

**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



O Taste and see the good - ness of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**  
*Alleluia, alleluia!* All who eat my flesh and drink my blood live in me and I in them, says the Lord. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 26th August 2018  
Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69.

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

**Recently Deceased:** Kevin Brien.

**Anniversaries:** Rogelio Perez Jnr, Sally King, Damiana & Pedro Bulual, Denise Anthony, Teresa Lee Min-Yong, Sebastian Lee Hee-Chang, Desmond Brien, Vince Leonard, Paul Stormon, David Tullipan, Paulina Menezes, Umiliano Menezes, Pasquale & Giuseppina Sergi, Enrico & Caterina Zappavigna, Vince Zappavigna, David Staunton, Jannette Moroney, Wanda Grima, Tom Smith, Alan Player.

**Remembrances:** Saviour Grima, John Catania, Shirley & Ken Job, Laurel Smee, Biddy & Erwyn Elliott.

**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, 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.

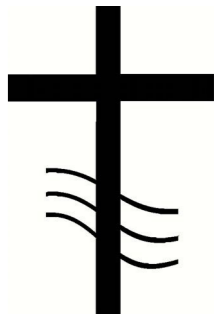
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# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

## 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**

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**  
**19th August, 2018, Year B (Psalter Week 4)**

**Gospel Reflection © Fr Michael Tate**



When I was a boy (is it so long ago?) it was still the rule at Mass that only the priest drank from the chalice. One of the great actions of the Church over the last fifty years has been the recovery of the ancient practice of offering Holy Communion under the appearance of both bread and wine.

The reception of both the consecrated bread and the consecrated wine is in perfect harmony with today's Gospel: 'Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life.' Note the present tense: 'has' – right now! This is because, as St John Paul II put it: 'We digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection.'

Of course, Our Risen Lord is really present under the appearance of either the bread or the wine. For a Jew, (unlike the Greeks) the *body* was absolutely core to being the person one is. For a Jew, *blood* was identified as the life-force of any animal. So, for the Jewish Jesus, to say 'This is my body ...this is my blood' was to gift us his core identity, his deepest vitality. Either the consecrated blood or consecrated wine gives us His whole life.

But to receive both the Heavenly Bread and the Spiritual Drink does enable us to more fully respond to Our Lord at the Last Supper: 'Take, eat ...take, drink'. Then the words of today's Gospel can more physically resonate in our own bodies: 'He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I in him.'

We could take a moment to pray in thanksgiving that we are able to join in the tradition starting with the Apostles at the Last Supper and, in doing so, to enter into Holy Communion with the only One who can embody in us the secret of His resurrection.

## Parish News...

### 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.

**Cuppa and a Chat:** A group of seniors meet every third Monday in the Leo Mahon room, due 20th August, 1.00pm-2.30pm. If you would like to join us phone Bernard 4341 6343. Transport provided.

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

**Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 24/8/18:** Christina Thorson, Cheryl Sillick, Jo McMillan, Bev Whackett.

**SVdP Volunteers Mass:** Saturday, 25/8/18, 9am.

**Children's Liturgy 26/8/18:** Brenda Sweet, Michael Dixon, Shadeeqh Quai Hoi.

**Morning Tea Roster 26/8/18:** Live, Pray, Love Project.

**Bus Trip:** to Windsor, Wednesday 5th September, leaving 8:45a.m. Cost \$20, morning tea included. Contact Susie Casey 0403 417 639.

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

**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.

### Plenary Herald

It is just over eighty years since the Australian church last conducted a Plenary Council. A Plenary Council is, therefore, in Australia, an extraordinary church event. Why now?

There appear to be, at least, four catalytic circumstances leading towards the Plenary Council to be held in 2020/21.

The first is a growing awareness amongst the Australian bishops that the church is suffering a crisis of credibility. This has been attested by archbishops Coleridge (Brisbane), Costelloe (Perth), and Fisher (Sydney) in their testimonies to the Royal Commission.

The second is the growth of a reform movement among faith-filled, articulate and theologically educated lay people. The most prominent of these is *Catholics for Renewal* in Melbourne.

The third is the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and the Catholic responding body, the Truth, Justice and Healing Council.

The fourth and, undoubtedly, the most influential, is the charismatic leadership of Pope Francis.

The confluence of these four sets of circumstances suggests the action of the Holy Spirit. What is important, now, though, is that the Australian bishops clearly intend the council to be a reforming council. The bishops are relying on the support and the participation, not only, of the lay reformers mentioned above, but also on all the People of God speaking with the authority of the Holy Spirit.

Now is the time for all Catholics to embrace this reform and Speak Up!

### Donations for LED Lighting Upgrade

The Parish Finance Committee has approved the proposal to reduce ongoing electricity costs by upgrading the lighting within the site to LED's with NSW's Energy Saving Scheme. The upgrade will cost \$15 192. Donations may be placed in an envelope clearly noting "LED lighting upgrade" & may be placed with either collection bag or brought to the Parish Office. For your convenience a supply of these donation envelopes is available on the gathering area table.

**Social Justice Group Warnervale:** On behalf of our committee we would like to extend our thanks to Father Timothy and Father Philip for allowing us to speak about affordable housing. Your response and generosity of spirit was heartening. Christ's action of caring for the sick, the hungry and the poor empowers us to take responsibility and act. Each person who signed the petition and has written or will write reflects Christ into the world. Thank you for accepting us but also for being Christ in His World. Your efforts will be joined to those of Toukley, Warnervale, Lake Munmorah, Wyong and The Entrance. Margaret Hagan, Chairperson Social Justice Committee, Warnervale Catholic Church.

**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 stopped at the Sanctuary of Stella Maris, Our Lady of Mt Carmel where we celebrated Mass. This location is also associated with the prophets Elijah and Elisha. The Cave of Elijah is found inside the Carmelite Church. The Carmelite order was founded near here. From here we continued south along the Mediterranean Coast where we viewed the remains of the Roman Aqueduct.

**Bethlehem** – One of the oldest churches in the world where it all began, the church of the Nativity. The grotto of the Nativity is the Church's focal point. A Silver star is set in the floor over the spot where Jesus is said to have been born. The church contains the various chapels of Catholic, Armenia and Greek orthodox Christians. The Franciscan Grotto of the Lady Mary is the site believed to be where Mary and Joseph took Jesus for refuge from King Herod. The Shepherds' Field is believed to be the location where the Shepherds saw the Star that led them to baby Jesus. We attended Mass in one of the side chapels in the Church with a statue of the Baby Jesus on the altar. We sang Christmas hymns here and it was a touching and memorable moment. As there are no taxes in Bethlehem, we were able to do some good cheap shopping. We bought leather sandals and bags for \$10 and \$15 US respectively.

*(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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