

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 11.30am & 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



The Lord gave his people bread from heaven.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 19th August 2018
Prov 9:1-6; Eph 5:15-20; Jn 6:51-58.
Readings can be found at www.usccb.org/bible/

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

Recently deceased: Eileen Mayne, Carmel Krole.

Anniversaries: Sr Margaret Mayne RSM.

Remembrances: Rogelio Perez Jnr,

Sick: Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Joy Ball, 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, Margrate Sofie, Thambu George, Marta Panczyna, Sue James, Mary Wood, Vicki Pirie, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Jo Farrelle, Yvonne Beattie, John Buatava, Paul Hennessy, Sue Rose, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Ron Goodwin, Janice Green, Elaine Finlayson, Louisa Dunne, Peter Brunty, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop.

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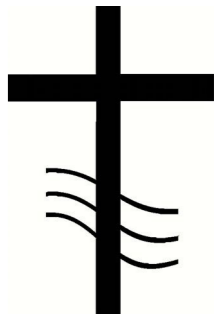


WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

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



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B 12th August, 2018, Year B (Psalter Week 3)

Gospel Reflection © Richard Leonard SJ



Around the world there are women's shelters run by the St Vincent de Paul Society called 'Manna House'. It's an inspired name for such an important work. Women and their children, in the midst of fear, and having suffered terrible abuse, are welcomed into a safe-haven where they can be loved and looked after. It's a temporary respite where broken families can piece their lives back together and be revived for the journey ahead.

What happens at 'Manna Houses' for women at risk happens for each of us when we come to the Eucharist. We receive manna from heaven. It's our stop on the journey of faith so that we can go out spiritually revived to be the face of Christ in the world. Sometimes we need this 'manna come down from heaven' when we are spiritually most at-risk.

I love the fact that as Catholics we believe that Christ is present in ordinary gifts of bread and wine blessed and offered at the Eucharist. We don't just believe that Christ is present in sunrises, sunsets and in natural beauty, we also believe that God comes to us in a special and unique way in the simple, ordinary things of life. And it is in what we do with these gifts of bread and wine that Christ is really present. The earliest Christians called the Eucharist 'the breaking of the bread'. It is the broken bread and the poured cup given into our hands to which we say 'Amen' and so affirm our belief that Christ is present here.

We often need to be reassured of Christ's presence when we are in the desert periods of our own life. We can feel we are wandering around in the wilderness looking for some sign of God's life. For all of us who are broken in mind, body or spirit, or who are pouring ourselves out in love for other people, communion is precisely the time Jesus meets us where we are. Is it any wonder that the Eucharist means so much to us? May we never feel as though we are not good enough to be here, for Jesus has invited us to his table where we are loved and cared for.

As important as the Eucharist is, however, it is not 'ours', in the sense that we can selfishly hold on to the gifts we receive here. We are given Christ in Word and Sacrament, so we can become Christ. In a sense Jesus says the same thing in today's Gospel when he talks about how the Father draws people to faith.

Sometimes we can fall into the trap of thinking that faith is only an intellectual exercise. As important as good thinking and the power of strong arguments might be, the truth of faith is best demonstrated on an emotional and intuitive level when others see the power of God's saving love active in the way we live our lives. This is what really captures people's attention, and draws them to ask what gives our lives this quality, direction, purpose and meaning.

So may this respite from the journey of faith dispel our fears, revive us for the task ahead and enable us to live as though the only Bible others will read will be our lives, and the only Sacraments that will captivate them and draw them to Christ will be our justice and joy.

Parish News...

Confirmations: A big thank you to Dorothy & the Sacramental team leaders preparing the 92 children for Confirmation last Friday evening. Thanks to Fr Timothy & Fr Philip, servers, musicians, parents, sponsors & families for making it a wonderful celebration for the children.

Solemnity of the Assumption: Wednesday, 15th August. The Assumption is, in Australia, a holy day of obligation. Morning Mass will be the usual time of 7:45am and an evening Mass will be held at 7pm. A school Mass will also be held at 12 noon. **The Parish Bus** will be available for the 7:45am Mass, if there are sufficient parishioners who would like to use the service. If you would like a seat on the bus, please ring the Parish office before 12 noon on Monday, 13th August. Parish phone 4341-1073. Ivan will be driving. Our Parish Courtesy Bus is not equipped to carry walkers safely. We regret that patrons are not permitted to carry walkers onto our bus. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Walkers are retained by the Church for use by patrons of the Courtesy Bus who would need them when they arrive at the Church for Mass.

