

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. A Lourduswamy 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

Follow us:

Website

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/woywoy>

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<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthebaptist.woywoy>

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

Phone: (02) 4341 1073

Email: woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Mass Times: Please note the time changes to weekday morning Mass and Sunday evening Mass

Monday - Friday **8:30am**,
Saturday 9am (Adoration after) & 5pm;
Sunday 7:30am, 9:15am & **5pm**.
Healing Mass (1st Friday of the month); 4pm;

Confession Times:

Friday 9am, 3:30pm (1st Friday of the month);
Saturday **9:30 am**; 4:30pm;
Sunday 7am.

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

Anniversary: Brian Murphy, Colin O'Reilly, Herve Fauvette, John Catania, Wanda Grima, Safaa El'Khatib, Geoff Bailey, Umiliano & Paulina Menezes.

Recently Deceased: Margaret Quilkey, Wilfredo Olazaval, Margaret French, Margaret Tuffy, Theresa D'Souza.

Sick: Maria Linda Cabatingan, Eileen Jones, Larry Sheil, Pauline Hogan, Pat Savage, Ernie Mullins, John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, Michael Taylor, Donna Vella, Jo Farrelle, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morreti, Luis Emilio Garrido, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Rose Aloisio, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Marta Panczyna, Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Karen Chorazyczewska, Max Annett, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Larry Cresswell, Ken Joyce, Andrew Muggs, Roger Mitchell, Maureen Fotheringham, Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty, Eileen Jones, Marie McNamee, Gorgie Brigdale.



Bryan J. Reid Funeral Services

1/39 Victoria Road, Woy Woy.

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\$300 donation to a local community centre*

*For St John's parishioners or their friends who settle a home loan by 30 April 2020. Amanda will donate \$300 to a local community centre. Approved applicants only. Lending criteria apply. Amanda Lawer has access to a panel of lenders through Liberty Financial Services Pty Ltd (ABN 65 251 198 628) (Australian Credit Licence 400042) (ASIC including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 55 077 248 983) which owns LMS.



OUR FAMILY
Caring For Your Family

Tel: 1300 663 753
1/77 Rawson Rd Woy Woy



Hardwick's on Blackwall

(Opposite corner to our church)
4/115 Blackwall Rd,
Woy Woy



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH
St John the Baptist Catholic Church



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
23rd August 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 1)

The closure of St Agatha's church on 9th August highlights our need to be fully compliant with our COVID19 Safety plans. The Parish Team of Pennant Hills certainly was! This meant that within a few hours all the required notifications could be made, and the church could be deep cleaned. The parish team is to be congratulated on their efficient response. The cost of such a clean, however, is not inexpensive, amounting to some \$4000. This is no small burden to a parish faced with the situation.

It is important now that **everyone at our celebration wear a mask**. People are encouraged to bring their own mask. However, there will be a supply of them available for those who may have forgotten one, a small donation to cover this cost is greatly appreciated. For further guidelines about masks, including mask types and who should and shouldn't wear them can be found here; <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/face-masks>.



We are all familiar with today's gospel. It tells us something fundamental about our life as Catholics. This text portrays Peter as the one authorised by the Saviour to lead his disciples in professing their faith in him. In this age, when God calls believers to work for Christian unity, it is important that we understand it well. When we compare Matthew's account of Peter's confession with that of Mark (Mk 8: 27-33), we see that the two evangelists present Peter in very different ways. In Mark's account, to the questions of Jesus, Peter responds, 'You are the messiah'. Then, when Jesus begins to explain that his role will be very different from that of the messiah of popular expectations – 'The Son of Man is destined to suffer and be put to death' – Peter can not accept what Jesus is saying; and he is sharply rebuked by Jesus, 'Get behind me Satan! You are not thinking as God thinks'. When Matthew is writing his gospel, long after this incident, Peter has long been recognised and venerated as the one who was appointed by Jesus, as the leader of the chosen disciples who were to carry on his mission. In order to

