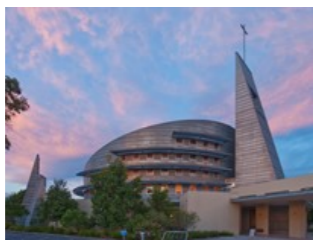


OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL EMERGENCY
"He must increase, I must decrease"

Administrator
Fr. Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.

Assistant Priest
Fr. A Lourduswamy M.S.F.S.

Parish Secretary
Triona Meagher



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:
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:
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Keep Us In Your Prayers OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF:
Remembrance: Bon & Eileen Andersen, Shirley Job, Eunice Gaffney, Helen McKeon, Bryan Moroney, Mary Dolan, Faela & Jim Casey
Anniversary: Dora Vera, Mark Church, Daniel Hennessy, Carmen Catania, Lauren Langrell, John Charles Easton, Marie Meyer
Recently Deceased: Maxwell Francis Annett, Mari Mears, Paul Van Der Kallen, Bishop Bede Heather Conrad Lou Honrado
Sick: Lisa Yeo, Marta Panczyna, Oscar James Morreti, Linda Italiano, Emma Matthews, Eileen Jones, Kathleen Bezzina, Moya Joyes, Kiliti Na'ati, Chris Mitchell, Trish Stuart, Colleen Garland, Rbert Baker, Josephine Weate, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, Eileen Jones, Larry Sheil, Pat Savage, Ernie Mullins, John Mitchell, Marie Dixon, Donna Vella, Ken Joyce, Jo Farrelle, Donna Briemer, Luis Emilio Garrido, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Rose Aloisio, Tina Cohen, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Anne Singleton, Janice Green, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Karen Chorazyczewska, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Larry Cresswell, Andrew Muggs, Roger Mitchell, Daphne McNab, Marie McNamee, Georgie Brigdale, Sue Campbell.



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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 51 158 426 | Australian Credit Licence 408042) (LMS) including Liberty Financial Pty Ltd (ABN 55 077 248 983) which owns LMS.



Hardwick's on Blackwall
(Opposite corner to our church)
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Tel: 1300 663 753
1/77 Rawson Rd Woy Woy

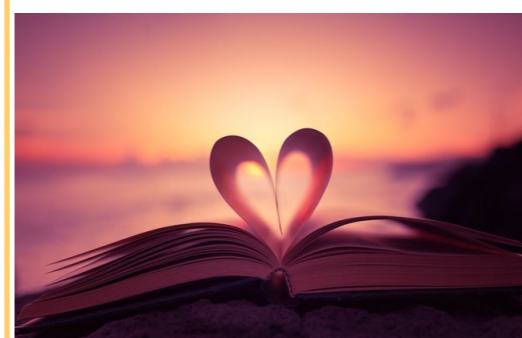
OUR FAMILY
Caring For Your Family



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH
St John the Baptist Catholic Church



4th Sunday of Lent
14th March 2021, Psalter Week 4, Year B



One day a little girl asked her father, "Daddy, what is God like?" The question sounded innocent enough—until the father actually tried to put his answer into language that a five-year-old could relate to. Finally, he gave the answer for which fathers are famous: "Go ask your mother." She went to her mother with the question, "Mother, what is God like?" The mother soon realized that she had no adequate answer for her daughter either. She said, "Honey, why don't you ask your Sunday school teacher?" The little girl went to her Sunday school teacher with the same question, "What is God like?" The teacher said simply, "Why don't you ask your father or mother?" The little girl thought to herself as she left, "If I had

lived with God as long as my father and mother and Sunday school teacher, I think I would be able to tell a little girl what He is like."

Actually, any one of us should be able to answer the question posed by the little girl in this story. The liturgy of the Word today reveals to us what God is like? The first reading explains to us, God's Love and compassion for the people of Israel in spite of their infidelity. Second reading tells us that "God is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ..." and the Gospel says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life".

So the predominant picture that we get from today's scripture readings about God is that God is love. God's love includes faithfulness to the promise, protection from dangers, and help in times of need, admonition when we go astray, punishment in extreme cases, etc.

Where there is love, there is patience. And the first reading of today portrays the patience of God. He did not punish Israel even when they involved themselves with shameful activities and were unfaithful to Him, but send them messenger after messenger to correct them so that they come back to Him. But the people ridiculed the messengers and despised their message. Hence, the extreme step of punishment followed. They became exiles in Babylon. This tragedy was meant only to bring the people to their senses. The zenith of God's love is found in the sending of his only Son Jesus.

A little four year old girl was dying of a very rare disease. Her one hope was in having a blood transfusion, and the only possible person who could give matching blood was her six year old brother. The pediatrician handling the case talked very sensitively to the little boy. "Your little sister is very sick" she said, "and we think that if we can take out some of your blood and put it into her it might make her better. Would you be willing to let us take it?" The little boy paused for a moment and then nodded his head in consent. A few days later when the little boy came back with his parents to visit his sister they met the pediatrician. She said to him, "It is so wonderful! Your blood saved your sister; she is going to be all right now." But the little boy's eyes filled with tears and he burst out crying. The doctor asked him what was wrong? "When" he asked her, "am I going to die?" All the time he had believed that he himself was going to die in giving his blood for his little sister but he had been willing to do it!

