

OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL EMERGENCY
0438 631 327

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Administrator

Fr. Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.

Office Staff

Raelene Spithill, Johnson Mani, Triona Meagher.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5pm;
Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds)
Saturday and Public Holidays 9am.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK First Friday
4pm Mass

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE Friday
after morning Mass; First Friday
3.30pm; Saturday 9.30am (after
morning Mass) & 4.30pm; Sunday
7.00am.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Baptism
Preparation - 9.30am second and
fourth Sunday of the month
Sacrament of Baptism - 11.00am first
and third Sunday of the month . Please
contact the parish office for more
information.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT** Saturday after 9am Mass
until 10am Monday until 9am (Public
Holidays 10.15am) Thursday 7.30pm-
8.30pm for the needs of the Parish.

PARISH CHOIR Enquiries: 0417 659
526. Practice Wed nights in the church
@ 7pm. New members welcome.

Christian Meditation Monday
evenings 6-7pm in the Leo Mahon
room. All welcome. Enquiries 0432 882
776.

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 / P.O. Box 264 WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256
Phone: (02) 4341 1073 Email: woywoyparish@bbccatholic.org.au
Website: www.woywoycatholic.org.au

St John the Baptist Primary School:

Principal: Nicole Cumming, 21a Dulkara Rd, South Woy Woy 2256.
P: 024341 0884 www.sjbwoywoy.dbb.org.au

Psalm Response © Colin D. Smith cfc



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and
healed all who were sick. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 2nd February 2020
Malachi 3:1-4; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40

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

Anniversaries: Richard Alexander Culmer, Peter Hope, John Charles Carr.

Sick: John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, Michael Taylor, Kathleen Bezzina, Geoff
Floyd, Elaine Finlayson, Tom Searle, Joan Kelleher, Brian Smith, Jason Simon,
Vicki Pirie, Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James
Morreti, Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga,
Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis & Rose Aloisio, Amanda Sheridan, Audey
Barsenbach, Marta Panczyna, Sue James, Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack
Dummett, Jo Farrelle, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Robert
Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Sheila Rogan, Karen Chorazyczewska,
Ian Wilks, Michael Hourigan, John Horrigan, Ed Hyland, Daphne McNab,
Shirley Crotty, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Tim Parker, Lorraine Smith, Larry
Cresswell, Ken Joyce, Alison Richmond, June Townsend, Andrew Muggs,
Sheila Houghton, Frank Levy, Dorothy Fulton, Roger Mitchell.

Quotes from *Amoris Laetitia*... "The Joy of Love"
Pope Francis

We also find it hard to make room for the consciences of the
faithful, who very often respond as best they can to the Gos-
pel amid their limitations, and are capable of carrying out their
own discernment in complex situations. We have been called
to form consciences, not to replace them.

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*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 Network Services Pty Ltd (ABN 65 151 158 628 | Australian Credit Licence 408042) (LNS) including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 55 077 248 983) which owns LNS.

WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH
St John the Baptist Catholic Church

Mission and Vision
Bringing Jesus Christ to ALL, through:
Worship and Liturgy
Outreach
Our Parish School
Hospitality
Adult & Child Faith Formation



3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
26th January 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 3)
Gospel Reflection — © Fr Michael Tate



There are certain news readers or presenters on the radio or TV one wants to switch off: something in the voice grates. Others, one could listen to endlessly: something about the tone is so attractive. Jesus' voice must have sounded fascinating: something about it perfectly vocalised his attractive and fascinating personality. It gave true voice to who he was, and this is what proved so alluring to those four fishermen, two sets of two brothers. It is an extraordinary situation. These men were running successful fishing operations, family businesses. But once Jesus passed by and called them, the Gospel says, at once they left their boats and followed him.

Immediately, they allowed this stranger to wrench them out of their place in society, in the commercial life of the Sea of Galilee. Without any further ado, they gave up their status as independent and settled businessmen and became dependent itinerants. How did this come about?