celebrate the role given to Peter by the Saviour - a role that he has carried out with great faith and courage – Matthew combines two incidents that took place at different times. He uses Peter's confession at Caesarea Philippi as an introduction to what is his main point – the commission that was given to Peter by the Lord, so fundamental for the life of the first Christian community. The gospels make it clear that Peter received such a commission. This commission may well have been referred to by Jesus in different contexts, in view of its basic importance in the carrying on of the mission of Jesus. The change of name recalled by Matthew in this text is so remarkable (Jesus used the Aramaic word for 'rock', kephas, never before used as a name, translated as Petros in Greek) that it obviously had far-reaching significance. Luke refers to the commission of Peter as being made in the highly charged atmosphere of the Last Supper: 'I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail, and once you have recovered, you in your turn must strengthen your brethren' (Lk 22:31). In John's gospel, the risen Lord's three questions to Peter on the shore of the lake – reminding us of Peter's three denials – lead on to his great commission, 'Feed my lambs, feed my sheep'. This whole tradition is filled with reminders of Peter's frailty – a great lesson for the whole Church, faithful and pastors. In its totality, Matthew's text is a magnificent summary of the self-understanding of the Church of the first generation, and of Peter's leadership role in that Church. Matthew alone of the evangelists used the term 'church' (in this and a later text). This term, that Paul used so frequently - echoing the Old Testament term for the community of faith of old Israel - refers to the New Israel inaugurated by Jesus. The 'gates' of the cities of antiquity were the embodiment of their strength. The Church founded on the ministry of Peter, the 'rock', will triumph over the dark forces of the kingdom of death; and, under Peter's leadership, open the way to the final Kingdom announced and inaugurated by the Saviour. The words of Jesus make clear the practical implications of the authority given to Peter. 'Binding and loosing' referred to the authority of the teachers of old Israel, to legislate and determine policy, and the exclude from the community. If this pastoral authority is shared with the other apostles (cf. Mt 18:18), it is only under the leadership of Peter that they can effectively carry out this pastoral responsibility. John Thornhill sm

We The Woy Woy Catholic Parish acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

PLEASE NOTE: It is extremely important that every Parishioner is aware of the health advice during this Pandemic. If the Church is found to be in breach of these guidelines we will find ourselves with a hefty fine so PLEASE read the signs and the notices and familiarise yourself with the information provided.

As a Parish Community there is nothing more uplifting than joining together to sing our Hymns however; we strongly ask you to refrain from singing at this time, due to the risks attached to Covid-19.

Parish News:

The number of people per Masses has been capped again. The maximum number allowed is 100 people. When you arrive for Mass there will be someone at the sign-in table conducting a headcount. Once 100 people are signed in, any remaining people will be invited to attend the Walter Baker Hall where a simultaneous Mass will be held. **It is imperative that EVERY PERSON who enters the church or Hall for Mass puts their name and contact details on the list in the Gathering Space. This includes Musicians, Servers and Readers.** This information will be handed over the Health Department should an outbreak occur.

Attention Readers, Servers & Musicians (organists and cantors) Please note that readers, servers & musicians are included in 100 person headcount. Fr Timothy has asked those rostered to arrive a little earlier than normal to sign in. **Can readers sit in the small section at the front of the Church which is reserved for Servers.**

Hand Sanitizer: There is hand sanitizer available for use in the Church. It is located at entry to rear doors and gathering table. Also available at the Walter Baker Hall. Please wash your hands when entering and leaving the Church.

Collections: The collection containers will be on the font walls, just inside the church doors. Collection bags are **NOT** to be passed around.

Cleaning Roster: 28/08/2020 Christina Thorson, Reg Harrington, Tom French, Peter Smith.

Planned Giving Envelopes: PGE are available for collection from the table.

Youth News:

Our Youth Ministry Team has started to meet up again in preparation for what might be happening within our Parish in the near future. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 26th of August in the Leo Mahon room at 7.00 pm. Please come prepared for our Refresher Training of our Model – Anointed and Sent Comprehensive Youth Ministry) After the refresher Nights we will move to Youth Night planning and Programming. All who are interested in joining our Youth Ministry Team aged 18 and above. Please contact Kiliti on sks2230grace@gmail.com or 0412 731 979 or Bernie O’Keefe on 0417 698 760. Young Adults are encouraged to come forward and join our team in reaching out to our parish teenagers and young adult as well. This is an opportunity for you to participate in the training.

