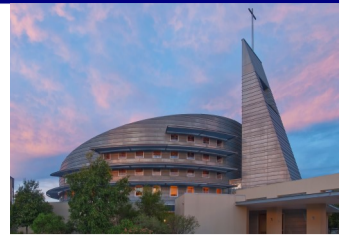




# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



## 27th November 2022 First Sunday of Advent—A



### FEASTS & MEMORIALS

30 November — St Andrew  
3 December—St Francis Xavier

### 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](mailto:Woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au)

### Gospel Reflections for the First Sunday of Advent (Extract)

The central theme of today's readings is Jesus' warning to us to be alert, watchful and prepared because Christ's **Second Coming**, coinciding with the end of the world, can occur at any time. But Jesus, in today's Gospel, gives us the assurance that we need not be afraid of the end of the world, Christ's Second Coming and the Last Judgment if we remain alert and prepared. The Church invites us on this first Sunday of Advent to prepare for Christ's Second Coming, first by properly celebrating during this Christmas season the fond memory of Christ's **first coming** 2000 years ago, second, by experiencing Christ's **daily advent or coming** in the Eucharistic celebrations, in the Holy Bible and in the worshipping community, and third, by preparing for Jesus' Second Coming which, for us, will happen at the moment of our deaths or at the end of the World.

**The need for Christian alertness:** Jesus illustrates the need for alertness and readiness by comparing the situation of his followers to that of a gate-keeper in a house when the owner was out of the country. Since the gate-keeper did not know when the owner of the house would return, "in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning," he must always be ready if he did not want the owner to find him asleep. In the same way, there is no reason for Christ's followers to be fearful, provided we are ready every day for Jesus' return. If we are awake and ready, the coming of the Son of Man is an event to be greeted with joy. Thus, our whole life should be a preparation to meet the master. We base this constant watch not on fear but on hope in God's promise of eternal life .

**The work to be completed:** Like the parents who trust their teenagers to look after the house while they are away, or like the teacher who leaves the classroom after giving her students plenty of work to do, Jesus trusts us to carry out his work until he returns. There is the work of witnessing to Jesus in our daily lives. There is the work to be done in our families, our schools, our local churches and our community. There is the work of caring for those who are hurting and have needs. There is the work of guiding and leading others, pointing people to the comforting message of the Gospel. There is the work of living "lives holy and dedicated to God," "doing our best to be pure and faultless in God's sight and to be at peace with him"

**Being a responsible servant:** This passage reminds us also that we should not be so foolish as to forget God and become immersed in worldly matters. Using Christ's parable, the Church reminds us of the alertness and preparation needed for the four-fold coming of Jesus into our lives, namely: at the celebration of His Incarnation during this Christmas season, in His active presence in our daily lives, at the moment of our death, and in his final coming in glory at the end of the world.

**First coming and second coming** (St. Cyril of Jerusalem): At the first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels. We look, then, beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord ... His first coming was to fulfil his plan of love, to teach us by gentle persuasion. This time, whether people like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom, by necessity. (St. Cyril of Jerusalem; transl. [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com))

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2017-12/first-sunday-advent.html>

## RECONCILIATION

*Please pray for Candidates from our schools receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday 25th November 2022 and Friday 2nd of December 2022.*



*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.*



Christmas decoration working bee in the Church Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November after 9.15am Mass. Please come and lend a hand to ready our church for Christmas celebrations!



**Working bee for gardening and external cleaning Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 9.00am. Please register on sheet in Gathering Area. Remember to bring your gloves, hats and water. Thank you**



**SJB Parish committee and volunteer Christmas dinner – Friday 9th December**

Come together to celebrate our year and share gratitude for what we have. If you wish to attend, please add your details to sheet on table in Gathering Area.

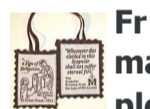


We warmly welcome those who were Baptised last weekend: *William Slattery, Harry Borrow-Jones, Olive Borrow-Jones, Eddie Rowan and Henry Rowan*



Children's Liturgy of the Word continues on Sundays, during the 9:15am Mass. For more information contact Christine French on 0431 765 401.

*Thank you to Rose & Joe Umina Bakers Delight for the bread they provided for our parish sausage sizzle last weekend*



Fr Timothy will present Brown Scapulas at 9.15am mass on 4th December. Anyone wanting to register, please contact Emma Baker on 0404 339 668



We have just opened registrations for Summer Program and would like to extend an invitation to those 16-20 years of age in your parish. Our immersive four-day program provides the opportunity to reside on campus and interact with like-minded peers. We have a fun-filled program including movies, trivia, dancing and sports, as well as sample lectures from our history, literature, philosophy and theology professors.

