

OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL EMERGENCY

0438 631 327

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Administrator

Fr. Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.

Assistant Priest

Fr. Lourduswamy Arulappan M.S.F.S.

St John the Baptist Primary School

St John the Baptist Primary School is now enrolling for Kindergarten 2021. For all enquiries

P: 02 4341 0884 E: www.sjbwoywoy.dbb.org.au

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June
Prayer intention for evangelisation
The Way of the Heart**

We pray for all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

St John the Baptist Church

Cnr Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Ethel Cox Parish Centre

100 Blackwall Road Woy Woy

Parish Office: Open Mon, Wed & Fri 9.30 am - 4.00 pm and Tues & Thu 8.30 am - 3.00 pm

54 Victoria Road / PO Box 264, WOY WOY NSW 2256

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

Recently Deceased: Ray Treacy, Valerie Simpson, Thelma Lenahan, Elsie Williams, Louis Aloisio.

Anniversary: David Steele, Wafaa El Khatib, Patrick John Simmons.

Remembrances: James Carr, Agnes Phillips, Mary Dolan, Thora Duffy, Olive Brittliff, Mary Drynan, Joan Donnelly, Pat Robbie, Peg Scully, Margaret Davin, Marie Carter.

Sick: Pat Savage, Pat O'Reagan, Ernie Mullins, John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, Michael Taylor, Geoff Floyd, Tom Searle, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morreti, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Rose Aloisio, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Marta Panczyna, Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Jo Farrelle, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Karen Chorazyczewska, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Larry Cresswell, Ken Joyce, Andrew Muggs, Roger Mitchell, Maureen Fotheringham.



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Hardwick's on Blackwall

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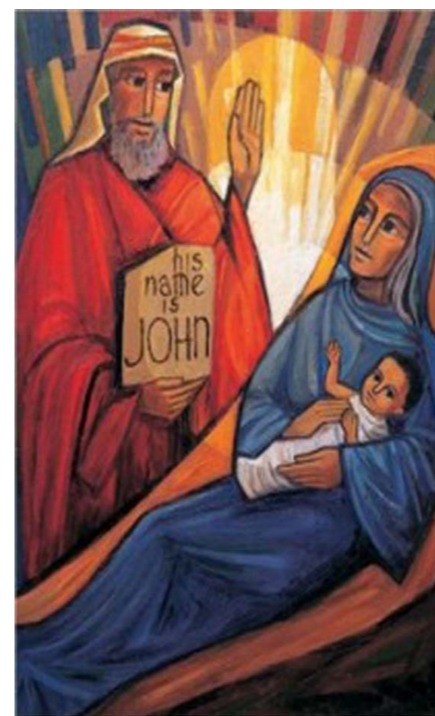
**WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH
St John the Baptist Catholic Church**



The Nativity of St John the Baptist

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

21st June 2020, Psalter Week 4, Year A



On this twelfth Sunday of ordinary time, we celebrate Christ **Our Lord who is always with us and the need to trust in Him.** He continues to deliver us from all that threatens, and make life difficult for us. This includes persecutions, sins, fear and death.

The first reading tells us how the prophet Jeremiah trusted in the power of God while he faced opposition for his prophetic ministry. He was intimidated by attacks upon his character, but he was unafraid to speak out in the name of the Lord. The psalmist in today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 69) displays the same trust in the *kindness and great mercy of God* when he is misunderstood and ill-treated even by his brothers and relatives.

The readings hint at the opposition the Apostles themselves would meet, and we in future. In the second reading, Paul assures the Christians in Rome that they need not be afraid of opposition both because they share in the death of Jesus and because they are united with Christ, the new Adam, in his Resurrection.

Today's Gospel passage is taken from the end of Jesus' instruction to his disciples as he sends them forth to carry on his mission of preaching and healing. He asks them to live simple lives and to expect opposition and

rejection. After having foretold future opposition and persecution, Jesus encourages his disciples to stand firm. Three times they are urged, "Do not fear!" "Do not be afraid!" Instead of shrinking from their task, they are to proclaim the Gospel boldly, because they will be protected just as Jeremiah was assured of God's protection. Hence, Jesus commands his disciples not to fear their persecutors. He presents before them the image of the sparrow to reinforce the disciples' trust and hope in God. The readings hint at the opposition we future Christians will encounter as we carry on the work of Jesus in the world, and they encourage us to persevere in doing the work of Jesus. They assure us that we will be successful, despite the opposition we encounter.

Life messages: We need not be afraid because our life is in the hands of a loving God. Sometimes we are afraid that we will make a wrong decision. At other times, we are afraid of what others will think when we speak up for Jesus. We are afraid of what is in store for our children in future. We are also afraid of growing old. Sometimes we are afraid of what bad health will bring us. What is the root cause of these fears is the fear of loss. Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, health and even life itself. Rejection and loss are the basis of our fears. But we forget one thing: whatever trouble or crisis affects us; we know that God understands it better than we ourselves. Our Heavenly Father knows exactly what is happening. What a release from fear it is to know that God is on our side; that our life is in the hands of a loving God! Do you believe that God's hands working on your behalf? TRUST this. Recall to your minds those moments God actually saved you from bad situations in an a way you can never imagine. The next time fear grips our life we need to remember that being faithful to Christ wherever we meet him in this life is much more important than our fear of rejection and loss. Also, let us take a moment to recall some of the great promises of God. Let us remind ourselves that God cares – we are each a dear child of His, and He cares for each of us. "Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." The last verse of Psalm 27 sums it up nicely: "Trust in the Lord. Have Faith; do not despair. Trust in the Lord."

