

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 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

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Website

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

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



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

Anniversary: Sr Elizabeth Carr SGS, Pat Hennessy, Charles Gatt.

Recently deceased: Lorosio Bautava, Roel Ellsmore, Michael Romeo.

Remembrance: .

Sick: Susie Simmons, Chris Mitchell, Don Matheson, Trish Stuart, Colleen Garland, Hanaa El Khatib, Josephine Weate, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, Maria Linda Cabatingan, Eileen Jones, Larry Sheil, Pauline Hogan, Pat Savage, Ernie Mullins, John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, 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, Marie McNamee, Georgie Brigdale.



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OUR FAMILY
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Hardwick's on Blackwall

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

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.



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church



32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8th November 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 4)

Matthew 25:1-13 **Who Are The Wise Ones?**



"Jesus told his disciples this parable..." Once again, the Lord speaks to his own, his closest associates, his friends, his Apostles. He uses the image of ten virgins for twelve chaste men. It is all or nothing. We must never forget that the Lord is a demanding God. He demands a lot and expects a lot and that is fine with me. The Lord deserves a lot because he loves a lot! "We love because he loved us first!" (1 Jn. 4:16) Where God's Will is done, there is the Kingdom of Heaven. The Kingdom of Heaven is a wedding feast, where man ascends to God and God descends to man: "Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Two wills become one.

The Foolish Ones

Who are the foolish ones? They are the ones that come unprepared and are ill-equipped in meeting the bridegroom and understanding the dangers of his delay. The doors are shut for them because they were too slow in meeting the bridegroom. They became distracted with his delay and did not realize that the feast would begin immediately upon his arrival. The words of the Lord are devastating, "Amen, I say to you, I do not know you." Do I realize what this means? For God not know me is equivalent to not having created me! Who are the foolish ones? Those who wish to go to their wedding *unprepared* and *ill-equipped*; who have already spent all their oil, their richness, their beauty, their love on someone or something else! They were deceived, and they are perishing. St. Paul's message of the Cross is simple: We sacrifice while others party! We nail ourselves to virtue and to honour, while others strip themselves naked and go all out in meeting their own catastrophic destruction. "Who are the wise ones today? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made the wisdom of the world foolish?" (1Cor 1:17-25) Freedom without discipline spells DISASTER.

The Wise Ones

Who are the wise ones? *The Just ones*. "Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting" (Ps 33:1) because it is fitting to be upright! Who are the wise ones? Those who maintain their dignity and never lower their standards. The ones who come prepared and await the moment of the bridegroom – the authentic groom. They follow the Law of the Lord; patient in his arrival; confident in his word! "For upright is the word of the Lord" (Ps 33:4). The just ones are those who proclaim the Cross! "I suffer know for I know my saviour lives." The Cross is the greatest stumbling block for all men. We want Christ but without a Cross. "The Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified!" The Cross is the greatest symbol of tolerance, of patience and of VICTORY! "For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength." Perseverance, hard work and faith equal SUCCESS! It is organic. It is all natural. It is HEAVEN! To those who have much, more will be given. We wait patiently for the coming of the Lord. We know neither the day nor the hour. But we do know it will come one day in my life and in the life of the world.

Today, demand a lot from yourself and from your children. Raise the bar. Expect a lot from yourself and from your children, because only he who loves a lot deserves a lot. Love for LOVE. Feel the pinch of the Cross.

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:

The Church dedicates the month of November to praying for our deceased love ones. Both Scripture and Traditional remind us to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins and enter the joy of Heaven. Masses can be offered for those we knew and loved or for the souls that have no one to pray for them. Envelopes are available from the Entrance table.

Christmas Hampers: Due to Covid, it has been decided the Christmas hampers won't go ahead this year. Thank you to all those volunteers who normally put in a huge effort every year. If you do find yourself in need this year please call St Vincent de Paul for assistance. Peter 0425 358 376 or Pat 0403 672 077.

Covid update: Even though numbers have increased to 300 our church will still remain at a limit of 120 due to floor space and seating. This is the safest option to keep people socially distanced.

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

SCAM 1: 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 genuine. If you ever receive an email from Fr Timothy or the Parish Office asking for money please call to verify its legitimacy.

SCAM 2: We have been advised by the Diocese about another scam happening at the moment, one that has targeted Church accounts. It is believed the hackers are using account information from the internet. If you wish to make a donation to the Church please contact the Parish Office for bank details.

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

Cleaning Roster: 13/11/20—Michael French, Jo Salter, Tom French, Christine French.

Gathering Area Table: Please refrain from leaving any items on the Gathering Area Table without prior permission from Fr Timothy.

Fransalian Quote

It is utter foolishness to seek to be wise with an impossible wisdom.

St. Francis de Sales



In November, We Remember!



Families across Broken Bay need your help November 2020 CWF Appeal

Your generous donations 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

International Children's Day

Celebrated on 20 November.

<https://worldchildrensday.unicef.org.au/>

Parish Collections:

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 weekly envelopes or by the following methods.

Bpoint, which will take you to our Website for secure online payments.

<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.

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish via electronic transfer please contact the Parish Office for the account details.

Reading 1

WIS 6:12-16

Resplendent and unfading is wisdom, and she is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire; Whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed, for he shall find her sitting by his gate. For taking thought of wisdom is the perfection of prudence, and whoever for her sake keeps vigil shall quickly be free from care; because she makes her own rounds, seeking those worthy of her, and graciously appears to them in the ways, and meets them with all solicitude.

Responsorial Psalm

R. (2b) **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God.**

O God, you are my God, for you I long;

for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you

like a dry, weary land without water.

R. **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God.**

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary

to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,

my lips will speak your praise.

R. **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God.**

So I will bless you all my life,

in your name I will lift up my hands.

My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,

my mouth shall praise you with joy.

R. **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God.**

On my bed I remember you.

On you I muse through the night

for you have been my help;

in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

R. **My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord, my God.**

Reading 2

1 THES 4:13-18 OR 4:13-14

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words. We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep.

Alleluia

MT 24:42A, 44

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Stay awake and be ready!

For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

MT 25:1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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 incur a hefty fine so PLEASE take note of the information provided.— IF YOU FEEL UNWELL PLEASE STAY HOME

The number of people per Masses will remain at 120 to comply with the social distancing ruling. When you arrive for Mass there will be someone at the sign-in table conducting a headcount. **It is imperative that EVERY PERSON who enters the church or Hall 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 the headcount. **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.