

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.

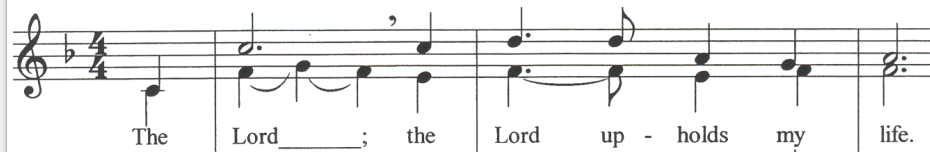
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
Baptism Preparation - 9.30am second
and fourth Sunday of the month
Sacrament of Baptism - 11.00am first
and third Sunday of the month . Please
contact the parish office for more
information.

**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



Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share
in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 30th September 2018
Num 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48.
Readings can be found at www.usccb.org/bible/

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

Recently Deceased: Elise Winkel, Joseph Arahill.

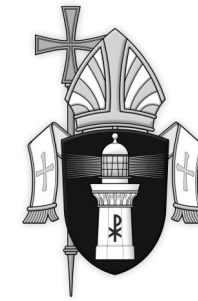
Anniversaries: Ron Dixon, John Gatt, Jack Dunne,
Bill, Mickey & William Lamm.

Remembrances: Grima family, Bugeja family, Catania family,
Remegio Ambrosio Sr, Molly Dunne, Sara Selim.

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, , 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, Janice Green, Elaine Finlayson,
Louisa Dunne, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbib.

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WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

St John the Baptist Catholic Church

Mission and Vision

Bringing Jesus Christ to ALL, through:

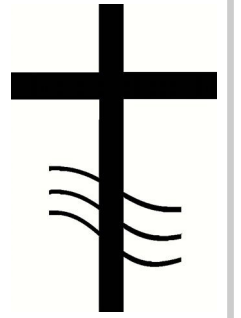
Worship and Liturgy

Outreach

Our Parish School

Hospitality

Adult & Child Faith Formation



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B
23rd September, 2018, Year B (Psalter Week 1)

Gospel Reflection © Richard Leonard SJ

It's hard to see what the disciples don't get when Jesus tells them in fairly plain language that because of the way he lives and what he says he will be put to death by the power barons of his day. The disciples seem to think the Passion is going to be an event out of *Boy's Own Annual*, where the ensuing campaign will see greatness thrust upon them. In this context, Jesus takes the smallest and most vulnerable of people in their society and teaches the disciples that greatness comes through care of the least.

This is a powerful lesson. Greatness in the world – power, connections, wealth, influence, reputation and learning – only counts for something in the Kingdom of God when put at the service of the most vulnerable of our society. Greed, riches and pride are so alluring, so seductive for us in the Church, as much as for those outside it, that we need to regularly examine our consciences to assess the motivations and results of what we are doing, and why we are doing it. When I read today's Gospel, however, I also feel sad. I cannot help but reflect on how unintentionally prophetic Mark was being in linking the prediction of Jesus' passion with the status of a child.

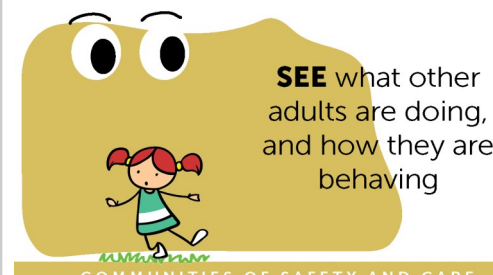
The safeguards now needed in response to the criminal and scandalous behaviour of a very few leaders in the Church, means that many bishops, priests, religious and teachers can no longer follow Jesus' example and take children in our arms. I fully understand why this is the case, but the fact that we have to be so careful about the care of our children and have strict protocols and legislation that covers such behaviour toward children is a necessary and, nonetheless, tragic moment. It's also a moment for us to remember the passion of those who have had to endure the trauma of destructive behaviour. As the Jews say of the Holocaust, 'to forget is to commit the same mistake again'. At its most basic level the latter part of today's Gospel reveals what we would expect of Jesus – he likes children and they like him.

It's amazing how a couple of pieces of information can sometimes change the way a scriptural story is read, and its importance for our lives today. We know from other documents of the same period as the New Testament that children in first century Palestine had no rights. They were possessions of their fathers, and they could be bought and sold, exploited and even killed without any recourse to the religious or civil law.

