



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

"He must increase, I must decrease" (Jn 3:30)



30th October 2022

31st SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME C

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

1 November —All Saints

2 November—All Souls

3 November—St Martin de Porres

4 November—St Charles Borromeo

5 November—Saturday Mass of
Virgin Mary

MASS TIMES & OTHER WORSHIP

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm

Sunday - 7.30am, 9.15am and 5.00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday: Morning prayer at 8.15am
followed by the Mass at 8.30am

Saturdays & Public holidays - 9.00am

Healing Mass

First Friday of the month during Mass at
4.00pm

Reconciliation/Confession

Friday -9.00am

First Friday of the month - 3.30pm

Saturday - 9.30am and 4.30pm

Sunday - 7.00am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday evenings from 7pm - 8pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Mon, Tues, Thurs—8.30am—3.00pm

Wed and Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm

Divine Will Cenacle

Thursdays 9.15am -10.30am

Christian Meditation

Monday evenings from 6pm - 7pm

Marian Bowyer - 0432 882 776

PARISH CONTACTS

Administrator

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

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HOMILY THEME: GOD IS MERCIFUL: BY: Fr JB Mbbah-Offor.

The mercy of God is an all – embracing mercy and it breaks down the barriers that man erects. St Augustine would say, “trust the past to the mercy of God, the present to His love, and the future to His Providence”. The Gospel of today taken from Luke 19:1-10, gives us the image of God as a Father who sent his Son to seek out what was lost.

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. There was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and a wealthy man. He wanted to see what Jesus was like, but he was a short man and could not see him because of the crowd. So he ran away and climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, Zacchaeus come down quickly, for I must stay at your house today. So Zacchaeus hurried down and received him joyfully.

Jericho is a wealthy and an important city. It occupies a strategic position astride the road to Jerusalem. Its gardens of roses were known far and wide. It was known as ‘city of palms’. Josephus called it ‘ a divine region’, the fattest in Palestine. All these make Jericho one of the greatest taxation centres in Palestine.

Tax collectors are known as publicans and they are mentioned many times in the Bible (mainly in the New Testament). The tax collectors were hated by the Jews because of their perceived greed and collaboration with the Romans.

Zacchaeus was a Chief tax collector. He is characterized in three ways: He was a Jew, a chief tax collector and a wealthy man. He was wealthy but was not happy. Inevitably he was lonely, for he had chosen a way that made him an outcast. He had no respect in the society. He had wealth, but not salvation; he had money but no respect. He was despised and hated by all. He heard about Jesus and ran ahead of the crowd and climbed a sycamore tree in order to catch glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way.

To be successful in life, we must be determined in what we are doing. We should work hard to achieve our goals. Zacchaeus couldn’t see Jesus because of his short stature, but he was determined to see Him. He climbed a tree to see Him. Zacchaeus knew that to retain Jesus, he had to give up some of his ill- gotten wealth. He said to Jesus, ” I’m going to give half of my wealth to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody, I will pay him back four times”. Restitution is necessary.

The figure of Zacchaeus should teach us that no one is beyond the reach of God’s grace. Every soul is very dear to him. There are many people today who are looking for Jesus like Zacchaeus but they have no opportunity and courage to do so like him. Zacchaeus overcame his smallness and the social stigma through his dedication. How dedicated are we in our spiritual matters? How dedicated are we in our responsibilities? There can be no devout devotion without dedication, and no dedication without determination.

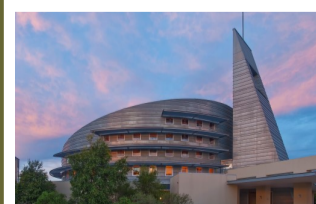
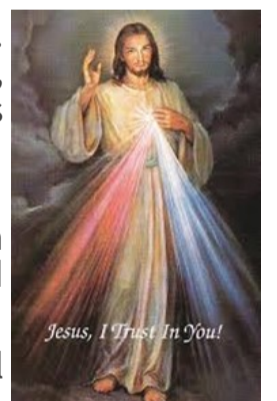
Zacchaeus promised to refund four times all those he had defrauded. There is need to make restitutions. Zacchaeus represents all sinners, and the Sycamore in the Gospel became the image of the Church as refugium peccatorum.

We should not abandon hope in anyone, even in our difficult moments. God’s mercy will always be greater than our poor human limitations. Despite our unworthiness, God calls us, forgives us and nurtures us to spiritual well-being. Let’s turn to Christ now.

Like Zacchaeus, we should invite Jesus in our hearts and surrender all we have to Him. Jesus is our Saviour.

Happy Sunday everyone!

<https://www.catholicforlife.com/year-c-homily-for-the-31st-sunday-in-ordinary-time-6/>



Dedication of our Church - 13th November 2022.

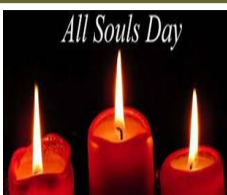
At St John the Baptist Church

Please join us in celebration!!!

