

**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.

**St John the Baptist Primary School**

St John the Baptist Primary School is now enrolling for Kindergarten 2021. For all enquiries please call 4341 0884.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May For Deacons**

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

For those of our parishioners who would like Confession, please call the Parish Office on 4341 1073 or Fr Timothy on 0407 469 530 to request a time.

**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@bbccatholic.org.au

Website: www.woywoycatholic.org.au

**St John the Baptist Primary School:**

21a Dulkara Rd, Woy Woy 2256

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

While we may not all be able to enter the church building for Mass, our prayer and worship, our physical or spiritual communion is a foretaste of the blessed communion which is to come. It reminds us that we are in communion with those about us and with those who have gone before us in faith. We become one through Jesus Christ with each other and in the communion of saints.

*Most Rev Anthony Randazzo Bishop of Broken Bay*

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

**Recently Deceased:** Kitty Cosse, Rebecca Kertesz, Albert Unerzo. Carmel Bezzina, Ray Repp

**Remembrances:** Philip Murphy, Harry Burgess.

**Sick:** Pat O'Reagan, Dennis Von Nida, Ernie Mullins, John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, Michael Taylor, Geoff Floyd, Elaine Finlayson, Tom Searle, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morreti, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis & Rose Aloisio, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey 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, Roger Mitchell, Sheree M



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\$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 Lawer has access to a panel of lenders through Liberty Financial Services Pty Ltd (ABN 65 251 198 628) (Australian Credit Licence 400042) (ASIC including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 55 077 248 983) which owns LMS.



OUR FAMILY  
*Caring For Your Family*



**Hardwick's on Blackwall**  
(Opposite corner to our church)  
4/115 Blackwall Rd,  
Woy Woy

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

**WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH**  
**St John the Baptist Catholic Church**



**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

**24<sup>th</sup> May 2020, Year A**

**The Ascension of the Lord**



Today is a special day, the celebration of the Ascension of Jesus our Lord into heaven.

I'm sure you all remember that after Jesus died on the cross, he was buried in the tomb of a friend. And everybody who loved him went into mourning and shock. Of course, the rest of the story you know well.

After his resurrection, the Risen Lord appears a number of times to his disciples under a variety of circumstances. His final appearance is his leading them back to Galilee where, in happier days, he had preached the Gospel and formed his little company of disciples to continue his work.

Now he brings them to a mountain top to say goodbye.

But, of course, to a mountain top! Are not the mountain tops the places where vows are taken, sacred covenants exchanged, holy promises made and where people reach out to touch God? Remember in the days long past, when Moses led the Children of Israel to Mt. Sinai where the sacred Covenant with God was carved in stone.

And it was on the hill-top of Calvary where Jesus, the Messiah, offered himself on the cross, to gain for us all eternal life.

His mission accomplished, the Son returns today to his Father in triumphant glory and a warm embrace. And the whole world changes.

There is a charming story often told about Jesus when he returns home to heaven's gates.

The Archangel Gabriel greets him at the door and welcomes him saying: "Back so soon?"

Jesus replies, "Yes, I wanted to stay longer, but they crucified me."

Gabriel's reply: "Ah, then your mission was a failure!"

"Well, not exactly," Jesus says. "Before I left, I trained a whole group of followers to carry on my work."

"Oh?" says Gabriel, "And what if they fail, too?"

Jesus ponders for a moment, then shrugs his shoulders and replies: "But I have no other plans."

The story is plain and simple and directed at us here today: Jesus says to us, "It's your turn now. It's all in your hands now. I have no other plans."

Very sobering.

But then Jesus does add this: "My little children, don't be afraid. You are not alone. I am with you all days even to the end of the world!"

We assume our mission in full knowledge that Jesus has not left us, but remains with us as a constant presence to direct and to guide us until his work is done.

Without his presence, the mission would be folly; with his presence, all things are possible, even the salvation and healing of the whole world.

### 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.

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 also donate via Tap and go in the church or credit card. You can pick up a pledge forms from the gathering space or request one from the Parish Office.

If your donation is via cheque you can post it to PO Box 264, Woy Woy NSW 2256.

If you would like a set of weekly donation envelopes please contact the Parish Office.

For any enquiries call Triona Meagher on 4341 1073.

Many thanks.

### Laudato Si Week 2020

2020 marks the fifth anniversary of Laudato Si', which was signed on 24 May 2015.

Pope Francis' encyclical on care for our common home, Laudato Si', is an inspiration during moments of difficulty. It encourages us to reflect on the values we share and create a more just and sustainable future.

The theme of Laudato Si' Week is "everything is connected." During Laudato Si' Week, we come together as one people around the world to prayerfully discern the lessons of this moment. While the world experiences a history-defining crisis, we reflect and prepare to build a better world.

Laudato Si' has been welcomed as a document of deep and abiding beauty, and it has prompted people around the world to reflect more deeply on Creator and creation. Its vision of integral ecology, which sees connections between how we treat God, nature, and each other, offers simple but profound truths about the bonds that unite us.



Thank you. We are so grateful to our community who demonstrate their love for their neighbours by generously supporting the Charitable Works Fund. The CWF appeal was the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> May.

This was the final appeal for this financial year and we need to raise \$15,892.05 to meet the quota set by the Diocese. You have already generously donated \$21,277.95 as part of the 1st two appeals of the year.

- To make an online donation please go to: <https://www.givenow.com.au/cwf> (Woy Woy Parish)
- Deposit directly into the Parish Account BSB 062 784 Account 1200 8001 (as a reference put CWF)
- If you prefer you may ring the Parish Office who can accept your donation using a credit card over the phone.
- Cheques can also be accepted by posting to the Parish Office at PO Box 264, Woy Woy NSW 2256.

When you give to the CWF, you can be assured that your donation is working for the faith and the people of the Diocese of Broken Bay. Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible.

### Follow us:

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

YouTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnggSKPKgwQrGeh7Jv4M5-g>

Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/>



### Fransalian Quote

"Humility is not just charitable;  
it is also gentle and discreet"

St. Francis de Sales

### First reading

Acts 1:1-11 ©

Jesus was lifted up while they looked on  
In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'  
Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

### Second reading

Ephesians 1:17-23 ©

God made him sit at his right hand in heaven  
May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named not only in this age but also in the age to come. He

has put all things under his feet and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

### Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20 ©

Go and make disciples of all nations

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

### Parish News:

**Email address:** For those Parishioners who have not been receiving the Parish newsletter via email can you please contact the Parish Office to be added to the mailing list.

**Scam alert:** We have been made aware that there is a scam regarding a 3rd party collection on behalf of St John the Baptist Church. We have not requested anyone to carry out such a collection. If you are unsure, please contact the Parish Office for clarification.

**Hand Sanitizer:** There is hand sanitizer available for use in the Church. It is located at entry to rear doors and gathering table.

**Resuming of Masses:** Please continue to ring the Parish Office to register yourself for any Masses. Remember we can only take a maximum of 10 People.

### 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 Sunday Mass every week. To learn more click here: <https://thekidsbulletin.com/about/>; to access the bulletins click here: <https://thekidsbulletin.com/>