I think because, hearing his voice, they realised that Jesus was the true vocalist of God. Irish author and mystic, John O'Donohue, once wrote, 'Something in us senses and knows how perfectly the contours of the soul fit the divine embrace.'

Maybe Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John sensed that, in this Jesus, there was a Soul whose contours perfectly fitted the divine embrace. They were prepared to risk everything, abandoning their livelihood, for the chance to have their souls contoured along the same lines. More particularly, they were Jewish. Their Jewish scriptures and tradition would have prepared them, filled them with longing and expectation for the Messiah. They were in a state of readiness. And then, the call: 'Follow me...', the call not to an isolated individual promising to save his soul, but to two brothers and then another two brothers. Immediately, a community was being formed and its task was to bring others into that Jesus-following community. At some stage, you will hear his fascinating voice, and a decision will be required: a decision of faith.

'Come, follow me.' The faith required is not a peculiar sort of knowledge about this or that. 'Faith' is setting out on a journey in the hopeful conviction that *this Jesus is* the person who wants to set me on the Way which is most life giving, the person through whom I can receive divine mercy, the person in whom I can share victory over death, the person by whom I am called to participate in Divine life.

The Nazarene is calling. Simon Peter, Andrew, James and John are also beckoning: 'Take the risk of joining us. Let us together follow the sound of that voice which reverberates throughout all creation, the sound of that voice which perfectly articulates Divine Truth and Beauty, the call of that voice sounded by Our Lord Jesus Christ.'

* John O'Donohue, *Divine Beauty: The Invisible Embrace*, Bantam Press, p.246.

Parish News

Sound system: We are in the process of changing our sound system and the first phase of upgrading the Radio Mic System is still underway. The second phase will be the upgrade of the PA System. If you would like to contribute to the upgrade, the cost is due to be \$6,165.50.

January 25/26 the Diocese will be raising money for St Vincent de Paul bushfire appeal. There will be 3rd collection for this.

Sunday of the Word of God: Our Catholic liturgical calendar has a new celebration—Sunday of the Word of God, which is celebrated today for the first time. Pope Francis has given us this new Sunday commencing in 2020, and to be celebrated each year on the 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time.

Pope Francis, in instituting this day, wrote a letter *Aperuit Illis (AI)*, which seeks to remind us to receive the Scriptures “not as a human word but as what it really is, the word of God”, and to grow in our knowledge and love of Scriptures. Consider taking some steps to read or study the Scriptures more this year.

Rosters

Volunteer Church Cleaning 07/02/20: Mary McCumstie, Cheryl Sillick, Linda Potestas, Rano Spiteri.



How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church?

As the Catholic Church in Australia prepares for the first gathering of the Plenary Council in October 2020, we are all invited to discern how we are being called to be a Christ-centred Church. To learn about the process of discernment, visit plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au or speak with your parish priest. The November National Theme for Discernment is Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal. Further information in the Gathering Area.

Our Parish Vision is Bringing Jesus Christ to All.

Next Weekend the 1st and 2nd of February, our Youth Ministry Team will be recruiting for More Youth Leaders and Mentors Youth Group Members aged 12 – 17 Young Adult Members aged 18 – 30

We will also have a Donation Box at the Church Entrance for donations to help resource the Youth and Young Adults as we don't have any fund or budget. We are volunteers.

We will train the Team (all these Leaders) in Anointed and Sent Model starting in February 2020 and it's an Ongoing Training of Leaders and Mentors. All adults that are participating are required to be trained and complete Work with Children's check before activating your gifts and talents to help.

Our next meeting will be on the evening of the Wednesday the 5th of February at 7.00pm with a meal of: Entrée - Main meal and laughter @ Leo Mahon Room. We will keep John the Baptist motto: “**He must increase, I must decrease**”. We will make it more meaningful with the Youth.

