

**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. Lourduswamy 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>  
Sunday of the month. Sacrament of  
Baptism - 11.00am 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. Enq 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

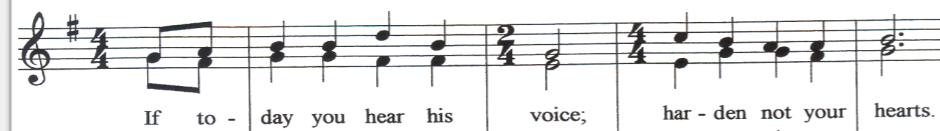
**St John the Baptist Primary School:**

Principal: Nicole Davies, 21a Dulkara Rd, South Woy Woy 2256.

P: 02 4341 0884 www.sjbwoywoy.dbb.org.au

Psalm Response

© Colin D. Smith cfc



**Gospel Acclamation**

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!* Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

Readings: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

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

**Recently Deceased:** Kenneth Thorson, Juanito G Bansing Jr, Fr Fernando Suarez, Bobby Reynolds.

**Remembrances:** Amado, Salome & Hector Briones, Kathleen Coyne.

**Anniversaries:** John Wahlin, John Anthony Snell, Kevin Gavin Moore, William Brady Ward, Bruno de Souza, Daniel Hennessy.

**Sick:** Dennis Von Nida, Ernie Mullins, John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, Michael Taylor, Kathleen Bezzina, Geoff Floyd, Elaine Finlayson, Tom Searle, Joan Kelleher, 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, 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, , 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 Gospel 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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\$300 donation to a local community centre\*

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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



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**15<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 3)**

**Gospel Reflection—© Fr Richard Leonard SJ**



Father Jim was invited by Caritas, the Catholic Development Agency, to travel to the Philippines and see the excellent work they were doing with the monies collected in their Lenten appeal. When he arrived in Manila he was asked if he would like to have some exposure to the real lives of the people Caritas was helping. It was decided that for two days he would live with a family on Smoky Mountain. Smoky Mountain no longer exists, but for over thirty years it was home to nearly ten thousand people. Smoky Mountain was the refuse tip for metro-Manila. It got its name from the smouldering pile of rubbish dumped there every day. People lived on three sides of this mountain of waste and made their homes and livelihood from the city's refuse.

Jim had heard of Smoky Mountain, but nothing prepared him for the reality. He smelt it before he saw it and when he saw it he couldn't believe it. The crest of the hill was indeed billowing smoke, and canals of water surrounded it.

Running water was only available at public pumps. Over the canals were semi-public cubicles where people showered and went to the open toilets. As the bulldozers shovelled the day's deposit into the mountainside, the residents picked through the collection to see what could be salvaged. Homes were made of every weather-resistant material imaginable.

Jim met the Jesuits who looked after the Smoky Mountain parish. They were campaigning to have it shut down. The parish priest took him to meet the family with whom he would be staying. On a hot, humid afternoon he started the climb to Bing's home. There were children everywhere. Dirty, energetic, scavenging children. His heart was close to breaking, his stomach was dry-retching.

When he arrived at Bing's neatly kept home he was given a warm welcome. Bing saw that Jim was hot and bothered by his new surrounds and offered him a drink of water. Nothing prepared him for this dilemma: how far was he prepared to share in the life of the poor? All Jim could think of were the diseases he could catch from drinking water from the pump. As thirsty as he was he declined the offer, knowing that later he would privately gulp down one of the bottles of water in his backpack. Jim watched as the glasses of water were served on a tray. As he chatted to the family about Smoky Mountain he felt a fraud. Bing's daughter emerged with a sealed bottle of water and proceeded to fill up all the glasses. On seeing the bottle Jim had a change of mind and accepted the water. Bing then produced a plastic glass in a sealed package for Jim's use. Flushed with embarrassment, all he could think of was Jesus and the Woman at the Well.