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.

All Souls Day—2 November.

Masses will be held at 8.30am and at 7pm. Mass intentions will be received for the departed souls during the month of November. Please include your intentions with a November Masses envelope.



Cemetery visits at Point Clare

Wednesday 2 November at 10.15am. Beginning at the green hut to pray for our deceased loved ones. If the weather is wet, please bring an umbrella.

The Feast of Christ the King—20th November 2022 - at St John the Baptist School 21a Dulkara Rd

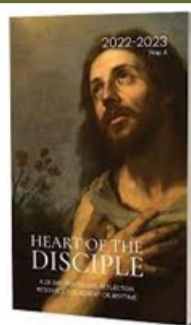
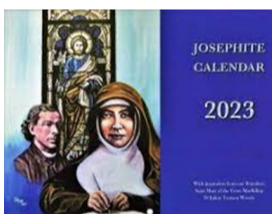
Woy Woy. Plans are progressing for our celebrations! Mass will be celebrated at St John the Baptist school at 10.00am on the day, followed by a sausage sizzle and other community celebrations. Please bring your own preferred picnic snacks too. We welcome your WHOLE family!!!

PLEASE NOTE: As Fr Timothy would like as many of our community as possible at the celebration—9.15am and 5.00pm mass WILL NOT be held on Sunday 20th November 2022. However, mass WILL be held at 5.00pm on Saturday 19th and 7.30am on Sunday 20th. THANK YOU.



Josephite and Columban

calendars NOW available for \$10 each at the Piety Store.



“Heart of the Disciple” is a new 28-day reflection resource that can be used during Advent by individuals and groups, or at any time during the 2022-2023 liturgical year. Its main purpose is to help us to find a few minutes each day to practice what it means to sit with God and to trust God to lead us forward. Each day’s reflection is inspired by a short text of scripture and concludes with a thought or two to take away and with a prayer.

Copies are available NOW at the Piety Store for \$5 each.

Who are you gathering with to reflect on Advent?

St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Cards



Cards are available at the Piety Stall. They are in packs of 10 cards plus envelopes. Cost is \$2.00 per pack. There are three designs – Traditional, Australia and this year traditional designs drawn by pupils at a number of NSW Catholic Primary Schools.

Spirituality in the Pub (SIP) Meeting 7.30-9.00pm Tuesday

8th November at the Grange Hotel, Wyoming. SIP is fortunate to have prominent Australian **ROBERT FITZGERALD AM** as its special guest speaker for its final meeting in 2022. **Hotel bistro opens at 5.30pm. SIP enquiries: 0415 129250 or 0439 678608.**

Cash Housie !!!

Saturday nights 7.30pm
50 games at Peninsula Community Centre
93 McMasters Rd Woy Woy.



Proceeds benefit our parish.

For more information, please contact Robert Graham on 0427 990 818

CLEANERS for 4 November 2022:

Pam Hickey Veronica Jordan

Linda Potestas Rano Spiteri

*** if unable to work on your appointed day, please swap or arrange a replacement***

READERS for 5-6 November 2022:

Sat 5pm — Jane Rutherford & Marie Andrews

Sun 7.30am — Isaak Guinter & Mabel Torres

Sun 9.15am — Emma Baker & Dawn Torrens

Sun 5pm — Lorena Lalor & Kristina Aitken

SERVERS for 5-6 November 2022:

Sat 5pm—Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh

Sun 7.30am—Peter French & Paul Nolan

Sun 9.15am—Bernie French & Jenny Fitzgerald

Sun 5pm – Laurie Jarvis/Pio Savea

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

- ◆ We appreciate more Readers, particularly for 5pm Saturday and Sunday.
- ◆ Welcomers are sought to greet parishioners and visitors for each weekend mass.

How can YOU support OUR parish???

Please let us know—4341 1073



FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We offer our sincere condolences to all their families.

Kate Easton: Kate was a long standing member of our parish community. Her life will be celebrated at St John the Baptist church on Wednesday 2nd November at 10.00am.



Carol Ann Dowling: Carol’s life will be celebrated at St John the Baptist church on Thursday 3rd November at 11.00am RSVP: <https://www.picaluna.com/rsvpmaker/funeral-prayer-service-for-carol-dowling/>



SHRINES OF OUR LADY PILGRIMAGE

A 15 DAY PILGRIMAGE TO EUROPE
FRANCE, PORTUGAL & ITALY PARIS, LISIEUX, LOURDES, FATIMA, ASSISI, ROME, ROTONDO, VENICE, MILAN

TOUR CHAPLAIN: FR TIMOTHY RAJ MSFS

DEPARTURE: 2nd May 2023

ARRIVAL: 18th May 2023

INDICATIVE COST

8,490 per person / 21- 30 Pilgrims

7,990 per person / 31-40 Pilgrims

Single supplement 1,890 per person

- ◆ Flights will be confirmed only at the time of booking with a deposit.
- ◆ **Fr Timothy is hoping to lead a group of 20 pilgrims.** Please confirm your interest by leaving your details on the sheet on the table in the gathering Area.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Wis 11:22-12:2

