

**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@bbcatholic.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



The Lord is kind and mer - ci - ful.

**Gospel Acclamation**  
*Alleluia, alleluia!* Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in  
the love of God. *Alleluia!*

**Readings:** 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020  
Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

**Keep Us In Your Prayers** OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF:  
**Recently Deceased:** Evelyn Carter.

**Remembrances:** Sara Salim, Mary & George Hilliard, Hilliard Brothers, Kevin  
Mills, Mills Family, Bernie Hanna, Leslie Denning, Valerie Price.

**Anniversaries:** Christina de Rooy, Sid Flakelar, Saviour Grima, Mary Catania,  
Bill Finlayson.

**Sick:** 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,  
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.

Meet your local finance expert   
**Amanda Lawer**  
0478 055 609 **\$300 donation to a local community centre\***  
▲ Home and Car Loans ▲ Business Loans ▲ SMSF Loans ▲ Personal Loans  
\*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.

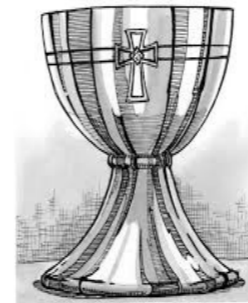
# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

## 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**



**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 3)**  
**Gospel Reflection—© Fr Brendan Byrne SJ**



Today's Gospel takes up the last two of the six pronouncements with which Jesus authoritatively reinterprets the Torah (Law) of Moses in the direction of the 'deeper righteousness' required of the community of the Kingdom. The radical reinterpretation he offers in the Gospel is very helpfully foreshadowed by the passage from Leviticus 19 (vv 1-2, 17-18) in the First Reading. This shows that, while Jesus' pronouncements in the Gospel involve a contrast with what was said 'of old' (that is, in the Law of Moses), there is no absolute opposition. Rather, his fulfilment of the Law brings out its radical depth. The opening statement, 'Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy,' serves as a kind of theme for what is called the 'Holiness Code' in the Book of Leviticus (chapters 17-26). It makes the point – one that Jesus will take up – that the 'righteousness' required of Israel reflects the character and action of Israel's God. The concluding sentences address the issue of dealing with injury received from a fellow Israelite. Anticipating the teaching of Jesus, the Law looks to the human heart and insists that grudges must not be held in a way that seeks opportunities for vengeance. On the contrary, the matter must be brought out into the open and resolved within the wider ideal of 'loving one's neighbour as oneself'.

Jesus' reinterpretation of the Torah arrives at its most radical point in the two final rulings that make up the Gospel: on retaliation (Matt 5:38-42) and love of enemies (5:43-48). The old prescription about 'an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth' (Exod 21:24; Deut 19:21; Lev 24:20) is commonly cited as an example of the harshness of the Old Testament dispensation. This is unfair. In the tribal situation of early Israel, where institutions of justice were barely established, the law of strict reciprocity was a realistic measure to contain and limit the spiral of violence – to bring 'payback' to a closure that all parties would recognise as fair. What Jesus commends is a readiness to disarm violence by being prepared to accept double what the perpetrator requires. The specific instances that he mentions – surrendering your cloak as well as your tunic; going two miles instead of just one – reflect social conditions in the Palestine of his day when soldiers of the occupying Roman forces could make such demands of members of the populace with impunity – something perfectly illustrated in Simon of Cyrene being compelled to carry Jesus' cross (Matt 27:32). Readiness to meet such demands with disarming is hardly realistic on the level of society as a whole where evil and evildoers must be resisted and restrained. If disciples of Jesus, on an individual or small group level (as, for example, in Christian non-violent protest), adopt a generous stance in the face of injury and unreasonable demand, the freedom to do so will stem from consciousness of the far greater generosity they have themselves received from God. In the case of the ruling about enemies (5:43-48) it is again important not to drive a wedge between the old and the new. Lev 19:18, cited in the First Reading, says 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself,' adding nothing about enemies. Hating one's enemy is simply a human tendency that Jesus knows to be widely prevalent. He resists it in the context, now made explicit, of the disposition and action of God, whose 'children' his disciples know themselves to be. 'Like parent, like child,' the adage runs. So they will truly show themselves to be children of God if they reflect the divine action in this radical way.

