

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 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.

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

Follow us:

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: Doris Galea, Sr Elizabeth Carr SGS, Lino Liverani.

Recently deceased: Serina Ambrosio, Terry Hardman, Maria Linda.

Remembrance: Robert & Mary Mullins, Joe Sunday.

Sick: 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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\$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 Lawler has access to a panel of lenders through Liberty Network Services Pty Ltd (ABN 45 251 198 678) Australian Credit Licence 4000423 (LNO) including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 55 077 246 983) which owns LNS.



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH
St John the Baptist Catholic Church



Solemnity of All Saints
1st November 2020, Year A



The way we celebrate it today is far removed from any Christian influence, but the holiday has deeply Catholic roots.

When most people think of Halloween, the first images that come to mind are children dressed up in scary costumes going door-to-door to collect candy from as many houses as possible. At the end of the night delighted kids empty their "loot" on the floor and begin the feasting that often ends up with a stomach-ache and a trip to the dentist not long after.

What it evolved into in the United States, however, is now how Halloween began. The word "Halloween" is a Scottish shortening of the phrase "All hallows-even," literally meaning "All Holy Evening" and dates to the 18th century. The English have a similar phrase, "All Hallows' Eve," with the same meaning. Both words denote the night before All Saints Day, November 1, and refer to the celebration of the holy men and women who are recognized in the Catholic Church as residing in Heaven. Pope Gregory III established the feast during the 8th century after consecrating a chapel named in honour of "All Saints" in Saint Peter's Basilica. The feast was then extended to the universal Church by Pope Gregory IV and made into a holy day of obligation for all Catholics. Along with its celebration, All Saints Day was given a special vigil Mass the night before (October 31), which led to that date being regarded by Catholics as a "holy evening."

In addition to All Saints Day, the Church established November 2 as All Souls Day, dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory. On this day Catholics pray for their deceased relatives and friends, visiting cemeteries to remember those who are no longer on this earth. It is with this celebration that many local traditions were created and became mingled with the festivities of All Hallows' Eve when immigrants started establishing themselves in the United States.

In various cultures in Europe there developed a tradition of "souling" and baking "soul cakes" in honor of the faithful departed. These cakes were baked on All Hallows' Eve and children would go out on All Saints Day and All Souls Day, begging door-to-door for these cakes in exchange for praying for deceased relatives and friends. It is believed that in some places there was a tradition of wearing disguises while souling that represented the various souls in purgatory who were seeking these prayers. And of course, the processional candles were carried sheltered from the wind in hollowed-out gourds or turnips, call Jack O'Lanterns.

In France, the faithful created a *danse macabre* or "dance of the dead" that consisted of a representation of Death (typically a skeleton) leading a chain of individuals to the afterlife. The scene would often be brought to life on All Souls Day, where actors would put on costumes representing the different people in the chain. According to some accounts, Irish peasants developed an "All Damned Day" on October 31 to complement the All Saints and All Souls Day. The theory is that "if the souls in hell are left out when we celebrate those in heaven and purgatory, they might be unhappy enough to cause trouble." The Irish then banged pots and pans on October 31 to make sure those in Hell knew they were not forgotten.

All of these different traditions revolving around All Saints and All Souls were mixed together in the United States when immigrants started to intermarry and combine customs. The celebration of Halloween spread throughout the country during the early 20th century and quickly become a secular community activity that was devoid of its Christian origins.

Businesses then recognized the profitability of the holiday and started to promote it in their advertisements, taking over the day in a similar way to the celebration of Christmas. In the end, while the current activities of Halloween appear to have no Christian significance, they have deep Catholic roots and are meant to remind people of their own mortality and the need to pray for souls in purgatory.

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.

All Soul's Cemetery Visits: Point Clare: Prayers start in the Green Hut 11.00am, Monday 2nd November. Palmdale: Prayers start 12.30pm at the undercover area to the East of the Chapels (next to the Native Gardens).

All Soul's Memorial Mass: Mass will be held Monday 2nd November at 7pm. As we still have restrictions in place, there will be no supper afterwards.

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.

Readers Roster: A shortened roster available from the work Sacristy.

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

Divine Will Cenacle: The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 5th November in the Leo Mahon Room after morning mass. All welcome.

Cleaning Roster: 06/11/20—Pam Hickey, Linda Potestas, Mary McCumstie, Elena Egan.

Youth Ministry: Reminder there is a Youth Ministry meeting on Thursday 5th November at 6.30pm in the Leo Mahon Room.

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



In November, We Remember!

Parish Working Bee

We will be having a parish working bee on Saturday **7th** November starting at 8am. Any time you can spare on the day, would be welcomed immensely.

Dot forget your own hat and drink bottle

Hope to see you there.

Please note there will be no Adoration



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.

Praisefest

CYBB presents the last PRAISEFEST of 2020! Book it in your calendar and get ready for a night of fun, good laughs, and a message from very special INTERNATIONAL guest, Chris Padgett! ZOOM link is available to all youth coordinators and school ministry coordinators! LIVESTREAM will be available. See you there!!

6:00pm on Friday 13 November 2020 Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/368646487881204>
Enquiries Email: youth@bbcatholic.org.au

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November

Artificial Intelligence

We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

First Reading

REV 7:2-4, 9-14

I, John, saw another angel come up from the East, holding the seal of the living God. He cried out in a loud voice to the four angels who were given power to damage the land and the sea, "Do not damage the land or the sea or the trees until we put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." I heard the number of those who had been marked with the seal, one hundred and forty-four thousand marked from every tribe of the children of Israel. After this I had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne, and from the Lamb." All the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They prostrated themselves before the throne, worshiped God, and exclaimed: "Amen. Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor, power, and might be to our God forever and ever. Amen." Then one of the elders spoke up and said to me, "Who are these wearing white robes, and where did they come from?" I said to him, "My lord, you are the one who knows." He said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb."

Responsorial Psalm

PS 24:1BC-2, 3-4AB, 5-6

R. (2) **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

The LORD's are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it.

For he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

R. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

Who can ascend the mountain of the LORD?

or who may stand in his holy place?

One whose hands are sinless, whose heart is clean, who desires not what is vain.

R. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

He shall receive a blessing from the LORD, a reward from God his savior. Such is the race that seeks him, that seeks the face of the God of Jacob.

R. **Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.**

Second Reading

1 JN 3:1-3

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope based on him makes himself pure, as he is pure.

Alleluia

MT 11:28

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

MT 5:1-12A

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven."

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 find ourselves with a hefty fine so PLEASE read the signs and the notices and familiarise yourself with 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. Fr Timothy has asked those rostered to arrive a little earlier than normal to sign in. **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.