Become a catechist in 2020!

We are in need of new Special Religious Education teachers or catechists. The following classes need their own Special Religious Education Teacher.

We have classes available at:

Woy Woy South Primary with classes at 9am and 9.30am on Tuesdays.

Ettalong Primary with classes at 10:20am and 11:30am. on Tuesdays.

Woy Woy Primary with classes at 9am. and 9:30 am on Wednesdays.

Umina Primary with classes at 9:20am. and 10am. on Fridays.

If you have never been in a classroom, you will be teamed up with an experienced catechist and ‘learn as you go.’

The original meaning of “catechist” is one who “echoes God’s word”, however catechists are much more than that. Facilitating a child’s faith formation is a rewarding experience that does not require a teacher’s degree or an advanced degree in theology: all it requires is enthusiasm, as well as generosity in sharing your time with others.

Classes are once a week and run for 30-35 mins. Resources, lesson plans, teacher’s manuals, student workbooks, free support and training are provided.

Please contact Michael on 0407 218 677. He will be able to answer your questions and help you take the first steps to becoming a Special Religious Education teacher.

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.

Bank: Commonwealth Bank
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 (this goes to 2nd collection) or credit card. You can pick up a pledge forms from the gathering space or request one from the Parish Office.

Please consider putting the majority of your donations in the 2nd collection as this is where it is the most needed.

First reading

Isaiah 22:19-23©

Thus says the LORD to Shebna, master of the palace: “I will thrust you from your office and pull you down from your station. On that day I will summon my servant Eliakim, son of Hilkiah; I will clothe him with your robe, and gird him with your sash, and give over to him your authority. He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim’s shoulder; when he opens, no one shall shut when he shuts, no one shall open. I will fix him like a peg in a sure spot, to be a place of honor for his family.”

Second reading

Romans 11:33-36©

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How inscrutable are his judgments and how unsearchable his ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor? Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid? For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia.

You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20©

Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi and he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” They replied, “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter said in reply, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus said to him in reply, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Then he strictly ordered his disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

St. Francis De Sales Guides:

Lessons on Love - An example too good to inspire to avoid false love

"The walnut tree is very harmful to the vines and fields. When planted among the vines and fields, it gradually grows so big and starts drawing the whole moisture from the soil. As a result the soil, afterwards, is not able to nourish other plants. The leaves are so dense that they make a large thick shade. Finally it attracts passers-by to itself, who to pluck it's nuts spoil and trample down everything around it."

These amorous affairs cause the same damage to the self. Just as the walnut tree they are very small in the beginning but grow so big and occupy the heart so much, and draw its moments so powerfully that its strength becomes insufficient and it is incapable of doing any good work.

Their leaves, that is, their thoughts, the talk, (the chat, conversations on the phone), amusements, and love making are so frequent that they waste the whole spare time. (Sucking out all the energy, focus to peruse ones dreams, depriving all the good will, care and concern for family friends, near and dear ones, for reputation, etc.)

Finally they cause so many temptations, distractions, suspicions and other consequences that the whole heart is trampled down and spoiled by them. (That the heart is not able to nourish oneself, one's family, children, near and dear ones). It leaves the field / vineyard deserted without vine.

In short, these love affairs banish not only the love of God but also the fear of God, weaken the spirit and spoil the reputation. It is, in one word the plaything of the court but the plague of the heart.

Resolve:

Vine and vineyard refers to our precious life, family and near and dear ones. Almond tree refers to fickle and flirtatious love. Do not plant an almond amidst vine. Do not allow passers by to trample down the field of your family / life and the plants of your dreams, your goal, achievements, your name fame and reputation. Instead, nourish and nurture the vineyard / field with Genuine love. Remove the weeds of misunderstanding, distractions and Manure it with forgiveness, understanding, affection, sacrifice, focus, determination to achieve and live joyfully in the peace and love of God. Time to time ask for the grace of God if you find it difficult to conquer temptations.