One way in which a child was publicly claimed in this society was that only their immediate family could touch them. The story, then, of Jesus embracing the child in public was in itself a social challenge to accepted customs. But it's much more than that. In taking the children in his arms, Jesus declares that they are possessions of no one, but they belong to us all as gifts. In the family of God, children are accorded the dignity and respect we would give to God.

Today's Gospel tells us that those who deserve our attention and esteem are the ones who are the least, the most at risk or those who put their talents and gifts at their service by making the world a better place for them. Just as he did in the market place of Galilee when he took the children in his arms, Jesus has a habit of turning our world's values upside down.

We will be kept safe by ADULTS who...



COMMUNITIES OF SAFETY AND CARE

The children, young
and vulnerable
people of the
Catholic Diocese of
Broken Bay must be
kept safe.

We will be kept safe by ADULTS who...

TELL us about dangers
– and what's being
done to protect us



COMMUNITIES OF SAFETY AND CARE

Parish News...

Fransalian Spirituality : Welcome to Fr Mario D'Souza this weekend sharing his insight into St Francis de Sales.

Sam French Acolyte Installation: On Sunday 30th September, our parish seminarian Sam French will be instituted to the ministry of acolyte during the 6pm Mass at St John the Baptist, Woy Woy. The Mass will be celebrated by our Diocesan Administrator Fr. David Ranson. This event is an important step in Sam's ongoing journey towards the priesthood. Parishioners are welcome to attend the Mass, and are all invited to a small celebratory supper in the Leo Mahon room afterwards.

Catechists - Thursday 27 September 9:00a.m. We will be completing our questionnaire for the Plenary Conference. This is specifically targeting the Catechist Ministry and how we see ourselves within the Church in Australia, now and in the future. It's the chance to have your say. CCD has asked as many of you as possible contribute to this and I can say, having already taken part, it makes for a vibrant discussion. Please do your very best to attend.

Courtesy Bus Service: URGENT

The Courtesy Bus Service has been serving our parishioners for about ten years. Over that time many people have given their time to drive the bus. Age & impairment of one sort or another have taken their toll and we no longer have sufficient drivers to continue to provide the service at the same level. Women and men who have a licence to drive a car are invited to share in this invaluable ministry. Please call Vince (0418 485 417) or Bernard (0422 292 759) for more information.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 28/9/18:

Reg Harrington, Laurie Jarvis, Bev Whackett & Warren Sparrow.

Children's Liturgy 30/9/18: Anne Maree Tonkin, Shadeegh Quai Hoi & Gerri O'Keefe.

LED lighting upgrade update: There has been a hold placed on this project to ensure the best & most cost effective option is chosen. Thanks to your generosity \$940 has received.

Plenary Herald

The first major statement from Pope Francis to the whole Church was announced on 24 November, 2013. It was called *The Joy of the Gospel* or, in Latin, *Evangelium gaudium*. This document, an Apostolic Exhortation, is the Pope's *magna carta* for the reform of the church.

When Pope Francis speaks of reform, he thinks of conversion, transformation, change of heart. This is the kind of reform demanded by the signs of the times in the Australian Church. Pope Francis sees the work of the second Vatican Council (Vatican II) as incomplete. The bishops of the Australian church have tuned in, finally, to this voice of Francis.

Vatican II is a valuable paradigm for the church in Australia to follow. The legacy of Vatican II focuses on three aspects that are relevant to the reform of the Australian church:

1. The most valuable daily theology by which the People of God sanctify their lives is grounded in the scriptures. Read *Dei verbum*.
2. Discernment of the "signs of the times" should reflect our missionary orientation. Read *Gaudium et spes*.
3. Our personal relationship with God is accomplished in, with and through Christ in solitude and liturgy. Read *Sacrosanctum concilium*.

The bishops have called the Plenary Council to accomplish reform in our church. To be authentic the reform needs to begin at the grass roots, a groundswell grounded in the laity. The laity need to discover a daily theology that is relevant to their lives.

Live Pray Live Project Event

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: St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy (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.

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 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.

Exciting News!

The council has released the recommendations from the Judith Stubbs report on Affordable Housing! This is our opportunity to review the recommendations and make a difference. We need one last push for the Council to adopt the report. To help, our group will study the report, and pick out some key point.

A flyer is on the Gathering area table. Please, send emails or write to the address we provide. This is essential. We need to show council that additional affordable housing is needed for our area.

Submissions can be made until
5pm, Monday, 8 October 2018!
Margaret Hagan Social Justice Committee

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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