Today's Gospel tells us of this kind of love, "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him may not be lost, but may have eternal life." God's love is agape or sacrificial love. That is one big difference between God and us: God gives and forgives, we get and forget. Giving is a sign of agapē. This is the kind of love God has for us. This is the kind of love we should have for one another. This is the kind of love that is lived in heaven. And where this kind of love is absent, what you get is hell.

God loves each and every one of us, so much so that He gave us His only son. Today we are invited to say yes to God's love.

It is sometimes hard to believe that God loves even me, but I believe it because I know that God loves unconditionally; no ifs, no buts. All that we can do today is to enter into a love relationship with God and radiate the joy of His love. We shall learn to share God's love with those around us. Then we shall learn to give to God and to one another, just as God gave us.

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:

Dear Parishioners: It is with great sadness that I inform you all of my resignation. My family and I will be moving to Port Macquarie in April. After 13 years of working in the Parish Office I have met a lot of wonderful, caring and generous people that I will miss terribly. I will look back on my time here with great fondness and appreciation for you all. Take care. Raelene.

Coffee and Chat: this group will start up again 15th March. For those interested please call Pat Slattery 0403 672 077

Bus Trip: We will be organizing a trip to Berrima on the 13th April leaving the Church carpark at 9am. We will stop for lunch. To book a seat please call the Parish Office. Numbers limited.

Covid Update: Number of performers singing indoors increased to 30 (from 5) subject to physical distancing requirements. All performing singers should face forwards and not towards each other, have physical distancing of 1.5m between each other and any other performers, and be 5m from all other people including the audience and conductor, where practical. In indoor areas, attendees can only participate in singing and chanting if; there is 4 square metres of space per person all attendees older than 12 years wear a face mask, unless exempt. Number of performers singing outdoors has no cap

Cleaning Roster 19th March - Jo Salter, Kathleen Cullen, Warren Sparrow, Tom French.

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

Lenten Schedule:
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.

Every Wednesday will be Way of the Cross at 6:30pm followed by Eucharist 7pm.

Lenten Movie:

In observance of the Lenten week the Sacred Heart of Jesus Devotees would like to invite you to come along and join us in the screening of **Heaven is for real**, a movie based the real life events of a young boy who experienced meeting Jesus in heaven.

This event will take place on the 31st March in the Walter Baker Hall. A light supper will be provided from 5pm and the movie will start at 6pm. And Transport can be provided for those in need of a lift.

To book your spot there is a folder in the gathering area or contact the Parish Office. Gold coin donation will go towards the purchase of the new TV screens.

This is a great family orientated movie so please bring the children along .

Catenians:

The Catenian Organisation was founded in Manchester, England in 1908 and is now worldwide with more than 300 Circles with 28 being in Australia. The word Catena is Latin for 'chain' which links each Circle together. The Central Coast Circle includes Terrigal, Kincumber, Woy Woy Gosford and Wyoming Parishes and meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Davistown RSL

You are invited to join us on Thursday 18th March 2021 at, 7:15pm. The meal is 2 courses with wine, cost \$30 per head. New attendees receive their 1st meal for free. These meetings allow us to socialise and share experiences and support each other. All Welcome!

Our Guest Speaker will be Cameron Stewart, Professor of Medical Health Law and Ethics, Faculty of Law, Sydney University. He will speak on Robots and the social consequences of such development.

RSVP 15th March to Ken Stewart or Brenda Sweet
kstewart@lacmac.com.au or 0418 656 562
brenda.sweet@live.com.au

Cash Housie:

Saturday Nights:

Peninsula Community Centre, 93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy. 7.30pm to 10.30pm, 51 Games , \$50 for a set of 6 tickets. Paper tickets and pets available.

Tuesday Nights:

Everglades Country Club, 23 games \$10 for a set of 6 tickets. Paper tickets and pets available.

Wednesday Nights:

Ettalong Diggers, 25 games, \$25 for a set of 6 tickets. Paper tickets only.

All sessions operated by volunteers to benefit the parish.

Volunteers:

Have you thought about Volunteering?

*We are In need people who would like to be involved in the Parish. If you are able to help in **any** way contact the following Coordinators:*



Eucharist Ministers in the Community	Phoebe Glacken	4341 6324
Servers	Bernie French	4342 4548
Bus Drivers	Vince Wiegold	4341 1073
Catechists	Michael Tebbutt	0407 218 677
Church Cleaners	Christine French	4342 4548
Parish Office	Parish Office	4341 1073
Readers	Dorothy Fulton	4341 7610

All training will be provided.

Reading 1

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem. Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah: "Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled." In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing: "Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

Responsorial Psalm

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung up our harps.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

For it was there that they asked us: our captors, for songs our oppressors for joy. "sing to us" they said, "one of Zion's songs".

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

O how could we sing the song of the Lord On alien soil?

If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand be withered.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth

if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys.

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

Reading 2

Eph 2:4-10

Brothers and sisters: God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved —, raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in

Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 3:16

R. Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless Glory
God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life.
R. Glory and Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless Glory

Gospel

Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

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.

Thank you for your generous contribution.

Please consider putting the majority of your donations in the 2nd collection as this is where it is the most needed.