

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 Lourdeswamy 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>

Facebook

<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: Sara Silem, John Casey, Jack Dunne, Melvee Carkeek, Hugo John Catrone, Ron Dixon, Kathleen & Ted Ellison, Lou & Norrie Glacken.

Remembrance: The Lamm Family, Fae Casey, Mary Dolan, Luke & Judy Goodacre., Brian Moroney.

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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1/77 Rawson Rd Woy Woy

OUR FAMILY
Caring For
Your Family



Hardwick's on Blackwall

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

Meet your local finance expert

Home and Car Loans SMSF Loans
Business Loans Personal Loans

Amanda Lawler Liberty Adviser
0478 055 609



\$300 donation to a local community centre*

*For St John's parishioners or their friends who settle a home loan by 30 April 2020. Amount will donate \$300 to a local community centre. Approved applicants only. Lending criteria apply. Amanda Lawler. Free access to a panel of lenders through Liberty Network Services Pty Ltd (ABN 65 91 158 428) Australian Credit Licence 408042 (LND) including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 65 077 246 983) which owns LND.



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

27th September 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 2)

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>.



Life has many contradictions, many paradoxes and many reversals of fortunes. What may seem to be a good thing may turn out bad. What may seem to be a bad thing may turn out good. But we can only see the present in its limitation, we can only comprehend the here and now. We don't know about the future, so we judge everything as good and bad according to how we see it now. For example, if one of our children is rather slow, or naughty, or not very pleasing to us. What will be our attitude towards that child, as compared to the rest of our children who might be cleverer, or smarter, or better looking or more capable? Surely, we will favor the "better" one. As for the other one, we will just have to accept him although we will not have much hopes or expectations from him. Yet, life has shown us over and over again that there are many paradoxes and many reversals of fortunes. This is also a recurring theme in the Bible, that the first will be last and the last first. Jesus told parables like the rich man and Lazarus, the prodigal son, the workers in the harvest (last week) to tell us about the paradoxes and reversals in life. Today he told another parable of two sons and their obedience to their father. The father asked both sons to go and work in the vineyard. The first said no but later changed his mind and went. The other said yes but yet did not go. Jesus actually addressed this parable to the chief priests and elders. The tax collectors, prostitutes and sinners were like the first son. They sinned, but when they heard the Good News of God's love and forgiveness, they repented and turned back to God. On the other hand, the chief priest and the elders were like the second son who said yes to all that God has commanded but yet did nothing to change their lives. In many ways, this parable is also addressed to us to make us reflect on how we view people and how we treat them. If I were asked what the main theme of today's reading were all about I would say it's about honest sincerity. Honesty is at the core of our truly religious expressions, particularly being honest with ourselves. Sin, we must remember, originates with the Father of Lies, and when we lie to ourselves we always get into deep trouble. In the Gospel account, we just heard the younger brother tell his father: "Yes, I'll go and work" while the older brother said: "No, not me." Both used words contrary to their actions. Talk is cheap. The younger brother simply didn't live up to his words; the older brother changed his mind. The older brother had integrity; the younger brother gave cheap, valueless words to his father while having no intention at all of working. How many of us recognize ourselves in that younger brother? The older brother had no intention of working and then had the honesty of saying so to his father. He was wrong, but he was honest. The younger brother was the opposite. He said the expedient thing to his father knowing what his father wanted to hear but he had no integrity. He was insincere because he had no intention of working even though he said he would. How many of us pray that way? We give God the words of our prayers, words we think He wants to hear from us. It's convenient for us. We may even be self-deluded when we speak them and end up feeling like we are pious and religious. On the surface, we feel righteous but deep down we know full well that we are not going to follow through on those words with our deeds and our actions. So, we give God our Father in heaven nice sounding words but never seem to get around to following through on them. God is not fooled but we fool ourselves. The reality of life is that we favor those who are more pleasing to us, but we are indifferent or ignore those whom we think do not meet our hopes and expectations. There is a story of a couple, who had a few children. All were normal and intelligent. Except one who had Down's Syndrome and hence was slow and different from the rest. The couple took joy in their children but for this special child, they had to swallow their disappointment and embarrassment. At times, they even asked themselves why they were burdened with such a child. It seems that they will have to care for him all their lives. As the years went by, the rest of their children got married and left home to start their own families. As the couple became older, their children also became busier with their own families. Naturally, the couple felt lonelier with all their children gone. Except for one, the slow "special" one. Because of his inabilities and disabilities, he obviously had to stay with his parents. In the past, the parents thought of him as a burden and an obstacle to their freedom in life. But now, the old couple realized that he is the only one who is with them day and night. Once upon a time, he had to depend on them and they had to fend for him. Now it seems that in their lonely old age, it is they who have to depend on him despite his inabilities and disabilities. It is just another story about how life has many paradoxes and reversals of fortune or status. Let us not ignore these whom we think are of little or no use to us or those who are not pleasing to us and give us problems. God loves these people as much as He loves us. And the paradox of life is that God will turn these people into His instruments to show us His love. So, let us accept those whom we think may not count for much in life. A time will come when they will show us what really counts in life. Be Blessed and Be a Blessing. Amen.

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 front 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.



A big thank you to the Filipino Community who showed great initiative and thoughtfulness in putting their sewing skills to the test with their mask making, selling them at Mass and donating 100% of the profit directly to the church.

Parish News:

Cleaning Roster: 02/10/20 - Pam Hickey, Tom French, Christina Thorson, Mary McCumstie.

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 10th 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.

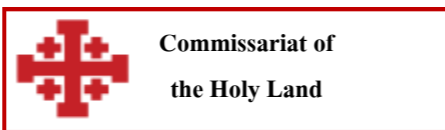
Hearing Aids: 2 hearing aids have been found in the Church. They are on the gathering table for collection.

Divine Will Cenacle: The next meeting of the Divine Will Cenacle will take place next Thursday, 1st October. It is held in the Leo Mahon Room after morning mass. All welcome.

Leaving Collection: At this time we have a 3 collections scheduled. Holy Land (which would normally occur on Good Friday), Catholic Mission & Church Aid - Emergency in Lebanon. What we have decided to do in our Parish is to take general Leaving collections for these 3 appeals and divide the donations into equal amounts. If you would prefer to donate individually you can do so directly via each website below.



PH - 1800 101 201
WS - www.aidtochurch.org



PH: 02 9369.9300

WS: <http://holylandfranciscansaustralia.org/good-friday/>



PH: 02 9919 7841

WS: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/>

First Reading

EZ 18:25-28

Thus says the LORD: You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!" Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my saviour

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not; in your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice and teaches the humble his way.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading

PHIL 2:1-11

Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others. Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia

JN 10:27

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel

MT 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not,' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, but did not go. Which of the two did his father's will?' They answered, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that you did not later change your minds and believe him."

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/UCfg9euOFFmsu-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.

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.



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.