**DATE 10-13 Jan 2023, 17-20 Jan 2023 OPEN TO Ages 16-20**  
**PROGRAM COST Free to attend thanks to our generous donors**  
**VENUE Campion College**  
**8-14 Austin Woodbury Place**  
**Toongabbie NSW 2146**

**Save the date – Toronto Men's Weekend**

A menALIVE Men's Weekend will be held in St Joseph's Toronto Parish on the weekend of **25/26 March 2023**. This weekend is suitable for all men from 18 years of age and provides an opportunity for men to explore what makes them feel fully alive. More information including how to register will be provided closer to the date. [MenAlive weekends - click here](#)



**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



Upcoming Dates:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Mini Marathon
- 17<sup>th</sup> December – Mini Marathon
- 24<sup>th</sup> December – Closed
- 31<sup>st</sup> December – Closed
- 7<sup>th</sup> January – Mini Marathon

All other dates are normal sessions

**CLEANERS for 2 December 2022:**

Pam Hickey Veronica Jordan  
 Rano Spiteri Amanda Gray  
 \*\*\* if unable to work on your appointed day, please swap or arrange a replacement\*\*\*

**READERS for 3-4 December 2022:**

Sat 5pm — Jane Somerville & Marie Andrews  
 Sun 7.30am — Phoebe Glacken & Mabel Torres  
 Sun 9.15am — Don Matheson & Dawn Torrens  
 Sun 5pm — Peter Smith & Lorena Lalor

**SERVERS for 3-4 December 2022:**

Sat 5pm—Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh  
 Sun 7.30am—Peter French & Rae Busby  
 Sun 9.15am — Hanaa El-Khatib & Bernie French  
 Sun 5pm — Laurie Jarvis or Pia Savea

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED**

- ◆ Church cleaners required. Please contact Christine French on 0431765401
- ◆ Welcomers are sought to greet parishioners and visitors for each weekend mass.

**How can YOU support OUR parish???**  
 Please let us know—4341 1073



**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 AT LEAST 20 pilgrims.**
- ◆ Please confirm your interest by leaving your details on the sheet on the table in the Gathering Area.



Over the next few weeks parishes in the Diocese will be holding our Pastoral Works Broken Bay November Appeal. Pastoral Works Broken Bay is the pastoral charity of the Catholic community in Broken Bay. We have two major Pastoral Works appeals each year – November and May. Where does your donation go and who does it help? The key focus for our Pastoral Works appeals will be the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) and Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care Practitioners. Whatever your donation it will make a difference to someone in hospital, school, a parish or the wider community. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Donation envelopes will be available in your parish which can be completed and returned to the parish or you can go online by scanning the QR code and visiting

[bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks](http://bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks)



# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## Reading 1: Is 2:1-5

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

## Responsorial Psalm: Ps 121 (122): 1-2, 4-5, 6-9

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

## Reading 2: Rom 13:11-14

Brothers and sisters: You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and lust, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

## Alleluia: Cf. Ps 84 (85):8

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Gospel: Mt 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples: "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."



## Our new Diocesan Advent resource is now available.

Written by Fr David Ranson, it offers reflections based on the Gifts of Christmas that are represented by the Advent candles, these being Hope, Faith, Joy, and Peace. You may wish to use this resource for small groups during Advent, or it is also suitable for individual reflection. The resource can be accessed on the [Diocesan webpage](#) For further information or assistance, please contact Pina Bernard at [pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:pina.bernard@bbcatholic.org.au) or 0432 682 239.



**1800 324 924**  
www.catholiccaredbb.org.au

**iWitness**  
CONFERENCE 2022

**TRUST IN THE LORD**  
with all your heart

**HE CALLS YOU**

But can we hear His voice? The year is in full swing and 2023 is just around the corner. It's a good thing you've stumbled upon the best way to finish your year - with our Lord and almost 200 other young Catholics from across Sydney & beyond! **The iWitness Conference 2022** promises to be amazing, with inspiring talks, plenty of time for prayer, perpetual adoration, games, meals and, most importantly, rest from our busy lives.

**THE DETAILS**

**WHO:** YOU! (And anyone aged 18-35ish)  
**WHEN:** Thursday 15th December 6:30pm to Sunday 18th December 2022 2:00pm  
**WHERE:** The Tops Conference Centre, Stanwell Tops  
**COST:** Includes shared accommodation, meals, and all resources  
**Full Conference:** \$335 (Thurs to Sun)  
**Weekend Only:** \$250 (Fri evening to Sun)

SCAN TO REGISTER!

FIND OUT MORE @ [www.iwitnessconference.com/conference](http://www.iwitnessconference.com/conference)

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

**Recently deceased:** Yvonne Murdoch

**Anniversary:** Herve Fauvette, Rory Curtis, Thomas and Annie Peachey

**Remembrance:** Mary Scarf, Larry Sheil

**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, Stan Page



**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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