hanna El Khatib, Tim Parker, Lorraine Smith, Alison Richmond, June Townsend, Kathy Ward, Paul Kuether, Ken Joyce, Josie Weate.

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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

#### 5th Sunday of Lent

7 April 2019, Year C (Psalter Week 1)

Gospel Reflection © Richard Leonard SJ.

There is a tough phrase at the end of the Gospel we have just heard; 'Go and sin no more.' It's like a sting in the tail, standing in contrast to the compassion of Jesus in his encounter with the woman. Yet, on closer inspection, it is the most important phrase in the story. And that's saying something because this dramatic event is the only one in the Gospel where Jesus confronts sexual sin, where only the woman is dragged from the scene of the crime to answer the charge of adultery. Is it any wonder that in some early manuscripts of John's Gospel this story was left out, its authorship questioned? The dangerous memory of Jesus' compassion toward the woman was too strong in the minds of John's community for it to be excluded, however, and so it remains as an inspired text for us to make our own. It is sometimes very important to hear Jesus say to us, especially in the area of our sexuality, 'I do not condemn you.'

So often, however, we want Jesus to leave it at that. But Jesus goes further. He tells it as it is. If any of us want life and want it to the full, we have to stop doing the destructive things that get us into trouble in the first place. It does not matter if it is drinking, gambling, eating, working, stealing, sexual dysfunction, being into pornography, being violent at home or any other type of obsessive compulsive behaviour, there is little point in being sorry for the consequences of our weaknesses and not changing the pattern of behaviour that leads us to ruin each time. Twelve step programs enshrine the wisdom of today's Gospel in how they help us to own up to the destructive behaviour of our lives and yet give us hope to live beyond our worst moments.



Steps four to ten say:

- Step 4. I have made a searching and fearless moral inventory of myself.
- Step 5. I have admitted to God and to another the exact nature of my wrongs.
- Step 6. I am entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
- Step 7. Humbly ask God to remove my shortcomings.
- Step 8. Made a list of all persons I had harmed and became willing to make amends to them all.

Step 9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible except where to do so would injure them or others.

Step 10. Continued to take personal inventory and when I was wrong promptly admitted it. The thing I like best about these is that they are pro-active. They alert us to the fact that the best pathway to know healing and forgiveness is not to be passive, but to be active and admit our own faults and work to heal them. Some of us may have been given a tough hand from life's deck of cards, but we do not have to be passive victims, never able to change the cycles of destructive behaviour. If the steps work and we trust today's Gospel then we can be happy, healed and forgiven because we heal and forgive others. Jesus bestows great dignity on the woman by saving her from being condemned to death, but even more so he knows that it does not have to be like this and so challenges her to turn her life around. May we hear the same challenge in this final week of Lent. No matter what we have ever done, sexually or otherwise, we are greater than our worst moments. Jesus loves us enough not to condemn us, but to give us this Eucharist so that we might find the strength and hope to stop doing the things that destroy us and to live a life that leads to peace and joy.

## Parish News...

**Fr Philip will be leaving us** to take up the role of Administrator of Warnervale Parish until December 2019. He will relocate to Warnervale on 29 April 2019. A farewell will be organised on Sunday, 28th April—details to follow.

**First Communion 2019:** Please keep the candidates in your prayers as they receive final instruction next week.

**Sacrament of Penance:** Saturday morning time will change from 11:30am to 9:30am (after 9am Mass).

**Volunteers required** to cut palm fronds for Palm Sunday *this coming Friday (12th April)* after morning Mass. Please notify the Parish office if you can help, and bring your gloves and secateurs.

**Readers Roster for Holy Week:** Please advise of your availability to assist by writing your name on the list in the servers sacristy.

**Wardens:** Please write your name on the list in the wardens cupboard if you are able to assist during Easter Masses.

**2nd Rite of Reconciliation:** to be held in our church on Thursday, 11th April at 7pm.

Kincumber Parish, Monday, 8th April at 7pm

Wyoming Parish, Tuesday, 9th April at 7pm

East Gosford Parish, Wednesday, 10th April at 7pm

**Chrism Mass:** will be celebrated at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 16 April at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. The parish bus will be available, leaving at 5.15pm. Please call the parish office on 4341 1073 to book a seat.

**Children's Liturgy 14/4/19:** Celeste Boonaerts, Gerri O'Keefe & Rebecca Beisler.

### Fransalian Quote

"Anxiety is a temptation in itself and also the source from and by which other temptations come. Therefore, above all else, calm and compose your mind.

Gently and quietly pursue your aim."

St. Francis de Sales

### Mass on Wednesday nights during Lent:

At 6.30pm there will be Stations of the Cross followed by Mass (approx. 6.50pm).

### The Light is On for you.

Quiet time and prayer with the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday evening, 7pm-8pm, April 12. There will also be Stations of the Cross from 6.30pm & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our church on these nights.

**Ecumenical Dawn Service** on Easter Sunday morning, 21st April, 6am at Umina Beach Surf Club. Fr Timothy is preaching the homily & it is a very fulfilling service—please make an effort to come. Breakfast will be served at the Salvation Army Umina after the service.

**Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 12/4/19:** Michael French, Christine French, Cheryl Sillick & Laurie Jarvis.

**Morning Tea Roster 14/4/19:** Filipino Community.

**Bus trip to Warners Bay:** Wednesday, 17th April, leaving 9am. Morning tea at Morrisset, lunch at Belmont Sailing Club. Cost \$20. Call Susie 0403 417 639.

**Project Compassion:** Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season, which is themed "Give Lent 100%". You are empowering communities with hope and helping those in great need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Lives change when we all give 100%. You can also donate by phoning 1800 024 413 or [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion).

The Pastoral Council would love to hear your thoughts and ideas. A box has been placed on the table in the gathering area.

*How can we bring Jesus Christ to ALL through Hospitality?*

*How can we bring Jesus Christ to ALL through Faith Formation?*

The next Parish Pastoral Council gathering is **Tuesday, 9th April, 7pm in the Leo Mahon Room.** Pina Bernard from the Office for Evangelisation will also be in attendance. All are invited to attend or place your thoughts or ideas in the box provided.

**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

### Holy Week 2019

#### Holy Thursday

**7:00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper**

#### Good Friday

**9:00am - Stations of the Cross -  
in our Church**

**10:00am - Stations of the Cross at  
SJB Primary School**

**21a Dulkara Rd South Woy Woy**

**12:00pm—Last Seven Words of Jesus**

**3:00pm - The Lord's Passion**

#### Easter Saturday

**8:00am - Devotion to Mother of  
Sorrows**

**7:00pm—Easter Vigil**

#### Easter Sunday

**7:30am, 9:15am and 6:00pm**

#### Easter Monday

**9:00am**

**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.

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