

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.

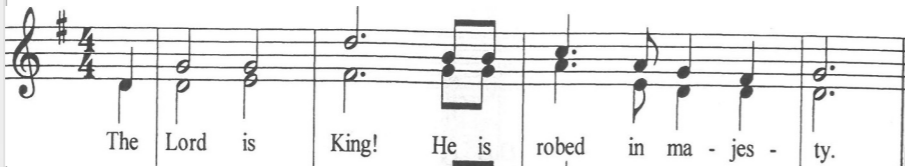
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
Baptism Preparation - 9.30am second and fourth Sunday of the month
Sacrament of Baptism - 11.00am first and third Sunday of the month . Please contact the parish office for more information.

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! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! *Alleluia!*

Readings: 2nd December 2018
Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thess 3:12-4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36.
Readings can be found at www.usccb.org/bible/

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

Recently Deceased: Kathleen Kelty, Patricia Millowick.

Anniversaries: Morris Blanch, Zenon Berlinski, Julion Panczyna, Thomas & Annie Peachey.

Remembrances: Mary & George Hilliard, Hilliard Brothers, Kevin Mills, the Mills family, Bernie Hanna, Leslie Denning, Valerie Price.

Sick: 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, John Buatava, Paul Hennessy, Sue Rose, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Elaine Finlayson, Louisa Dunne, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Sheila Rogan, Leo Fry, Karen Chorazyczewska, Joan Kelleher, Carolyn Jupp.

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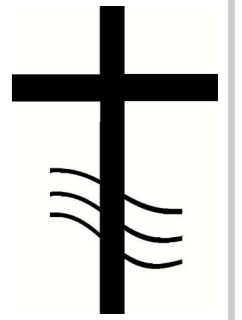


WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

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



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
25th November, 2018, Year B (Psalter Week 2)
Gospel Reflection © Richard Leonard SJ.



Pope Pius XI established the feast of Christ the King in the Holy Year of 1925. It appears to have its roots in the 1880s when many European bishops were worried with what they saw as the rise of secularisation. I'm pleased they're not around today! These bishops were concerned at how governments were increasingly asserting more power over and against the church. Especially in France and Italy Bishops started to venerate Jesus as the Universal King. This devotion took off. By 1922, at the Eucharistic Congress in Rome, sixty-nine cardinals petitioned the Pope to establish this feast. Within three years the Vatican had been inundated with requests, and so the solemnity was established.

It's clear from today's Gospel, and the New Testament in general, that while Jesus frequently spoke of his Kingdom, is hailed like a king on Palm Sunday and is facetiously given the title of king by Pilate, his kingship is vastly different from those of Caesar, Herod and even David and the other Kings of Israel.

The earliest Christians seem to have understood this very well. We find very little writing or artistic representation of Jesus as a king before 324 AD. In that year Emperor Constantine becomes a catechumen and Christianity becomes the religion of the Roman Empire. After this time Jesus starts to appear wearing a crown and holding an orb. Mary is styled as the Queen of Heaven and begins to be pictured as such. This is all understandable as the previously persecuted Christian sect now emerges to become the most powerful unifying force in the Roman Empire. It was a sweet victory, but it meant that whatever was said of the Roman Emperor, even more must be true of Christ the Universal King and Lord.

As centuries passed and the Roman Empire passed away, the Church maintained many of its now long-standing royal prerogatives and language. Just as an example, to this day the Pope and some bishops live in places called palaces. They wear jewels and rings and have feudal coats of arms. Worse still by far, however, is the mentality and behaviour of a very few Bishops, who seem to think that the church is above the scrutiny of the faithful, and the law of the land.

The problem with all these historical accretions is that they directly contradict the way in which Jesus spoke about himself as a King. Almost all references to Jesus' kingship occur within the passion narratives. Today's extract from John's gospel is among the most famous of them all. 'You say I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

There are not too many Kings or Queens today who would love their people so much that they would be prepared to die for them. We know from history that when the going gets tough many monarchs get going. But what we get in Jesus as King is one who did not compromise his humanity, who would not yield from his preaching and does not abandon us in our desolation. Jesus' kingship is revealed in his utter fidelity to us – even to the end.

So let's not be seduced by the power, pride, riches and greed which worldly rulers so crave. Let's keep our own eyes on Christ our King who loved people more than things, who spoke the truth with love, and who died that we might live. And let's not shrink from challenging the entire Church to do the same.

Parish News...

A big thank you to Del & Don Matheson & the wonderful musicians, singers & parishioners that made last weekend's anniversary of the 'Dedication of our Church' such a wonderful day with "Songs of Praise". Thank you also for the \$438 raised on the day!

