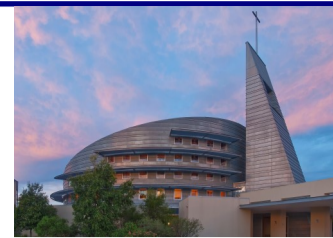




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



18th December 2022 Fourth Sunday of Advent—A

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

25th December—Nativity of the Lord



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.

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

P: 02 4341 1073

E:Woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas: "Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about" (Matthew 1:18).

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. Today's Gospel passage is the second movement in this story. In the preceding verses of the first chapter of Matthew's Gospel, the Evangelist has listed the genealogy of Jesus, tracing his lineage through King David to Abraham. In the chapter to follow, Matthew tells of the visit from the Magi, the Holy Family's flight into Egypt, and Herod's massacre of the infants in Bethlehem. (The other stories which we associate with Christmas, the Annunciation, the Visitation, the angel and the shepherds, are found in the Gospel of Luke).

We must not gloss over too quickly the difficult circumstances described in today's Gospel. The way that Joseph and Mary face these circumstances tells us much about these holy people and their faith in God. Joseph and Mary are betrothed to be married. This is sometimes described as an engagement period, but it is more than that. Betrothal in first century Jewish culture was in fact the first part of the marriage contract. A breach of this contract was considered adultery. Mary is found to be with child. If adultery is proven, the punishment might be death. Joseph has rights under Mosaic law, but chooses to act discreetly in his plans to break the marriage contract, so as to protect Mary. Then God intervenes.

The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God's plan. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in the Hebrew means "Yahweh saves." He will be the fulfillment of the prophecy heard in today's first reading from Isaiah: ". . . The virgin shall be with child . . . and shall name him Emmanuel [God with us]."

Joseph does as the angel of the Lord directs. He takes Mary to be his wife and accepts the child in her womb as his own. Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God's plan. They are both models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/fourth-sunday-of-advent-cycle-a-sunday-connection/>

Christmas Mass Times 2022 St John the Baptist Parish Woy Woy Peninsula



December 24th: Christmas Eve

5:00 pm - Church

5:30 pm—SJB School Oval

21a Dulkara Rd, Woy Woy

8:00 pm - Church

10:00 pm - Church

December 25th: Christmas Day

7:30 am - Church

9:15 am - Church

5:00 pm—Mass cancelled

December 26th: Boxing Day

9:00 am

December 27th: Public Holiday

9:00 am

December 31st: New Years Eve

9.00 am Mass followed by

Thanksgiving Adoration

5:00 pm Vigil

January 1st: New Years Day

7:30 am, 9:15 am, 5:00 pm

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.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Parish Office: The Parish Office will close on Friday, 23rd December and re-open on Tuesday, 3rd January 2023.

Christmas Offering: Christmas offering envelopes are available with proceeds going to the Clergy Fund. Please give generously.

Thanks: \$1,913.55 was generously donated by our Parish to the Diocesan Homelessness Fundraiser 2022. Thank you.

Children's Liturgy: Children's Liturgy will run this weekend then take a break for holidays and resume 12th Feb 2023.

Sharing Wisdom: Mon-Fri, 9-13 January 2023—Leo Mahon Room at St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy. Discussing God's wisdom in Scripture, the wisdom of G.K.Chesterton, the wisdom of the Saints in their writings and prayers and also learning some wisdom from each other. There is no cost. Morning tea from 9.15am. Start at 9.45am sharp. Finish at 12noon. Each morning will be different. Attend as many or as few mornings as you are able to.

Divine Will Cenacle will take a break and resume on 12th January.

Cash Housie !!!

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



Important dates:

17th December—Mini Marathon
24th December—Closed
31st December—Closed
7th January—Mini Marathon

Proceeds benefit our parish.