Parish Pastoral Council: Next meeting will be Tuesday, 14 August at 7pm.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 17/8/18: Kevin Glacken, Kathleen Cullen, Bill Cantley, Mabel Torres.

Children's Liturgy 19/8/18: Mary Wood, Lisa Hutchinson, Hannah El Khatib.

Catechist's Monthly meeting: Thursday, August 23rd, 9:00am in the Leo Mahon Room.

HSC trial exams continue over the next couple of weeks. Everyone's prayers welcome.

Charitable Works Fund: The assessment for our parish for this financial year is \$35 198. The first of three appeals was held last weekend & raised \$9 420. Thank you for your generosity.

Tax Receipts for Charitable Works Fund (CWF) for last financial year are available in the gathering area.

The Live, Pray, Love, Project:
Healing in the Family with Sister Margaret Scully RSC
When: Weekend 29-30 Sept 2018 (Saturday 10.15am, concluding with Mass at 5pm) (Sunday 11.00am to 2.00pm, preceded by Mass at 9.15am)
Where: Leo Mahon room,
Please bring a plate to share
Cost: \$10 registration before 21 Sept 2018:
- cash into Woy Woy parish office or
- BSB 062784 Acct 12006100 Reference [Initial and Surname] 'LPL'
Information: Please contact Gladys on 0421 312 362 for more information. It is recommended that if you can only attend on one day, it should be the Saturday.

Pilgrimage with Fr Timothy: to Fatima, Spain, Lourdes & Medjugorje. 16 days, 17 May -1 June 2019. \$6,950. More detailed information is available on the gathering area table. Those interested may leave their names with the Parish Office.

Rev Dr David Ranson has been duly elected as Diocesan Administrator. Fr David will lead the Diocese of Broken Bay until the Holy Father, Pope Francis, appoints a new bishop.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August The Treasure of Families

That any far-reaching decisions of economists and politicians may protect the family as one of the treasures of humanity.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE UNITY OF ALL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES? If you are come and hear Rv. Professor Gerard Kelly the chair of the Faith and Unity Commission of the National Council of Churches in Australia speak. Title of talk is "Why are we involved in a movement for Christian Unity?"
Saint Mary of the Cross Catholic Church, Mary MacKillop Dr, off 91 Sparks Road, 7pm Wednesday, 29th August 2018.
ALL WELCOME.

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 Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990 818.

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 Peter 0425 358 376 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.

15 Days Pilgrimage of a Lifetime to Jordan and Israel, May 2018

By Phil Curtis. (continued).
We arrived in **Nazareth** where we visited the Basilica of the Annunciation and then continued to St Joseph's Workshop and Mary's house. Nazareth is the site of the Annunciation and the childhood of Jesus. The crypt of the Basilica includes the cave where the Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary. Whilst in Nazareth a Palestinian man asked me if I was American. I said, "No, I am Australian." His words were "You are very welcome in my country." I was touched by his kind remark.
We departed from the Roman city of Tiberias for a boat ride across the **Sea of Galilee**, on a boat which would have been a replica of the one Jesus would have travelled on. Mass was celebrated on the boat and this was special. The Sea of Galilee is Israel's chief source of water.
Leaving Nazareth, we continued to **Haifa**, the home of the world center of the Bahai faith. We visited the beautiful Bahai Garden. The Garden was inscribed in 2008 on the UNESCO World Heritage list.
(to be continued next week)

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.

Catechist Helpers: We have temporarily lost two valuable teachers and one helper and we are finding that our class numbers, particularly in composite classes, is putting an extra burden on teachers. In an ideal world every class would have a teacher and a helper, a **valuable member of the ministry** who is there to assist individual children with activities, help the children focus, lead them in prayers and help with reading. It's a lovely role and you can be as involved in the lesson as you want.
We'd love to have more helpers, so if you have an hour a week, please call me and learn more. Susie 0411 566 622.

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