Candidates for Reconciliation Please keep these children in your prayers as they attend information classes. The Sacrament will be celebrated on the 3rd & 5th December.

The Book of the Names of the Dead will be in the church during November. You are invited to write the names of the faithful departed in it. A lamp will be lit at all Masses.

Feast Day of Christ the King on Sunday 25th November. You are invited to "watch and wait" and remain "silent" in His Presence and open yourself to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist, the source of life for our Church.

The Eucharistic Adoration, God and Man reaching out for each other at the same time, will be after the 9.15 Mass and continue throughout the day until closing after Benediction at 4.30 pm.

Volunteer Church cleaners: More people are needed to support this ministry. You would be rostered once a month on Friday mornings following morning Mass. Please contact Christine French on 4342 4548 if you can assist.

Christmas Cards are available in the Piety Stall for \$5. Columban calendars also on sale for \$9.

Parish Family Ministry Christmas Hampers: List of various types of hampers needed are on display in the gathering area. Hampers to be returned by the weekend of 8/9 December.

St. Vincent de Paul Cash Appeal: will be the weekend 1/2 December. Envelopes in the church. Your generosity would be appreciated. The need is great and support is sought in giving what we are able to give. All monies are used to support local families on the Peninsula.

Plenary Herald

Synodality, the process of living as a synodal church, has been a characteristic of the church founded in the name of Jesus the Christ since its inception. Synodality was at the heart of the church formed around the 12 apostles as reported in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts: 2-7). The first council reported in scripture occurred at Jerusalem soon after the foundation of the church.

Synods (or councils) gradually took on a distinctive structure until, after the Reformation in the 16th century, the Council of Trent decreed that diocesan synods should be convened annually. Until the 20th century synods, however, were attended, predominantly, by clergy.

Synodality was invested with a much broader scope when the Second Vatican Council invited the entire People of God to "accompany" each other in their lives within the church. The Council gave the church a new constitution (*Lumen gentium*) which restored to the laity their share of responsibility for the mission and ministry of the church and it saw synods as a key instrument for ensuring that the voices of the laity were heard and respected at the local level. In 1983, following the direction set by the Council, Canon Law was revised to insist that all of Christ's followers have a "right and duty to manifest to their pastors their views on matters which concern the good of the church" (Canon 212.2)

It is clear, therefore, that synodality is a constitutive element of the whole church. Synodality, however, must be experienced in all the various collaborative structures in each nation, diocese and parish. If the church is not synodal it is not the church that Jesus intended it to be.

Dialogue, speaking boldly and listening humbly, is the medium through which synodality can be experienced in the parish. Please come along to one of the Dialogue sessions in the Leo Mahon Room during Advent.

- Tuesday, December 4th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon;
- Wednesday, December 12th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.;
- Saturday, December 15th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

An initiative of the youth and other ministries, this Advent 2018.

St Patrick's Parish East Gosford will celebrate four Sunday night candlelit 8pm Masses open to all parishioners on the Central Coast. The Masses will be preceded by an hour of Adoration from 7pm, with light supper provided after each Mass. Reminiscent of the early Church that would celebrate the Mass underground, St Patrick's Parish would like to welcome all parishioners to attend what will be a beautiful celebration of the Eucharist by candlelight. For more information, please contact Matthew French on 0411 792 587.

'THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS' : A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

@ St Patrick's Church, East Gosford on Sunday December 16, 3pm at the church. St Patrick's Choir and its helpers present 'The Glory of Christmas', a 50 minute musical wherein we journey with Mary and Joseph as they prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ, and the emotions they feel as the chosen parents of the Messiah. Come for this experience! Tickets \$10, at door.

You are welcome to attend St Joseph Associates' Christmas Celebration at South Kincumber on 29th November, 2018. We meet in the Reflection Shed in the lovely surrounds at 3.00p.m. Hope to see you there to enjoy a cup of tea and a chat. Those wishing to attend can ring Reception on 4368 2805.

Pope Francis' Prayer

Intention for November

In the service of peace -

That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict.

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.

Christmas Concert Saturday, December 8, 2018.

Conspirito Community Flute Ensemble will be showcasing the music they have explored during the year in a special Christmas Concert in our church on Saturday, December 8, from 2.30 pm to 4 pm. Music performed will include works from Bach as well as modern composers including incredible local talent Jennifer Hankin. The Concert would not be complete with some wonderful Christmas carols for you to sing along with. Entry is by donation at the door and all proceeds will be donated to Mary Macs Place. Enquiries conspiritoce@gmail.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 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.

Catechists Students in all Scripture classes in State school across the Peninsula are studying the birth of Christ. Please pray their faith grows with their understanding of this joyous event.

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