

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 2022 school
year. Enquiries - School Office (P) 02 4341 0884
(E) www.sjbwoywoy.dbb.org.au

Follow us:

Website

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

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthebaptist.woywoy>



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

Remembrance: Paul Hogan, Val & Frank McLenaghan.

Anniversary: Paul Hogan.

Recently Deceased: Dan Gibbons, Kevin Parish, Ralph Casey, Jan Laytar, Olivenne Barron.

Sick: Linda Italiano, Emma Matthews, Eileen Jones, Kathleen Bezzina, Moya Joyes, Kiliti Na'ati, Chris Mitchell, Trish Stuart, Colleen Garland, Robert Baker, Josephine Weate, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, Eileen Jones, Larry Sheil, Pat Savage, Ernie Mullins, John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, Maureen Fotheringham, 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, Max Annett, Karen Chorazyczewska, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Larry Cresswell, Ken Joyce, Andrew Muggs, Roger Mitchell, Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty, Marie McNamee, Georgie Brigdale, Sue Campbell.



Bryan J. Reid Funeral Services

1/39 Victoria Road, Woy Woy.

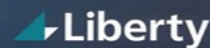
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Amanda Lawer Liberty Adviser
0478 055 609



\$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 Network Services Pty Ltd (ABN 45 51 158 428 | Australian Credit Licence 408042) (NSD including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 55 077 248 983) which owns LNS.

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

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WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH
St John the Baptist Catholic Church



2nd Sunday of Lent

28th February 2021, Psalter Week 2, Year B



Dr. Peggy Hartshorn, president of Heartbeat International, tells a dramatic story about a woman who glimpsed the mystery of her unborn child. The young woman was seeking an abortion. She simply could not handle having a baby at this time. But she agreed to an ultrasound. When the baby appeared on the screen, the woman was amazed to see the perfectly formed body, the tiny legs and arms moving inside her womb. But the woman kept saying, "No, no, I have to have an abortion." Dr. Hartshorn felt sad. She knew that seventy-five percent of women who see an ultrasound decide to keep their baby – but that a quarter, nevertheless, still have the abortion. It seemed like this woman would be in that twenty-five percent. All of sudden, Dr. Hartshorn's assistant said, "Reach out and take your baby's hand." Dr. Hartshorn thought, "Oh, gosh, why is she saying that?" But the woman raised her hand and touched the monitor. As if by some divine cue, the baby stretched out his arm to the exact place of his mom's hand. On the screen his tiny fingers met hers. She kept her baby.

There is a mystery inside each one of us – the mystery of the image of God. Today's Gospel tells us how three of the apostles saw a glimpse, a tiny glimpse, of who Jesus was. That would transform them and sustain them through some dark moments following Jesus' arrest. In Jesus' transfiguration the disciples saw something that they had never seen before. They saw a new dimension to Jesus, a new level of his glory and his power. They had walked with him; they had heard his teaching; they had eaten with him; but on the Mountain of Transfiguration they saw a truth that was greater than anything they had seen before.

On the mountain Peter, James and John saw that there was more to Jesus than met the eye. During the transfiguration they got a glimpse of the future glory of Jesus' resurrection.

Like them we too get glimpses of the presence of God in our lives. We get glimpses of God in the love we receive from other people. We get glimpses of God when badly needed help suddenly comes to us from out of nowhere. We get glimpses of God when we look back over our lives and what we couldn't understand in the past makes sense now. We see glimpses of God when we see someone making a sacrifice to help somebody else. We see glimpses of God in the beauty of a fine day, a nice beach or a beautiful sunrise or sunset. We see glimpses of God when a passage from the Bible or a homily strikes a cord in our hearts. We get a glimpse of God when we spend time in prayer and experience the loving presence of God in our lives. We get more than just a glimpse of God when we receive the body of Jesus in Holy Communion. The Transfiguration coming early in Lent encourages us to continue our Lenten penances because it reminds us of the glory of Jesus risen from the dead.

The disciples who experienced Jesus' transfiguration had to come down the mountain and return to normality but they remembered the transfiguration. Like them we live in normality but we believe and know that God has destined great things for us. We say that the transfiguration prepared the disciples for the scandal of the cross. Celebrating Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent reminds us of what comes after the cross because it reminds us of the glory of Jesus risen from the dead. In our worst moments of pain may we not think negatively but remember the encouragement we receive in Sacred Scripture and that God has destined the glory of the transfiguration for each of us in the next life.

St Francis de Sales has a **wonderful image** that illustrates how we should trust in this God who has done so much to gain our trust. He tells us to think of the **little children** who go on a walk with their dad. With **one** hand they hold fast to their father, and with the **other** hand they pick berries, or play with a stick, or throw stones in the pond. If we handle the goods, affairs, and problems of this world with **one** hand, we must always **old fast** with the other to our heavenly Father's hand. We should **look up** at him from time to time to see if we are **pleasing** him. We do this through **prayer** and the sacraments, and through **obeying** is commandments and the teachings of his Church. Above all, we should never **let go of his hand** by direct disobedience to his will or laziness in our spiritual lives. It's foolish to think that with **two hands** we can **gather more berries** – we will only get lost, injured, or kidnapped.

