

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.

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

Admin Assistant

Raelene Spithill



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

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>



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: John Gatt.

Recently Deceased: Noel Saint-Guillaume, Helen Kelly, Stan Donnellan, Bryan Moroney.

Remembrance: The Lamm Family.

Sick: Hanaa El Khatib, Josephine Weate, Mabel Torres, Tristan Mulligan, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, Joan Fleming, 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, Georgie Brigdale.



Bryan J. Reid Funeral Services

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Hardwick's on Blackwall

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

Meet your local finance expert

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Amanda Lawer Liberty Adviser
0478 055 609



\$300 donation to a local community centre*

*For St John's parishes 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 Network Services Pty Ltd (ABN 65 91 158 628) (Australian Credit Licence 408042) (NSD) including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 65 007 241 983) which owns LNS.



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th September 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 1)

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>.



A hard-working parish priest, after a lifetime of ministry, died and went to heaven. When he got there he was assigned an attractive two bedroom house to serve as his heavenly abode. He was rather pleased with his house until he took a walk around the neighborhood and ran into a parishioner who had been a cab driver and now was living in a mansion with a swimming pool and tennis courts. The priest went directly to St. Peter to complain. He said, "I've worked my whole life long serving God's people. Now this parishioner of mine is a very good person, but he was a cab driver! Why is he living in so much bigger a house than I am?" St. Peter said, "Here's how it goes. When you preached, people slept. But when he drove, people prayed."

We do not always understand God's ways, and that is why it is dangerous to complain. Complaining takes place in today's Gospel. Those who were hired first complain because those who worked only one hour received the same wage as they did. We certainly understand their feelings. We probably would have the same reaction, if we were in their shoes. This parable is one of the most difficult parables for us to understand. But, before we become too critical, we must realize that all the parable is doing is reflecting life as it is.

The truth is that life is unfair. We would like to think that those who work the hardest would be the most successful. But we all know people who are working two, maybe three, jobs and are still unable to support their families. We would like to think that the people who have the most talent are those who would be the most respected and compensated. But we all know of football players who cannot even remember to keep their helmets on their heads (sorry about this) who are making millions of dollars more than teachers who give their life instructing our young. We would like to think that people who are good and who live honestly are going to have easier lives. But we all know people who are the "salt of the earth" who have terrible crosses to bear. And each time we see any of these inequalities, we are tempted to complain.

That is why today's parable is helpful. It shows us how to live in an unfair world. What does the landowner say to those who complain? He says, "Take what belongs to you and go." Don't worry about what other people have received. Take your own life. Rejoice in it and live it.

Life does not always fall into categories that we think are just. We perceive such injustice immediately. It is the first thing we notice. Just listen to the workers who were hired first in today's parable. They say to the landowner, "These last have worked only one hour and yet you have chosen to make them equal to us who have borne the work of the day and the scorching heat." These workers immediately recognize the unfairness of the situation.

But today's parable is not about what the worker see but what they do not see. What they do not see is the generosity of the landowner. More specifically, they do not see the generosity of the landowner to them. They recognize that the landowner has chosen to be generous to those who were hired last, and they resent it. But they do not recognize how they have been given a job, a day's labor, by which they can support their families. You see, today's parable is about blindness, the blindness that so may of us have to the blessings of God in our life. The parable warns us that we will never be able to see God's generosity to us as long as we look with jealous eyes.

In an unfair world, jealousy can consume us. If we compare ourselves to others, that comparison can make us blind to the blessings that we have received. The gospel reminds us that our blessings are real, and it is only by embracing them that we will be able to find happiness regardless of how much more others seem to be given.

"Take what belongs to you and go." Live the life you have been given, not the life that you wish you had been given, not the life that other people have been given. Live your life fully because complaining will only diminish you, only lessen you.

So, what is it you complain about? Your spouse? Your children? Your parents? Your job? Your retirement? Your church? Your government? Your health? Be careful about complaining because it can rob you of life. Instead, take what belongs to you and go. If you don't like something change it. If you can't change it then change the way you think about it. But, don't waste your time complaining. Life is simply too short for that. The good news is this: life may be unfair, but God is in charge. And God will not forget any of us.

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.

Covid19 Updates:

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. — **IF YOU FEEL UNWELL PLEASE STAY HOME**

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.

Face Masks: To be worn at Mass including upon entering and when leaving.

Singing: Chanting is permitted during our services however it is asked you still refrain from singing. The Cantor is to sing alone.

Parish News:

Cleaning Roster: 25/09/20 - Reg Harrington, Laurie Jarvis, Veronica Jordan & Warren Sparrow.

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

Rosary: Public Rosary, 10am Saturday 12th October outside Kincumber Post Office. On this day Rosary rallies will be held across Australia on the Saturday closest to the 13th of October when the 'Miracle of the Sun' occurred in Fatima, Portugal in 1917 before 70,000 people. Enquiries 0438 320 927.

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 & training are provided. Contact Michael on 0407 218 677. He will be able to answer questions and help you take the 1st 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.

First Reading

IS 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found. call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD and highly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

R. **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness. The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works.

R. **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

The LORD is just in all his ways and holy in all his works.

The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.

R. **The Lord is near to all who call upon him.**

Second Reading

PHIL1:20C-24, 27A

Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Alleluia

ACTS 16:14B

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

MT 20:1-16A

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.'

When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Attention all kids:

The Kid's Bulletins are a resource for Catholic children who would like to have some fun while learning about the from Sunday Mass every week. To learn more click <https://thekidsbulletin.com/about/>. To access the bulletins click <https://thekidsbulletin.com> To access free online Children's liturgy of the Word videos click <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfg9euOFmsu-xX7S2tCcNA> or search Heidi Witte-YouTube.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September

Respect for the Planet's Resources

We pray that the planet's resources will not be plundered, but shared in a just and respectful manner.



Families across Broken Bay need your help September 2020 CWF Appeal

Your generous donation will support five Catholic agencies and ministries helping families and neighbours in our Broken Bay Diocese. The Charitable Works Fund Appeal is 100% tax deductible.

"He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed" Luke 4:18

How to give—Support by making an online donation or by completing a CWF envelope (available in Church). Online donations are allocated towards your parish CWF target.

www.bbcatholic.org.au/give/charitable-works-fund

The assessment for our Parish for this financial year is \$36,512. \$12,171 in Sept 2020, Nov 2020 & May 2021.

SAFEGUARDING
AWARENESS
MONTH!
SEPTEMBER
2020



Promoting Rights of the Child

An annual initiative of the Diocesan Office for Safeguarding.

This year is the 30th anniversary of Australia ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

