



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



29th May 2022

The ASCENSION of the LORD

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

31 May—The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1 June – St Justin

2 June - Sts Marcellinus & Peter

3 June - Charles Lwanga & companions

PARISH CONTACTS

Administrator

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

Assistant Priest

Fr. A Lourduwamy M.S.F.S.

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

Parish Admin Assistant

Cath Peters

P: 02 4341 1073

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 Eucharist 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

Monday - Friday 8.30am - 4.30pm

Please contact the Parish Office, if you require information about any Sacraments



Reflections for the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord

Fr. Antony Kadavil reflects and comments on the readings at Mass for the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. He says that the ascended Jesus is still with us because of His promise, 'I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

Life messages: 1) We need to be proclaimers and evangelizers: In today's Gospel, Jesus gives this mission to all the believers: "Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." This mission is not given to a select few but to all believers. To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. "We preach with words but we proclaim with our lives." As we celebrate the Lord's return to His Father in Heaven – His Ascension -- we are being commissioned to go forth and proclaim the Gospel of life and love, of hope and peace, by the witness of our lives. On this day of hope, encouragement and commissioning, let us renew our commitment to be true disciples everywhere we go, beginning with our family and our parish, "living in a manner worthy of the call [we] have received."

2) We need to live a life of Christian joy in the presence of the ascended Lord. According to Luke, the disciples "returned to Jerusalem with great joy." Apparently Jesus' exaltation and final blessing gave them, as it gives us, the assurance that, though absent, Jesus is still present, present even in the pain and sorrow we undergo. That is why St. Augustine assures us, "Christ is now exalted above the Heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his Body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute Me?' and when he said: 'I was hungry and you gave me food.' While in Heaven he is also with us; and while on earth we are with him. He is here with us by his Divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in Heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love."

3) We have a teaching mission: Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, forgiveness, mercy, redemption and Love. We cannot put these lessons on a shelf and ignore them. They stand before us in the person of Jesus.

Although no longer visibly present in the world, Jesus is present in his words, and we must make these words real in our lives as well as in the lives of others. Christianity was meant to be a Faith in which Jesus' followers would help and care for others, just as Jesus had done. But the spreading of the Good News to all nations is not a goal that can be attained by human might and craft. This is why Jesus promises to empower the Church with His abiding presence and that of the Holy Spirit. The challenge of sharing the Good News with all mankind should, therefore, begin with our admission that we have often been arrogant and overbearing. We must learn to be humble and let the Holy Spirit lead the way.

4) The ascended Jesus is our source of strength and encouragement: Perhaps some of the nagging doubts which inevitably accompany the journey of Faith could be lessened by our meditating on the Ascension and its implications. When we are too far from Faith to pray on our own, let us remember that we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, the Righteous, praying for us. When the trials of life feel too heavy to bear, we must remember that Christ will come again in glory, the same glory in which Jesus arose from the tomb, the same glory to which Jesus ascended, and the same glory in which Jesus currently abides. Though our limited perception might find him absent, Jesus is fully present, participating in every moment of our lives. By His Ascension, Christ has not deserted us but has made it possible for the Holy Spirit to enter all times and places. In this way it is possible for each of us to be transformed by the power of the Spirit into agents or instruments of Christ. We become enlivened, and our actions become animated in a new way by the Spirit of the God we love and serve. We have become other Christs in the world. (Fr. Antony Kadavil)

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2019-05/sunday-reflections-2-june-2019.html>



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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.



Family Mass is to be held at 9.15am on 5th June. This will be followed with morning tea in the Leo Mahon Room, which will be provided by St John Baptist School. A great opportunity to get together with other families and parish community members!!!

JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS MEETINGS RESUME

After our Easter break, we will now meet again once a month with the next meeting to be **from 10am to 11:30am on Monday, 30th May, 2022** in the Leo Mahon room at Woy Woy Parish. Josephite Companions are men and women who identify themselves with the charism of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop and Fr Julian Tenison Woods, co-founders of the Sisters of St Joseph. We offer mutual enrichment and support in **friendship, prayer and service.** If you are interested in knowing more or joining our group, please contact Anne Bailey, annebccost@gmail.com or (02) 4341 6300.



Taize Prayer Evening: Our Multicultural Choir will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost with a beautiful Taize prayer evening on Saturday 4th June commencing at 6.15pm in Walter Baker Hall. What is Taize? Taize prayer is evening prayer for all Christian faiths. It is a simple and meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ's presence around and within us. Mantra songs (e.g. O Lord Hear My Prayer) prayerful silence and short readings guide the focus of the prayer in a candle-lit environment. Come and join in this celebration of the feast of Pentecost. Enq: Del 0432 477 507.



Fr Timothy will present Brown Scapulas will present Brown Scapula at 9.15am mass on 5th June. Anyone wanting to register, please contact Emma Baker on 0404 339 668

PASTORAL WORKS Broken Bay
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

Thank you for your generous support of the May Appeal 2022.

With a great sense of joy, I can see the wonderful impact of the work undertaken and lives changed.

BISHOP ANTHONY RANDAZZO

Your tax-deductible gift supports vital pastoral ministries in our local community. Make your gift online at www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks or by Parish Collection Envelope.