Before the LORD the whole universe is as a grain from a balance or a drop of morning dew come down upon the earth. But you have mercy on all, because you can do all things; and you overlook people's sins that they may repent. For you love all things that are and loathe nothing that you have made; for what you hated, you would not have fashioned. And how could a thing remain, unless you willed it; or be preserved, had it not been called forth by you? But you spare all things, because they are yours, O LORD and lover of souls, for your imperishable spirit is in all things! Therefore you rebuke offenders little by little, warn them and remind them of the sins they are committing, that they may abandon their wickedness and believe in you, O LORD!

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 144 (145):1-2, 8-11, 13, 14

R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.

Reading 2: 2 Thes 1:11-2:2

Brothers and sisters: We always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and powerfully bring to fulfillment every good purpose and every effort of faith, that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, in accord with the grace of our God and Lord Jesus Christ. We ask you, brothers and sisters, with regard to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our assembling with him, not to be shaken out of your minds suddenly, or to be alarmed either by a "spirit," or by an oral statement, or by a letter allegedly from us to the effect that the day of the Lord is at hand.

Alleluia: Jn 3:16

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God loved the world so much, he gave his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Lk 19:1-10

At that time, Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost."



World Mission Day – 3rd collection will be taken this weekend.

Thank you so much for your generous partnership with life-changing mission programs like the establishment of the Deberety Goat Rearing Centre in Emdibir, Ethiopia. Your gift is helping the Church and the local community work towards constructing the Centre, supplying feed and veterinary medication, and procuring goats to provide nutritious milk to help address problems like malnutrition in babies and children. Your gift also supports mission programs around the world that reach out and give life to those in most need. To learn more about the impact of your support, visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work, where you can also sign up for our regular newsletter. If you missed your opportunity to learn about this vital mission program, or wish to contribute again, please go to catholicmission.org.au/Ethiopia or scan the QR code below today.

BRING HOPE TO NEELA AND HER FAMILY

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Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia



World Youth Day Patron Saints

Did you know that each world youth day comes with patron saints specifically for young people to discover. This year they've chosen a mix of old and new: of course, there is our beloved St John Paul II (whose relics were just installed in Gosford) and Blessed Piere Giogrio Frasati, who was known for his love of mountain climbing and pool. However, there are some newer patrons: Chiara Badano – famous for saying in the face of her illness, "If Jesus wants it, I want it" – and of course, the recently beatified Blessed Carlo Acutis, who spread his love for the Eucharist on the internet. Find out more about these saints, and the many other patrons, on our website at <https://bbwyd.org.au/>

If you are over 18 and wish to join us for WYD23, there is still time to register your interest!

To register, visit <https://bbwyd.org.au/register-for-wyd/>

Keep Us In Your Prayers of your charity pray for the souls of:

Recently deceased: Mary Ivins, Kate Easton, Carol Dowling

Anniversary: Doris Galea, Alina Maria Uminski

Remembrance: Hugo John Cutrone, Seilala Na'ati, Mary Lozito, Mary Scarf, Larry Shiel

Sick: Melissa Bezzina, Lisa Ryan, Marie Head, Lisa Yeo, Marta Panczyna, Oscar James Moretti, Linda Italiano, Eneio Wolfgram, Emma Matthews, Eileen Jones, Kathleen Bezzina, Moya Jones, Chris Mitchell, Trish Stuart, Colleen Garland, Robert Baker, Josephine Weate, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, Pat Savage, John Mitchell, Donna Vella, Ken Joyce, Jo Farrelle, Donna Briemer Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Rose Aloisio, Tina Cohen, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Janice Green, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Georgie Brigdale, Sue Campbell, Bobby Brame, Kerrie Roberts, Lauren Alchin, Bruce Yip, Ada Primrose Murphy, Cathy Eades, James Matthews, Doreen Arahill, Theresa Mitchell, Anita Servi, Jean Pierre, Michael Tannous, Charles Lawson, Marsha Burzynski, Emma Mitchell, Vince Weigold, Lola DeSouza, Cathy Hennessy, Bev Purser, Joseph King, Christine Semark, Vicki Leach, Willy Woods, John Zdilaj, Lorraine Wanless, Alison Richmond, Saxon Smith, Jack Rogan-Clark, John Farnham

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October

A Church Open To Everyone

We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome always living in an atmosphere of synodality.



PARISH COLLECTIONS

1st collection: goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the priests.

2nd Collection: Funds the operational management of the Parish

You can also donate via Bpoint, which will take you to our Website for secure online payments. <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/woywoyparish>

Name: St John the Baptist Parish Woy Woy

BSB: 062 784 **Account no:** 10000 1742

Thank you for your generous contribution.

Thank you

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