

**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: parish@woywoycatholic.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! We have seen his star in the East, and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!*

Readings: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

**Keep Us In Your Prayers** OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF:  
**Anniversaries:** Prexy Pinto, Patrick Wedesweiler, Arnold Diorio, Eileen Meyer, Margherita Bugeja, Charles Gatt.

**Remembrances:** Marie Therese Hall, Jeanette Bryant, Allan Cairns, Margaret Davin, Mary Drinan, Noëlle Davidovic Martins, Pat Dolan, Mary & George Hilliard, Hilliard Brothers, Kevin Mills, Mills Family, Bernie Hanna, Leslie Denning, Valerie Price.

**Sick:** 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, Chrissy Toms, 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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\*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.

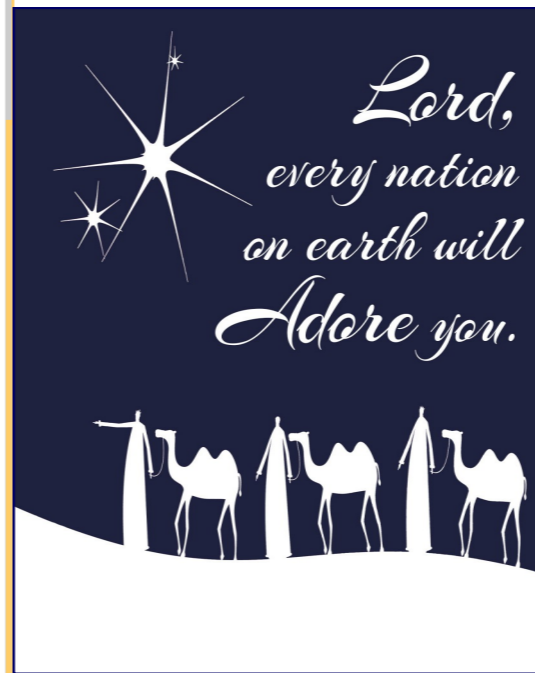


**WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH**  
**St John the Baptist Catholic Church**

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



**Solemnity of The Epiphany of the Lord**  
**5<sup>th</sup> January 2020, Year A (Psalter Week 2)**  
**Gospel Reflection - © Fr Richard Leonard SJ**



Recently some Christian scientists got to work trying to explain the star that led the wise men to Bethlehem. They came up with a complicated, and no doubt plausible, astronomical theory about how a certain brilliant star may have appeared around the time of the birth of Jesus. Though I was intrigued by their methods, I wondered why they bothered. Matthew's wandering star is not about astronomy. It's religious shorthand for describing how the heavens preside over and guide the events of the world. The image of a star is used in similar ways in the Books of Deuteronomy, Numbers, Isaiah and the Psalms. This entire feast is all about symbols, not science. Reported by Hippolytus as early as the third century, it is celebrated twelve days after Christmas, the number itself echoing God's goodness in creating and recreating us. The wise men's star is on a par with the other images Matthew uses. At the centre of each of the first three chapters of his Gospel there is an extraordinary event. In chapter one Joseph hears the message of an angel in a dream. In chapter two the wise men find Jesus by following a star. And by chapter three the heavens open and God speaks at the baptism of the Lord. By any standards that's quite an opening to a biography! It's all about the manifestation, or epiphany, of God's glory in the world.

And let's look carefully at where and for whom this glory is revealed. The first instance is to Joseph while he's in bed asleep. The second is to gentile astrologers who, by reporting their news to Herod, set up an immediate threat to Jesus. The third instance is to all those Jews who were coming to hear John the Baptist. Within three chapters of Matthew's Gospel the circles of God's glory revealed in Jesus become more public and change lives. The lives of Joseph, the star gazers, John the Baptist and those who heard Jesus preach will never be the same again.

The Feast of the Epiphany is not an ancient version of Halley's comet. It is about how God's glory changes human hearts. T.S. Eliot got this point in his poem 'The journey of the Magi'.

'Birth or death? There was a Birth, certainly,  
We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death,  
But had thought they were different; this Birth was  
Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death.  
We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,  
But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,  
With an alien people clutching their gods.  
I should be glad of another death.'

And so may this feast change our hearts and enable us to die to self so as to be born to God's glory that can and does shine through us. And may we remember that this epiphany is not meant for us alone, but that we are called to go public with it and demonstrate our belief in today's feast by the way we live, the world we help create, and the one we strive to recreate.

## Parish News

Fr Timothy would like to wish the Parishioners, Visitors and Friends of Woy Woy a happy and holy 2020.

**Sound system:** We are in the process of changing our sound system and the first phase of upgrading the Radio Mic System is 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.

**IT Upgrade:** We are in the process of updating our IT systems. The new computers are due to be installed in early 2020.