In conclusion, Jesus offers a definition of what it means to be 'perfect' in observance of the Torah: 'You must be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.' The stress here falls upon the little word 'as': perfection means acting towards others, including one's enemies, as the Creator acts towards all, good and bad alike. The Second Reading, 1 Cor 3:16-23, offers a fine evocation of Christian community identity. In the Christian dispensation the sense of God's dwelling in the Temple in Jerusalem has been transferred to the community of believers. As the 'body' of the risen Lord, vivified by the Spirit, they now constitute the dwelling place of God. Divisive allegiances to particular teachers – whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas (Peter) – on the basis of a 'wisdom' specific to each, threaten the very existence of this Temple. The only one to whom believers can truly 'belong' is Christ. Through this belonging, insignificant though they be in the sight of the world, believers participate in his lordship of the universe. Within this perspective, 'All things', the teachers included, belong to them.

## Parish News

### Lenten Programme 2020

**26th Feb:** Ash Wednesday - Masses at 7.45a.m 7.00 p.m. and 12.00Noon (School)

It is a day of fasting and abstinence.

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

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

**Bus Trip:** Bus trip to Palm Beach, Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February, leaving 8.45 am. Morning tea supplied. Cost \$20. Contact Susie Casey 0403 417 639.

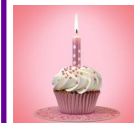
**First Holy Communion Programme 2020:** Information night for parents will take place on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30pm in the Walter Baker Hall, 100 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy. Group Leaders: please make every effort to attend. Enquiries - Parish Office 4341 1073.

**World Day of Prayer:** It is our turn to host World Day of Prayer. The Service will be held on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March Commencing at 10.30 am. There will be approximately 995 services celebrated on the same day across Australia. This years service has been written by the women of Zimbabwe. Refreshments will be held afterwards in the Leo Mahon Room We would like some help from some of our parishioners to serve and prepare the refreshments. Please call Phoebe Glacken 0416 056 324 or 0407 911 904. Everyone is welcome"

**Coronavirus:** We have received a directive from our Vicar General advising that the Chalice is not to be shared at any Mass but is to be reserved for the Celebrant(s) only.

**Palms for burning:** Please bring in old palms for burning and place them in the box provided.

**Birthday Wishes:** Birthday wishes to Verna Palmer who celebrates her 101st birthday on 03.03.20. Pat Fitzgerald who celebrates his 90th birthday on 04.03.20. Happy birthday Verna and Pat.



**Welcome to our new Assistant Priest :** On behalf of Fr Timothy and the Parish Community we would like to extend our welcome to Fr Lourduswamy who will be arriving on 3 March and will be assisting Fr Timothy in our parish.

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February Universal Prayer intention - Listen to the Migrants' Cries

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

### SJB PARISH YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Halleluia! God is great. We have received our books **Anointed and Sent: an Australian Vision for Catholic Youth Ministry.** The training started on Wednesday and it was very well attended by the Youth Ministry Team (12 in total). Our next Training evening are:

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> of March starting at 7.00pm (Presenter Bernie & Sharon O'Keefe on Advocacy)**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> of February 9.30am – 4.00pm.**

**(Topics on Prayer & Worship/Leadership Development/Pastoral Care)**

It is not too late to join us if you wanted to be part of this great ministry. **All adults that are participating are required to be trained and complete Work with Children's check** by the end of this month before activating your gifts and talents to help. Please email your WWCC to parish@woywoycatholic.org.au . Those who cannot make it to the training at the above times will be trained in their available time – please let me know in advance.

