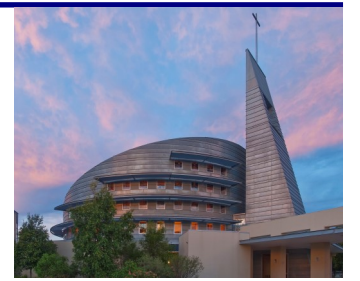




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



25th June 2023
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

24 June—St John the Baptist

27 June—St Cyril

28 June—St Irenaeus

29 June—Sts Peter & Paul

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

Nursing Home Masses:

Hillview House—3rd Thurs of the month 10am

Peninsula Village—4th Thurs of the month 10am

BlueWave—2nd Fri of the month 9.30am

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 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Mon—Fri - 8.30am—3.00pm

Divine Will Cenacle

Thursdays - 9.15am -10.30am

Christian Meditation

Monday evenings - 6.00pm - 7.00pm

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

THE NATIVITY OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

JUNE 24



John the Baptist was formed by the hand of the Lord. Saint Thomas Aquinas goes so far as to say that John was sanctified in the womb of his mother, Elizabeth, as is written: "He will be filled with the holy Spirit even from his mother's womb" ([Luke 1:15](#)). From the moment that the Blessed Virgin Mary greeted Elizabeth and John leaped for joy, the

hand of the Lord was upon John, making him holy and leading him to the fulfillment of God's holy will.

John's early life is not recorded for us, other than in the passage quoted above. We are told that he "grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel." We should see in this passage the truth that John was not only sanctified within the womb of his mother but that, throughout his childhood and on into adulthood, he remained deeply united to God and was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Today we honor one particular aspect of John's life—his birth. We know that he was blessed to not only be born into the blessed family of Elizabeth and Zechariah but that the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, was also his relative and was present at his birth. Zechariah, his father, gave him the name "John" even though it would have been the custom to call him Zechariah after his father. Zechariah did this in obedience to the Archangel Gabriel, who appeared to him prior to John's birth and instructed him to do so.

Great mystery and excitement surrounded the birth of John, and there is little doubt that those who were present at his birth would have been caught up in the intrigue and hope of who he would become. And John didn't disappoint. It was of him that Jesus one day would say, "I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John..." ([Luke 7:28](#)).

The primary witness set by Saint John the Baptist is that he was unwaveringly obedient to God and to being formed by His hand. The result was the glorious fulfillment of his unique mission in life, all the way to giving his life as a martyr.

Reflect, today, upon the very real fact that, though you were not sanctified in the womb, you were sanctified by Baptism. From there, you were strengthened by the Spirit through Confirmation and are regularly fed by the Most Holy Eucharist. In many ways, you are just as blessed as John. Reflect upon the simple yet profound fact that God wants to use you for His holy mission. He gives to you some particular mission He has not entrusted to another. Say "Yes" to that mission today so that you, too, will be seen as "great" in the Kingdom of Heaven.

<https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/2021/06/23/formed-by-the-hand-of-the-lord/>

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.

CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST:



Join us on Saturday 24th June, after 5.00pm Mass, for soup and rolls.



On Sunday 25th June after 9.15am Mass, there will be a BBQ and more socialising for all Parishioners.

These activities will allow us to come together after celebrating the Eucharist and enjoy some social time together.



Thanks to Joe and Rose Mondal from Bakers Delight Umina, for donating the bread for our Feast Day celebrations.

Sacrament of Confirmation: Please pray for the Confirmation candidates as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next Sunday, 2nd July at 11.00am.

Cleaners for 7th July: Maria Wickens, Jo Salter, Linda Potestas, Veronica Jordan.

Readers for 1st & 2nd July:

Saturday 5.00pm— Marie Andrews & Kate Bravo

Sunday 7.30am— Dorothy Fulton & Veronica Jordan

Sunday 9.15am— Emma Baker & Olga Mhilli

Sunday 5.00pm— Peter Smith & Marian Bowyer

Servers for 1st & 2nd July:

Saturday 5.00pm— Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh

Sunday 7.30am— Jose Torres & Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am— Bob Wilson & Hanaa El-Khatib

Sunday 5.00pm— Laurie Jarvis, Pio Savea, Allan Moore

Safeguarding Team: Should a parishioner have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Safeguarding Team Members: Jenny Dempsey 0438 423 293 or Margaret Dixon 0422 277 548.



Cash Housie at Peninsula Community Centre, Saturdays 7.30pm, 93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy. Proceeds benefit the Parish.



Fr Timothy will present Brown Scapulars at 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 16th July. Please contact Emma Baker 0404 339 668 or Christine French 0431 765 401 for more information.

Taize Prayer Evening: Holy Spirit Church, Kincumber will host a Taize Prayer Evening on Saturday, 8th July at

6.30pm. Taize prayer is evening prayer and meditation for all Christian faiths. Our Multicultural Choir will join with Kincumber Parish and support this event. All are welcome for an evening of Christian meditation in a candlelit Church. Enquiries to Del 0432 477 507.