In the Youth Ministry Training we will cover topics on:

- What is Ministry?
- Communication
- Understanding Adolescence
- Teamwork
- Evangelizations
- Leadership
- Understanding the Catholic Faith
- Anointed and Sent Model with Three Goals and Eight Components

Please sign up and contact Kiliti 0412731979 or the Parish Office 4341 1073

Anyone interested in joining the forces for Youth Ministry, we need YOU.

Salesian Thought

Perfect happiness is reserved for the blessed in heaven. As long as we live in this passing world we must strive to be joyful to the greatest possible degree.

[AE VI, Conf. 14, footnote (i) app II, p.445, SC I, p.50]

Saint Francis de Sales

Vinnies Bushfire Appeal Australia Day Weekend Special Collection

A Special Collection will be held this weekend (25/26 January) to raise funds for the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal to support bushfire-affected communities. Donations can be made in cash in the collection plate or online at www.bushfireappeal.com.au.

Parishioners wishing to donate individually and receive a tax-deductible receipt can donate through a link to the **Vinnies Donations Page** on the Diocesan website (www.bbcatholic.org.au).

Thank you to those who have already contributed to support affected communities. We are also called to pray for those affected, especially those who have lost loved ones, for those fighting the fires and for an end to the ongoing crisis. Prayers and other resources can be found on our website <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/give/bushfires/resources>

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January Prayer intention for evangelisation - Promotion of World Peace

We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

St John Paul II Pilgrimage

20 days Pilgrimage to Croatia and All Italian Shrines with Fr Timothy Raj MSFS Spiritual Director. Francis Williams (Travel Coordinator)

Depart Sydney Thursday 3 September 2020 and return Sydney Tuesday 22 September 2020 (17 nights)

Trip includes

Round-trip airfare Sydney/Dubai/Zagreb/Dubrovnik - Venice/Dubai/Sydney. One way flight Split/Rome 17 nights centrally located 3 stars hotels: (or similar)

To facilitate planning and finalising of details for this pilgrimage, direct contact can be made with Francis Williams who is the travel co-ordinator. Francis can be contacted by telephone on 0404 893 877 or by email at perthfamily888@gmail.com. Final arrangements will need to be concluded in the next few weeks.

GOSFORD HOSPITAL VISITATION – A PLEA FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

Gosford Parish is responsible for ensuring that Catholic patients [from all parishes] have the opportunity to receive the Blessed Eucharist on a Sunday by sending a team in each Friday to visit those nominated.

Unfortunately though our volunteer numbers are dwindling due to ill health and we are now in urgent need and call on local parishes to find people who would be willing to take on this ministry.

NSW Health has imposed a number of regulations and requirements which need to be met and the most daunting for some is the idea of undertaking a 40 hour CPE course, and receiving a number of vaccinations to protect both patient and visitor but if you aren't daunted please call Gosford Parish Office on 4325 1042 to have your questions answered.

Fransalian Spirituality

Fransalian Spirituality is a lived and living tradition inspired by St. Francis de Sales (1567-1622) and St. Jane de Chantal (1572-1641). It emphasizes common sense and the power of doing little, ordinary and everyday things for God and others with great passion and great love. It is a down-to-earth way of living the Gospel of Jesus Christ.....wherever you find yourself. St. Francis de Sales tells each of us to “bloom where we are planted.” This spirituality offers practical ideas on how to journey through the spiritual life with great hope and joy as we embrace the duties of “where we are planted” and respond to the universal call to holiness. It's a “spirituality of the heart” as relevant today as in the time of St. Francis and St. Jane, an all-embracing, down-to-earth spirituality for everyone.

Cash Housie every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30pm and finish 10.20pm, cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6pm. Proceeds benefit the Parish.

Enquiries Rob: 0427 990 818.

St Vincent de Paul Society on the Peninsula assist and give a hand up to people in need. We have two Conferences with volunteers sharing the visiting or office work. New Volunteers are always welcome. Please ring Pat 0403 672 077 or Peter 0425 358 376.

Ethel Cox Parish Centre - “Mary Mac's Place” Hospitality volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact 4341 0584.

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