**“By giving yourself to God, you not only receive Himself in exchange, but eternal life as well”
- St. Francis de Sales**

Sacramental Programme: Congratulations to our children who made the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion over the last two weeks. Thank you to all their parents and group leaders who helped them to prepare.



Confirmations are scheduled for Sunday 7th August 2022. Bishop Anthony Randazzo will be here to celebrate this sacrament at two sessions—11.00am and 2.00pm. Further information to come.

CLEANERS 3 June 2022:

Pam Hickey	Christine French
Jo Salter	Laila Dawe

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

READERS for 4-5 June 2022:

Sat 5pm — Jane Somerville & Jane Rutherford
Sun 7.30am — Jose Torres & Phoebe Glacken
Sun 9.15am — Christine French & Dawn Torrens
Sun 5pm — Youth

SERVERS for 4-5 June 2022:

Sat 5pm—Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh
Sun 7.30am—Peter French & Rae Busby
Sun 9.15am—Bob Wilson & Joesie Cameron
Sun 5pm —Laurie Jarvis



Leadership Training Program for Youth Leaders every Thursday evening continues from 6.00pm - 8.00pm at Leo Mahon Room. Anyone interested is welcome to join us. This is a must for every leader who wanted to be a Youth Leader. A shared

Vision and Mission is our Goal as Youth Leaders. We are called to Serve not to shine.

29th May – Youth Family Dinner

Youth Family Dinner at 6.30pm at Leo Mahon Room this Sunday. Please continue to pray for our youth that they **Become disciples of Jesus Christ.** Join us and enjoy listen to Our Guest Speaker “Daniel Drury, Oliver Shepherd and Lian Sequeira.” Our Youth Group is on every 1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month due to our Youth Mass every first Sunday of the Month at 5.00pm. Readers for the 5th June are Carmen and Grace Hernandes. Our program for June – July are as follows.

5th June – Youth Mass (Purity of the Human Body before God)

19th June - The Habits of the Heart and Mind

3rd July – Youth Mass (The Joy of the Lord is our strength - Fun Night)

17th July – What can we do to our faith Family?

31st July – Family Talent Nights

Please let me know on 0412 731 979 or Oliver on 0430 302 086 if you need further information. God bless. Please continue to pray for our Youth and their families as our numbers are increasing.

VOLUNTEERS

Eucharist Ministers in the Community

Phoebe Glacken 4341 6324

Bus Drivers

Peter Smith 0425 358 376

Catechists

Michael Tebbut 0437 440 169

Church Cleaners

Christine French 4342 4548

Readers

Dorothy Fulton 4341 7610

Music Ministry

Lyn Dwyer 0417 659 526

Baptisms

Brenda Sweet 4341 1073

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading I: Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 46 (47):2-3, 6-9

R God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reading II: Eph 1:17-23

Brothers and sisters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might: which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things beneath his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of the one who fills all things in every way.

Alleluia: Mt 28:19, 20

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and teach all nations, says the Lord;

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.



Gospel: Lk 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: “Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God.

At last! A concert by the Central Coast Philharmonia, in the beautiful St John the Baptist church! Saturday 4th June, 7.30pm.

This long-awaited concert combines the new and the old. Hope for the future and consolation in times of trial. Contemporary composer, Elaine Hagenberg, uses texts from hymns and poetry to bring hope and comfort.

Daniel Elder explores love, nature, darkness and light. And Faure's Requiem reflects his view that death is 'an aspiration towards happiness above, rather than a painful experience'.

Classic FM.

Tickets: Adult \$30, Concession \$27, Student/Child \$10 —available at the door.

For further details contact Dawn Torrens 0438 094 822 or Lyn Dwyer 0417 659 526



26 June 2pm - SAVE THE DATE!!!

“After being postponed for a year due to the COVID 19 pandemic, Pope Francis has asked dioceses around the world to celebrate the 10th World Meeting of Families locally, making it possible for every family to participate. While Rome will be the main venue for the event, each diocese will promote local events for its own families and communities based on the theme: “Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness. All families are invited to celebrate Mass with

Bishop Anthony Randazzo on Sunday 26 June 2022 at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral Waitara at 2pm. This will be followed by food, formation, and fun games for kids. More details to come!”



10th World Meeting of Families

FAMILY LOVE: A VOCATION AND A PATH TO HOLINESS

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

Recently deceased: Anne Singleton, Beatrice Hopson, Robert Dearie, Maria Arundel, Judith Smith

Anniversary: Larry Shiel, Pauline Higgs

Remembrance:

Sick: Melissa Bezzina, Lisa Ryan, Hanaa El Khatib, Sheila Houghton, Marie Head, Lisa Yeo, Marta Panczyna, Oscar James Moretti, Linda Italiano, Eneio Wolfgram, Emma Matthews, Eileen Jones, Kathleen Bezzina, Moya Jones, Kiliti Na'ati, 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, Mary Scarf, 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, Clare Gleeson, 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



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May:

Faith Filled Young People

We pray for all young people called to live life to the fullest; may they see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service

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>

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