At that famous well Jesus enters the world of a poor Samaritan woman who has been dumped five times by the men who married her. By asking for a drink, by engaging her in conversation, by understanding her situation and offering her a way out of the cycle of emotional abuse in which she was caught, Jesus gives her the greatest gift of all: personal dignity. This changes her life and turns her into one of the earliest missionaries in John's Gospel.

Although separated by time and space, a drink of water helped a Samaritan woman and Fr Jim face up to the embarrassment of their worlds, their quick and inaccurate judgements and reassess the choices that could lead them to life. Both of them recognised that no matter how good the gift of water was that day, the unknown and unexpected Giver of the gift was so much greater.

May this Eucharist help us do the same.



## Parish News

**First Holy Communion Programme 2020:** Please keep the candidates in your prayers as they receive instruction over the coming weeks.

**Project Compassion:** Your donation to Project Compassion gives expression to the Gospel imperative to pursue justice and help those vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. Project Compassion envelopes are available in the Gathering Area.

**Thank you:** "World Day of Prayer" Service 6<sup>th</sup> March - Thanks to Phoebe for organising the catering along with an excellent team of people to help her. Joseph, Jeffery, Rick and others came on Thursday to help put out chairs in the Gathering Area and Leo Mahon Room and tidy them away after. Lyn and the Choir and Pauline who played the organ and piano. Pat and Lola did readings during the service and also helped Jacqui welcome all the visiting parishioners from other Churches. Kath helped me with some readings and helped with preparation. Larry worked the computer. Thank you to everyone who brought refreshments. To anyone I haven't mentioned thank you. It wouldn't have happened without all your help. Mary Ford, Ecumenical Co-Ordinator.

**Cuppa and a Chat:** A group of seniors meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month for a cuppa in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. Transport is provided. All are welcome. Next cuppa is 17<sup>th</sup> March. Enquiries to Pat on 0403 672 077.

**Catechists Mass:** Next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March the 9.15 am mass will be the Annual Mass of Renewal for our Parish Catechists, with a blessing for them to continue their generous work in this often "invisible" ministry. It is an ideal time to come together and celebrate their united dedication to the children, showing how wonderful it is to Walk with Jesus.

**Piety Stall:** Paschal lambs are available now from the Piety Stall. Cost \$8.

**Church incident update:** On 21/12/19 a Missal and some nativity figures were taken from the Church. They were taken by an individual who was not well at that time. The items have now been returned and no further action is being taken.

### Lenten Programme 2020

**Fridays** - Stations of the Cross at 6.30 p.m.

**Wednesdays** - Stations of the Cross at 6.30p.m. followed by the Eucharist at 7.00p.m.

**2nd Rite of Reconciliation:** Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.00 pm.

## SJB PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY

**Our Parish Vision is Bringing Jesus Christ to All. : "He must increase, I must decrease".**

Youth Ministry Training is on this coming Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> of March from 6.30pm to 9.00pm at Leo Mahon room. Topics covered will be The Ministry of Catechesis. The Ministry of Pastoral Care will be next plus a revisit on The Ministry of Prayer and Worship, Community Life and Leadership Development.

### YOUTH MINISTRY GATHERING

**20<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH 2020**

**LEO MAHON ROOM**

**YEAR 5 & 6 GROUP**

**HIGH SCHOOL GROUP YEAR 7 – YEAR 12**

**6.00 PM – 8.00PM**

**Please invite your brothers and sisters and friends**

**Please let Ingrid 0414843277 know that you are coming or Speranza 0414678871/Seilina 0412615421 or Bernie on 0417698760**

**COME AND SEE!**

**BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS - DISCIPLESHIP - A MEAL - AND FUN GAMES**

**Vegetarian Mexican/Italian Penne Aurora/Pesto Pasta/Fine Indian Cuisine**

We are inviting you to be part of this great ministry. **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. Please email your WWCC to parish@woywoycatholic.org.au . Those who wanted to join this Youth Ministry Team are invited to contact Kiliti on 0412 731 979 [sk2230grace@gmail.com](mailto:sk2230grace@gmail.com) or Bernie for training purposes.