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:

Adoration: As the Blessed Sacrament can not be left unattended during Lenten Adoration on Fridays, we are looking for volunteers who can spare an hour sit in the church to supervise. There is a roster at the back of the church for you to nominate a time slot..

Volunteers: Have you thought about Volunteering? We are always looking for new people who would like to become; Readers, Servers, Bus Drivers, Catechists, Church Cleaners etc.. Please consider donating your time to the different Ministries. If you are able to help in any way contact the Parish Office 4341 1073

Cleaning Roster: 5th March Elana Egan, Maria Owens, Cheryl Sillick, Linda Potestas.

Readers Roster: Revised rosters are now available from Servers Sacristy . If you are unable to fulfil your duty, for any reason, please contact a replacement. Names and phone numbers are on the back of the roster.

Sacraments: For information on the Sacraments of Confirmation, 1st Holy Communion or 1st Reconciliation please contact Dorothy Fulton on 4341 7610.

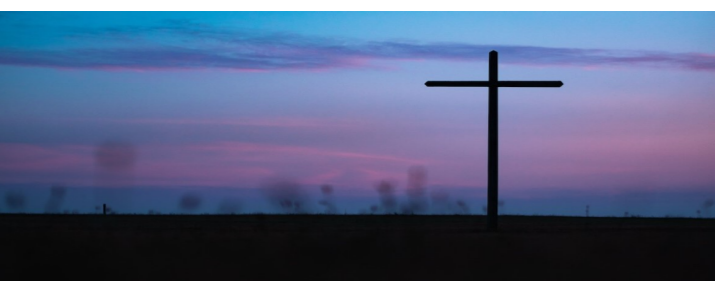
Divine Will Cenacle: During Lent we will meet every Thursday following Morning Mass and Rosary. Please bring the book "The hours of the Passion".

St John the Baptist Primary School: School enrolments for 2022 are now starting. For mor information please contact the school. 4341 0884

Home Visits: For those Parishioners who would like Confession and Communion in the home or a House Blessing please call the Parish Office

World Day of Prayer: The World Day of Prayer Service for this year will be held at the Salvation Army on the 5th of March. Due to Covid 19 restrictions there is only a very small number of people able to go to Service from each church. I will submit a brief report regarding the service in "The Voice" in a few weeks time This year's service has been written by the women of Vanuatu. Please remember in your prayers the people of Vanuatu particularly on the 5th of March.

Email addresses: 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.



Our next task will be purchasing and installing 2 new, larger (85 inch), Sony screens. \$3780 per screen plus installation costs of around \$7000.



This project will cost a considerable amount of money so your donations will be much appreciated.

YOU ARE INVITED TO BECOME A JOSEPHITE COMPANION (formerly called Associates)

Josephite Companions are men and women who identify themselves with the Josephite charism of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods, which they share with the Sisters of St Joseph, making a difference in our local area, and so furthering the Reign of God in our world. We offer mutual enrichment and support in *friendship, prayer and service*.

It seems appropriate in this Year of St Joseph to re-establish a group of Companions on the Central Coast. Fr Timothy has kindly offered us a meeting space here at Woy Woy Parish. We hope to begin gathering once or twice a month, starting in April. If you are interested in knowing more about the Josephite Companions or joining our group, please contact Anne Bailey, annebccost@gmail.com or (02) 4341 6300.

"Year of St Joseph"

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

Lenten Schedule:

Both will be held every week throughout Lent Starting 19th February, **every Friday** there will be Adoration at 10am (all day) after Church cleaning is completed, followed by Way of the Cross at 3:30pm then Mass at 4pm.

Starting 24th of February, **every Wednesday** will be Way of the Cross at 6:30pm followed by Eucharist 7pm.

Lenten Program: Bishop Anthony has put together a Lenten program for our Diocese. Lenten booklets are available from the gathering table, for those wanting to form a discussion group or for individual reflection.

Reading 1

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am!" he replied. Then God said: "Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you." When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" "Here I am!" he answered. "Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger. "Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son." As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: "I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing - all this because you obeyed my command."

Responsorial Psalm

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord; in the land of the living.

I trust even when I said:
"I am sorely afflicted."

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord; in the land of the living.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving I sacrifice make:
I will call on the name of the Lord.

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord; in the land of the living.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfill
Before all his people,

In the court of the house of the Lord,
In your midst; O Jerusalem.

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord; in the land of the living.

Reading 2

Rom 8:31b-34

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Mt 17:5

R. Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless Glory

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

R. Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless Glory

Gospel

Mk 9:2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

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 incur a hefty fine so PLEASE take note of 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 please use the QR code to sign, if you don't have a smart phone you can write your name in the book. **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. **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 front walls, just inside the church doors. Collection bags are **NOT** to be passed around.

Face Masks: No longer mandatory.

Singing: A Choir of 30 can resume it is asked you still refrain from singing.