Parish News:

New Changes to Mass Numbers and Times

As of 1st July 2020 the regulated numbers for Masses will be lifted altogether. Each person attending Mass will need to maintain the 1.5 metre social distancing as outlined by the Government. You will also need to continue writing your name on the list at the back of the church. This is very important so we can keep track of those attending in the event of a COVID outbreak.

Mass Times: Monday - Friday 8:30am, Healing Mass (1st Friday); 4pm; Saturday 9am (followed by Adoration & 5pm; Sunday 7:30am, 9:15am & 5pm.

Confession Times: Friday 9am, 3:30pm (1st Friday); Saturday 9am; 4:30pm; Sunday 7am.

Email address: For those Parishioners who have not been receiving the Parish newsletter via email can you please contact the Parish Office to be added to the mailing list.

Hand Sanitizer: There is hand sanitizer available for use in the Church. It is located at entry to rear doors and gathering table.

Fransalian Quote

“Be aware that only virtue and devotion can make you happy in this world.” (IDL, Part V, Ch.11).

St. Francis de Sales

Attention all kids:

The Kids' Bulletins are a resource for Catholic children who would like to have some fun while learning about the readings from Sunday Mass every week. To learn more click here:

<https://thekidsbulletin.com/about/>; to access the bulletins click here: <https://thekidsbulletin.com/>

Take the time to enjoy God's beauty



Saint John the Baptist's Story

Jesus called John the greatest of all those who had preceded him: “I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John....” But John would have agreed completely with what Jesus added: “[Y]et the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he” (Luke 7:28).

John spent his time in the desert, an ascetic. He began to announce the coming of the Kingdom, and to call everyone to a fundamental reformation of life. His purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus. His baptism, he said, was for repentance. But one would come who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. John was not worthy even to untie his sandals. His attitude toward Jesus was: “He must increase; I must decrease” (John 3:30).

John was humbled to find among the crowd of sinners who came to be baptized the one whom he already knew to be the Messiah. “I need to be baptized by you” (Matthew 3:14b). But Jesus insisted, “Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness” (Matthew 3:15b). Jesus, true and humble human as well as eternal God, was eager to do what was required of any good Jew. Jesus thus publicly entered the community of those awaiting the Messiah. But making himself part of that community, he made it truly messianic.

The greatness of John, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is seen in the great emphasis Luke gives to the announcement of his birth and the event itself—both made prominently parallel to the same occurrences in the life of Jesus. John attracted countless people to the banks of the Jordan, and it occurred to some people that he might be the Messiah. But he constantly deferred to Jesus, even to sending away some of his followers to become the first disciples of Jesus.

Perhaps John's idea of the coming of the Kingdom of God was not being perfectly fulfilled in the public ministry of Jesus. For whatever reason, when he was in prison he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if he was the Messiah. Jesus' answer showed that the Messiah was to be a figure like that of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah. John himself would share in the pattern of messianic suffering, losing his life to the revenge of Herodias.



First reading

Jer 20:10-13 ©

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,
“Terror from every side!”

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!

All those who used to be my friends
watched for my downfall,

‘Perhaps he will be seduced into error.

Then we will master him

and take our revenge!’

But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;

my opponents will stumble, mastered,

confounded by their failure;

everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs.

But you, O Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice,

who scrutinise the loins and heart,

let me see the vengeance you will take on them,

for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord,

praise the Lord,

for he has delivered the soul of the needy

from the hands of evil men.

Second reading

Rom 5:12-15 ©

The gift considerably outweighed the fall

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of ‘law-breaking’, yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 10:26-33 ©

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: ‘Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows. So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.’

Parish Collections:

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish at this time please find the bank details below. It is vital that you indicate in the reference what the donation is for. If you are a planned giver please provide your name and envelope number in the reference line.

Account Name: Woy Woy Catholic Parish

BSB: 062 784

Account Number: 1200 8001

1st collection goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the priests.

2nd collection goes towards all the pastoral and operating expenses of the Parish; phones/ photocopier, electricity, insurance, rates, priests' vehicles, staff wages, Presbytery, Church and ground maintenance to name a few.

You can donate via Bpoint by clicking

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/woywoyparish>

You can also donate via Tap and go in the church or credit card. You can pick up a pledge forms from the gathering space or request one from the Parish Office.

If your donation is via cheque you can post it to PO Box 264, Woy Woy NSW 2256.

If you would like a set of weekly donation envelopes please contact the Parish Office.

For any enquiries call Triona Meagher 4341 1073.