Our Youth Ministry Team are still recruiting for:

**Youth Leaders and Mentors (Aged 18 and over needed – we will train you)**

**Youth Group Members for Year 5 & 6**

**Youth Group Members High School aged 12 – 17**

**Young Adult Members aged 18 – 30**

**Please sign up and contact Kiliti 0412731979 or the Parish Office 4341 1073 for further information.**

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March Prayer intention for evangelisation - Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

## Coronavirus, COVID-19

Bishop Anthony has reviewed his previous instructions with regard to coronavirus and now provides us with the additional instruction proportionate to the current understanding of the coronavirus and the risks outlined by health authorities:

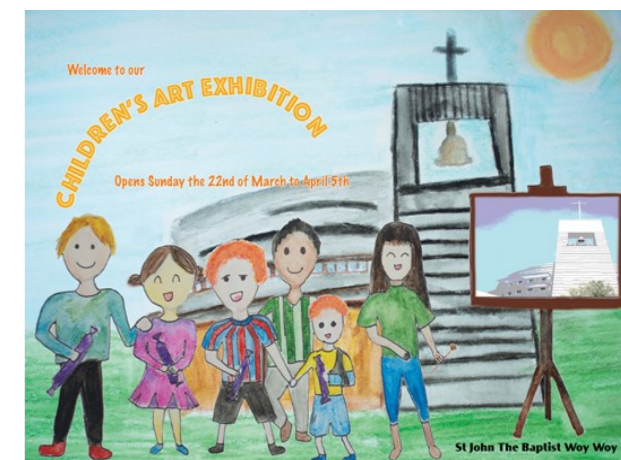
- Individuals should consider their own health, including any potential to infect others with a contagious disease, before attending a public liturgical celebration, and the manner by which they engage their participation in the celebration.
- Holy Water should be temporarily removed from stoups at the doors of churches to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus. Holy Water should continue to be available for people to take home.
- Celebrants may exercise the option allowed in the Roman Rite for the inclusion of the Sign of Peace in the Rite of Communion. If they choose the option for the Sign of Peace, individuals should avoid shaking hands but say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.
- Parishes should continue not to distribute Holy Communion from the Chalice until further notice.
- The Faithful shall still have the option of receiving Communion on the tongue until the situation is further reviewed, but Ministers of Communion should disinfect their hands afterwards and avoid contact with the palms of people's hands.
- The Faithful who are too unwell to attend Sunday mass for whatever cause or at particular risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus can honour their Sunday obligation by participating in a time of prayer within the home, reading the Scriptures or watching Mass on television or online (<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>).

### Eucharistic Miracle at Buenos Aires

Parishioners are invited to hear Mr Ron Tesoriero speak about his experiences with The Eucharistic Miracle at Buenos Aires. Ron is a lawyer and documentary maker. Ron will be speaking at a dinner at the Davistown RSL on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March, 7:00 for 7:15. The dinner is hosted by the Catenian Association. Cost is \$30, a 2 course dinner with wine. For catering: Please RSVP Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020. SMS 0410434840 email: [brisbanewatercircle@gmail.com](mailto:brisbanewatercircle@gmail.com)

## Welcome to our Parish families

*Children's Art Exhibition 2020*



Thanks to everyone who picked up their drawing rolls last weekend and returned them.

You can still hand your drawing in this weekend.  
**PLEASE DON'T FORGET.**

Come and speak to Kathie and Colleen at the Hospitality desk for more information.

### Rosters

**Volunteer Church Cleaning 20/03/20:** Kathleen Cullen, Warren Sparrow, Jo Slater, Christina Thorson.

**Children's Liturgy 22/03/20:** Marian Bowyer, Jenny Fitzgerald, Shadeeqh Quai Hoi.

**Morning Tea Roster 22/03/20:** St John the Baptist School.

**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.

**CALVARY FUNERALS**  
LOW COST FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Tel: 1300 663 753  
1/77 Rawson Rd Woy Woy

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**Hardwick's on Blackwall**  
(Opposite corner to our church)  
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