

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

School Enrolments are now being taken for 2021 school year. Enquiries - School Office

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: Pasquale & Giuseppina Sergi, Vincenzo, Enrico & Caterina Zappavigna.

Recently deceased: Karen Darwen, Bev Thompson, Frank Rooney, Margaret Halliday, Joe Caruana.

Remembrance: Bruno de Souza, Elizabeth Schembri, James & Elizabeth Carr, Geoffrey J Benson, James Casey.

Sick: Chris Mitchell, Don Matheson, Trish Stuart, Colleen Garland, Hanaa El Khatib, Josephine Weate, Mabel Torres, Tristan Mulligan, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, 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.



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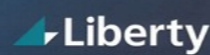
Hardwick's on Blackwall

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

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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. Amanda will donate \$300 to a local community centre. Approved applicants only. Lending criteria apply. Amanda Lawler has access to a panel of lenders through Liberty Network Services Pty Ltd (ABN 45 251 958 678) Australian Credit Licence 4000423 (LNO) including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 55 077 246 983) which owns LNS.



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
25th October 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 2)



The central theme of today's readings is the greatest Commandment in the Bible, namely to love God and express it in action by loving Him in our neighbour. The first reading, taken from Exodus, explains the different expressions of the love of one's neighbour, especially of the underprivileged. In the second reading, St. Paul praises the Thessalonian Christians for the heroic witness they bear to Christ by practicing mutual love. In the Gospel today, Jesus combines the commandment to love God with the commandment to love one's neighbor and gives the result as one Commandment of supreme importance in Christian life. A Sunday school teacher was teaching her class about the 10

Commandments in preparation for their First Confession (8-year-olds) After explaining the Commandment to "honor thy father and mother" she asked the class, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Immediately one boy puts up his hand and answered, "Thou shall not kill." If we had grown up with siblings, we probably would have agreed with that boy. And we may have to admit that some people are such a pain for us that we would have done something drastic if not for that commandment. There is another joke. A pastor was speaking to a Sunday school class about the things money can't buy. "It can't buy laughter and it can't buy love" he told them. Driving his point home, he said, "What would you do if I offered you \$1000 not to love your mother and father?" Stunned silence ensued. Finally, a small voice queried, "How much would you give me not to love my big sister?" In the gospel, we heard that the Pharisees asked Jesus about which is the greatest commandment of the Law. The Pharisees were such a pain for Jesus. As if they don't know what is the greatest commandment of the Law. But they asked that question not so much for discussion but rather to disconcert Jesus. To disconcert is to upset or to frustrate or to ruffle or irritate someone. It's certainly not a nice thing to do to someone. And Jesus could have given those Pharisees a piece of His mind just to shut them up, just as He had silenced the Sadducees earlier. But being a good teacher, Jesus showed them where to look, and He left it to them to see whatever they want to see or whatever they have to see. The first and greatest commandment is to love God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. And then it is followed by this: You must love your neighbor as yourself. So, to love God is to see God in your neighbor and that would also mean to see yourself in your neighbor. Jesus told the Pharisees where to look, but what they want to see is for them to choose and decide. So, we are also told where to look. And what do we see? As for Jesus, He saw that it would be more loving to give those Pharisees a bit of His heart than to give them a piece of His mind. We too would be happier when we give people a bit of our heart rather than a piece of our mind. But when we look at the people around us, those at home, those at work, those in Church, it would be easier to give them a piece of our mind than a bit of our heart. And here lies the lesson of life – Nothing and no one ever goes away until they teach us what we need to know. God doesn't give us the people we want. He gives us the people we need – people who will hurt us, people who will leave us, but also people who will help us and people who will love us, so as to make us into the persons we were meant to be. When we can see that, then we would have understood the lesson of life. And with that, we will be able to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. A fundamental theme that runs throughout the entire Bible is this: "God offers, we respond." God's offer of love for us is a given; His unconditional love is always offered to us no matter what. The result, however, is conditional. The result depends upon our response to His offer. How, then, do we respond to Christ's mandate that we love everyone as we love ourselves? First of all, we should take it for what it is – a mandate, a command. It is something we must choose to do with little regard for our feelings. Feelings are important but feelings are not decisive. Convictions, things we are convinced of, are decisive. Feelings are not. More often than not, acting on our feelings leads us down wrong paths and into trouble. Christ's mandate was an utterly simple one, one with no complexities whatsoever. I don't care how you feel, Jesus says to us, simply love your neighbors. Love them as your heavenly Father loves them. Love them, the good and the bad alike, with the unconditional love with which your Father in heaven loves them. Love all of your neighbors in what you do to them, in what you do for them, and in how you act toward them. All of those complicated and complex feelings of yours will eventually follow along. My religion, says Jesus, is a matter of what we do; it's not a religion simply of nice feelings.