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

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES 2022

Simbang Gabi Launch
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CATHEDRAL
10 December | 5:00 PM
27 Yardley Ave, Waitara

Hornsby
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
15-23 December | 7:00 PM
27 Yardley Ave, Waitara
Cynthia.alipalo@gmail.com
bbfc.hornsby@gmail.com

Dee Why
ST. KEVIN'S CHURCH
15-23 December | 7:30 PM
50 Oaks Ave, Dee Why
c/o Marlon Cabilao
Mobile no. 0430249450

Chatswood
OUR LADY OF DOLOURS CHURCH
16-24 December | 5:30 AM
94 Archer st, Chatswood
fccpadmin@gmail.com

Wyong
ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH
The Tridumm
21, 22, 23 December | 7:00 PM
23 Bryon St, Wyong
monette2905@gmail.com

Pastoral Coordinator
Deacon Roberto Corpuz | m: 0414 525 448
Facebook | Filipino Chaplaincy Broken Bay

CLEANERS for 21 December 2022:

Christine French Rose Kissing
Laurie Jarvis Anna Jarvis
*** if unable to work on your appointed day,
please swap or arrange a replacement***

READERS for 24-25 December 2022:

Please see Christmas Roster

SERVERS for 24-25 December 2022:

Please see Christmas Roster

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

- ♦ We would appreciate more Readers for weekend Masses. Please contact Fr Timothy directly or the Parish Office 4341 1073.
- ♦ Welcomers are sought to greet parishioners and visitors for each weekend Mass.



SHRINES OF OUR LADY PILGRIMAGE

A 16 DAY PILGRIMAGE TO EUROPE
FRANCE, PORTUGAL & ITALY PARIS, LISIEUX, LOURDES, FATIMA,
ASSISI, ROME, ROTONDO, VENICE, MILAN

TOUR CHAPLAIN: FR TIMOTHY RAJ MSFS

DEPARTURE: 1st May 2023

RETURN: 18th May 2023

INDICATIVE COST

\$8,590 per person / 21- 30 Pilgrims
\$8,190 per person / 31-40 Pilgrims
Single supplement \$1,790 per person

- ♦ For further information please contact Parish Office 4341 1073.
- ♦ Flights will be confirmed only at the time of booking with a deposit.
- ♦ **Fr Timothy is hoping to lead a group of AT LEAST 20 pilgrims.**
- ♦ Please confirm your interest by leaving your details on the sheet on the table in the Gathering Area.

FOOTPRINTS OF JESUS

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND—PETRA, BETHLEHEM,
JERICHO, MASADA, SEA OF GALILEE, JERUSALEM

TOUR CHAPLAIN: FR SALAS MUTTATHUKATTIL MSFS

DEPARTURE: 21st May 2023

RETURN: 3rd June 2023

Enquiries: tel 02 9774 3662/email
stcpanania@hotmail.com



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 7:10-14

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then Isaiah said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough for you to weary people, must you also weary my God? Therefore, the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23:1-6

R. Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Reading 2: Rom 1:1-7

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia: Mt 1:23

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.



Gospel: Mt 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."* When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.



It's true!
CatholicCare is here to help and offers a range of services for people in need including emergency relief, financial supports, homelessness and housing assistance, domestic violence support,

counselling supports including financial counselling, disability and seniors supports and more. We have a flyer specifically for parishes here <https://tinyurl.com/bd54c5mb>. Call us today on 1800 324 924 or visit www.catholiccareddb.org.au for more information.



ACYF is Back!

The Australian Catholic Youth Festival is coming back! And we are counting down to this event which will be held in Melbourne in 2024! An event that provides the opportunity for thousands of young people to gather and share their love for Jesus, together. The festival is held over a few days, providing young Catholics from across the country an opportunity for encounter, formation, discussion, connection and evangelisation. Further details will be provided as information is released early next year!

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

Recently deceased: Janice Green

Anniversary:

Remembrance: Terri Hall

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 Zdilai, Loraine Wanless, Alison Richmond, Saxon Smith, Jack Rogan-Clark, John Farnham, Chris Parker, Alana Rose, Joy Burt Ernie Mullins



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November

Children Who Suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

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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