**Burglary:** There has been another burglary at the Church. On 21/12/19 a missal and nativity figures were taken. Enquiries are ongoing.

**Divine Will Cenacle:** The Divine Will Cenacle meetings will resume at 9 am on Thursday 16/01 in the Leo Mahon Room. All welcome. Contact the Parish Office for any enquiries.

## Rosters

**Volunteer Church Cleaning 10/01/20:** Linda Potesas, Michael French, Pam Hickey, Rano Spiteri. 2020 Rosters are ready for collection in the Leo Mahon Room

## Salesian Thought

Salvation is shown by faith, is prepared by hope but it is given only by charity. Faith shows the way to the Promised Land like the column of cloud and fire. It means that there is both light and darkness in faith. Hope nourishes us with the manna of sweetness but charity introduces us into it (salvation). (TLG, Book I, Ch. 6)

Saint Francis de Sales

## SJB Parish Youth Ministry

As our Parish Vision is **Bringing Jesus Christ to All**, we will continue to reach out to our young people, our sons and daughters who are in High Schools Year 7 - Year 12 and those who have just left school.

The purpose of Catholic Youth Broken Bay is to Evangelize, Gather and Send with the goals of:

1. Empowering young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world today
2. Draw young people into active participation in the life and mission of our faith communities
3. Promote a culture of youth discipleship by fostering the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

We will be using the Australian Vision for Catholic Youth Ministry as given to us by the Australian Catholic Bishops. So the plan for St John the Baptist Parish is to:

1. Recruit for a Team (Parish Youth Ministry Team - Leaders) - December 2019 and January 2020
2. Train the Team (all these leaders) in **Anointed and Send Model** - January 2020 ongoing
3. Youth Group Ages 12-17 and Young Adults Group Ages 18-35 - February

Anyone interested in joining the Youth Ministry Team/ Youth Group or Young Adults Group please contact the parish office at 4341 1073 or Kiliti Na'ati on 0412 731 979. 'He must increase, I must decrease.' This is an intergenerational Ministry. Please sign up with whatever gifts and talents that you have. Let us build the Kingdom of God in our family and our Parish.

## 2020 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) Training Programme

### Equipping the Saints for the work of Ministry Eph. 4:12

Two Foundational training programmes in Pastoral/Spiritual care will be offered on the Central Coast in 2020 from February to September. If you feel called to support people with Pastoral/Spiritual care these Units are an exciting way for you to discover and develop your pastoral ability and become equipped for this ministry within a public or church setting. During training placements are in Gosford or Wyong Hospitals. The training can be used towards formal chaplaincy qualifications with the Sydney College of Divinity.

If you would like to know more please contact: Chaplain Frank Wortley on:

**4320 2253** or [Francis.Wortley@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Francis.Wortley@health.nsw.gov.au)



**Plenary Council 2020**  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

### 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](http://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.

### Guided Tour of the Anzac Memorial Museum, Hyde Park, Sydney.

Jeff Freeman is conducting a guided tour of the Anzac Memorial Museum on Saturday 18th January 2020. Meet at Woy Woy station by 8am for the 8:15am train. The tour will commence on arrival at the Memorial (weather permitting). The tour cost is free, but travel and lunch at own expense. There is complete disabled and disability access. Additional information flyers are located on the gathering space table next to the registration sheet. Any questions contact Jeff on 0419 691 572.

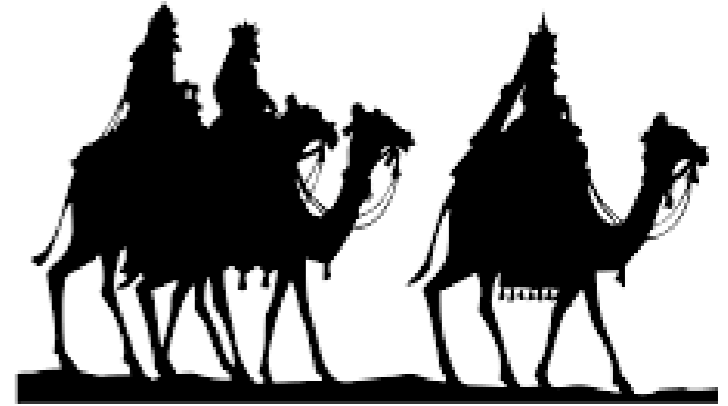
### St John Paul II Pilgrimage

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)  
04-08 September 2020 Medjugorje 4 nights  
08-11 September 2020 Rome 3 nights  
11-13 September 2020 San Giovanni Rotondo 2 nights  
13-16 September 2020 Assisi 3 nights  
16-18 September 2020 Florence 2 nights  
18-21 September 2020 Padua 3 nights  
Cost from Au\$6,700 per person twin/Double sharing (cost is based on 20 pilgrims) Single supp from Au\$7,700.

Wise Men  
Seek Him Still



### 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.

**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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