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.

Parish News:

HSC Students: Please keep these students in your prayers during the exam period

All Soul's cemetery visits: Point Clare: Prayers start in the Green Hut 11.00am, Monday 2nd November. Palmdale: Prayers start 12.30pm at the undercover area to the East of the Chapels (next to the Native Gardens).

All Soul's Memorial Mass: Mass will be held Monday 2nd November at 7pm. As we still have restrictions in place, there will be no supper afterwards.

Readers Roster: A shortened roster available from the work Sacristy.

Lost & Found: A mobile phone was found in the Church. Please contact the Parish Office to claim.

SCAM: Please be advised we have received notice there is a scam email appearing to be from Fr Timothy. It asks for you to purchase "steam vouchers" on his behalf. This email looks very real. If you ever receive an email from Fr Timothy or the Parish Office asking for money please call to verify its legitimacy.

Volunteer Bus Drivers: Volunteer bus drivers are urgently needed for the weekend bus run to Mass. LR license is necessary. All enquiries to the Parish Office, 4341 1073.

Cash Housie: We are temporarily operating at Ettalong Diggers, Wednesday nights 7.30pm. 50 games, cash prizes. We will return to our normal venue once restrictions lift. Enq: Rob 0427 990 818.

Broken Bay News: Catch all the latest news around the Diocese online. This issue celebrates one year since Bishop Anthony Randazzo's appointment, as well as testimonies from our seminarians on their next steps in their journey to priesthood. https://issuu.com/bbcatholic/docs/broken_bay_news_october_2020_issue_207

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 form from the gathering space or request one from the Parish Office.



Children's Week is a national celebration of children's rights, talents and citizenship held on the fourth Wednesday of October in Australia to coincide with Universal Children's Day. Each year the theme of Children's Week highlights a particular Children's Right. **The Theme for 2020- 'Children have the right to meet together and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.'**

This includes being free to:

- meet individual people and groups of friends
- set up an organisation
- join an organisation
- take part in peaceful protest

come together to discuss the issues that affect their lives. Children's Week 2020 is a wonderful opportunity to promote the rights of children and young people, and to celebrate their capacity to actively contribute to the world around them.

Children's Week is run by different organisations in each state and territory and many of these have their own websites. To link to information about Children's Week in your state or territory go to <https://www.childrensweek.org.au/>



Deacon Samuel French

First Reading

EX 22:20-26

Thus says the LORD: "You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans. "If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him. If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in? If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

Responsorial Psalm

PS 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

R. (2) **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

I love you, O LORD, my strength,
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

R. **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

My God, my rock of refuge,
my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold!
Praised be the LORD, I exclaim,
and I am safe from my enemies.

R. **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

The LORD lives and blessed be my rock!
Extolled be God my savior.

You who gave great victories to your king
and showed kindness to your anointed.

R. **I love you, Lord, my strength.**

Second Reading

1 THES 1:5C-10

Brothers and sisters: You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

Alleluia

JN 14:23

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

MT 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

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 to 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 Working Bee

We will be having a parish working bee on Saturday **7th** November starting at 8am. Any time you can spare on the day, would be welcomed immensely.

Hope to see you there.

Please note there will be no Adoration



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 the Sunday Mass every week.

To learn more click <https://thekidsbulletin.com/about/>

To access the bulletins click <https://thekidsbulletin.com/tag/the-kids-bulletin/>

To access free online Children's liturgy of the Word videos click <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfg9euOFFmsu-xX7S2tCcNA> or search Heidi Witte- YouTube.