Our Youth Ministry Team are still recruiting for:

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

**Youth Group Members aged 12 – 17**

**Young Adult Members aged 18 – 30**

**Please sign up on pages provided if you want to be a Youth Leader/Mentor**

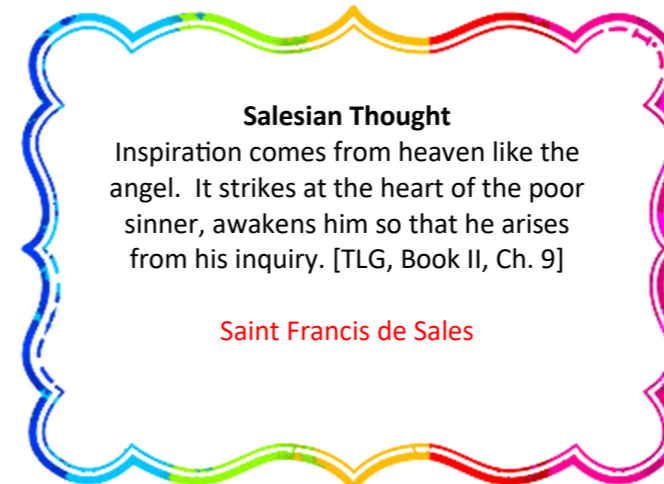
**A separate sheet for Youth Members aged 12 – 17 & and for Young Adults aged 18 – 30**

**Youth will start with an Open Evening on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March starting at 7.15pm – 8.45pm. Program will be presented with:**

We have decided to start the **First Youth Meeting with a FAMILY DINNER.** All the youth and young adults that sign up plus the families of the Youth Ministry Team are invited to attend and welcome everyone. Details will be followed soon for catering and responsibilities.

**Youth Ministry Team Meeting and training will be changed to fit in everyone which might include weekends. The books Anointed and Sent was sponsored by the Diocese of Broken Bay and I thank Rachel Vala for ordering them for us. High Schools has been contacted and they will include our Youth Notices in their School Newsletter.**

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



Saint Francis de Sales

### BRINGING JESUS CHRIST TO ALL THROUGH HOSPITALITY

Hello everyone, The Parish Pastoral Council has chosen Hospitality as a key area for our parish to build upon and strengthen the work already happening here at St John the Baptist. Pope Francis' theme and message on Mission Sunday 2019 is 'Baptised and Sent: The Church of Christ in Communion and Mission in the World'. The Peninsula consists of a diverse community and we often have first-time guests at weekend Masses. How wonderful it is to welcome new parishioners and visitors to our beautiful Church! The second stage of the Hospitality Plan is now beginning. The Parish Pastoral Council has approved a Welcome desk in the foyer, with information to assist current and new parishioners. A Welcome Pack, brochures on our parish school, Ministries and services for those in need, including Mary Macs will be available. Our Peninsula community may not be aware of what our Church has to offer and we have been asked questions in the foyer regarding Sacraments, Reconciliation, Youth groups, Home Communion, Anointing of the Sick and Prayer groups. Our mission has become very clear: To share the welcome and love of Jesus Christ. Through our Parish Mission and Vision, the Hospitality Ministry welcomes all who wish to pray, connect and become followers of Jesus Christ. We seek to be renewed and transformed, inspired by the Holy Spirit. To carry this work we need volunteers as Welcomers who will set up the desk before weekend Masses. All that is needed is some of your weekend time on a monthly roster, a positive attitude and a desire to talk to people. We will be guided in the formation of our ministry by the Diocese. Please contribute your wonderful God-given gifts to this Ministry. Let us make a difference in our world, as followers of our Lord, Jesus Christ. God Bless, Kathie Smith, Coordinator, Hospitality Ministry 0404 058 970.

### 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)

**Francis William will be here on 8th March 2020 to meet with those who have given the names for the Pilgrimage after 9.15a.m. Mass at Leo Mohan's room. To contact: His telephone number is 0404 893 877 or by email at perthfamily888@gmail.com.**

### Rosters

**Volunteer Church Cleaning 28/02/20:** Kevin Glacken, Tom French, Christina Thorson, Laurie Jarvis.

**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.

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

OUR FAMILY  
Caring For  
Your Family



Tanti Financial Services  
control your future

Aged Care Specialist  
1300 661 424  
admin@tfs.com.au



Bryan J. Reid Funeral Services  
1/39 Victoria Road, Woy Woy.  
Free Call: 1800 032 225  
100% Australian Owned Family  
Operated Company.



Hardwick's on Blackwall  
(Opposite corner to our church)  
4/115 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy  
Café and catering  
services  
Ph 0422 561 439