Envelopes for the final Pastoral Works Broken Bay Appeal of the financial year will be available this weekend. Our quota



for the year is \$27,053 and we have raised \$13,031 so far. This leaves a shortfall of \$14,022. Thank you for your generosity to date. To donate, either complete the form in the envelope available, go online to bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks or scan the QR code. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Invitation to a small group conversation on a Voice to

Parliament: In May, the Australian Catholic Bishops encouraged Australians to educate themselves on the proposed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament, describing it as a significant step toward a more just and equitable Australia. Are you interested in learning more? Join with other members of St John the Baptist for a kitchen-table conversation led by Parishioner Rebecca Beisler, with guided conversation materials from Together, Yes. If there's enough interest expressed, a first session will take place on Thursday, 6 July at 9.30am upstairs in the Parish Office. Refreshments provided. If you are interested, contact Rebecca on 0450 790 218.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 49:1-6

Hear me, O coastlands, listen, O distant peoples. The LORD called me from birth, from my mother's womb he gave me my name. He made of me a sharp-edged sword and concealed me in the shadow of his arm. He made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me. You are my servant, he said to me, Israel, through whom I show my glory. Though I thought I had toiled in vain, and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength, yet my reward is with the LORD, my recompense is with my God. For now the LORD has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb, that Jacob may be brought back to him and Israel gathered to him; and I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD, and my God is now my strength! It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel; I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

Responsorial Psalm: 138:1-3, 13-15

R. I praise you, for I am wonderfully made.

Reading 2: Acts 13:22-26

In those days, Paul said: "God raised up David as king; of him God testified, *I have found David, son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will carry out my every wish.* From this man's descendants God, according to his promise, has brought to Israel a saviour, Jesus. John heralded his coming by proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel; and as John was completing his course, he would say, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.' "My brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those others among you who are God-fearing, to us this word of salvation has been sent."

Alleluia:

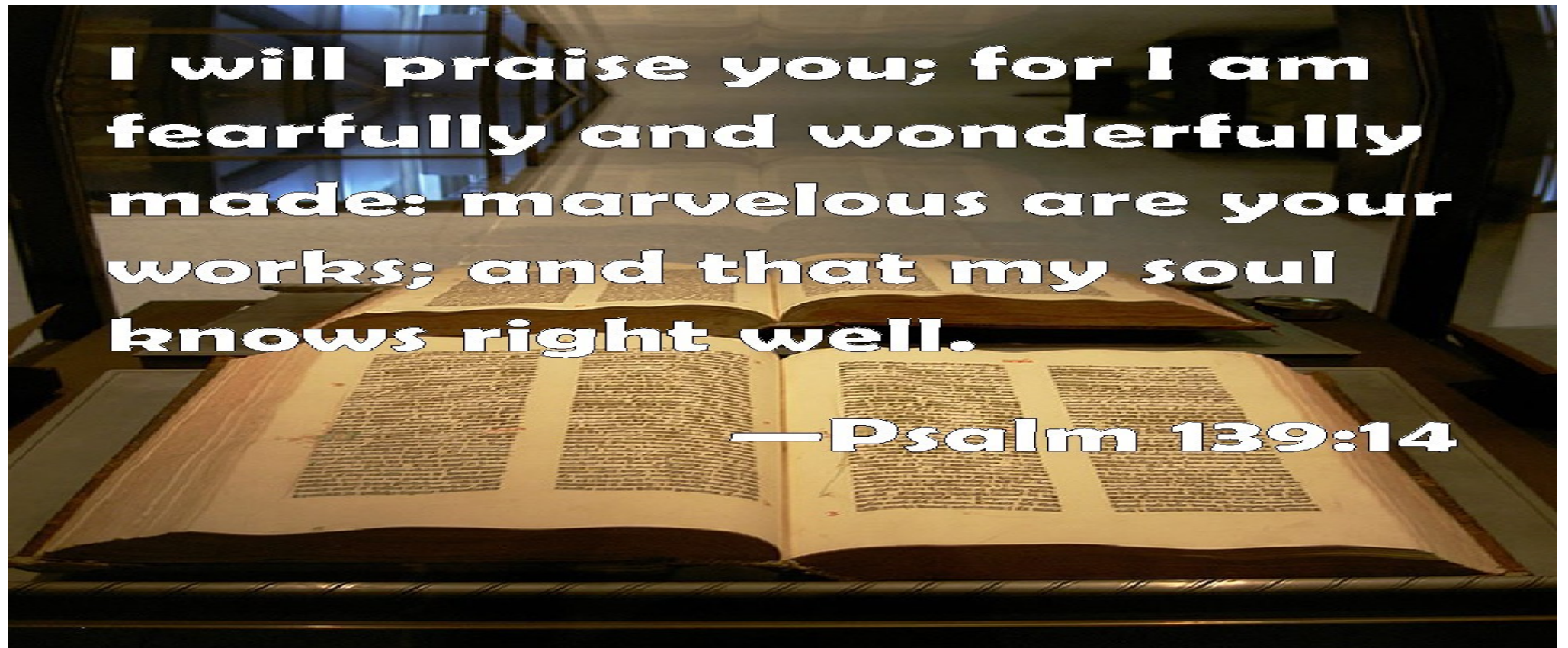
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Lk 1:57-66, 80

When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." But they answered her, "There is no one among your relatives who has this name." So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbours, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be?" For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.



**I will praise you; for I am
fearfully and wonderfully
made: marvelous are your
works; and that my soul
knows right well.**

—Psalm 139:14

Keep Us In Your Prayers— pray for the souls of:

Recently deceased: Helen Brown, Ljubinka Brkic

Anniversary: Louis Aloisio, Joan Fitzgerald, Kath Leonard, Beth Searle, Eric Searle, Tom Searle, Hugo John Cutrone, Betty Cavanagh, Hilda Andrews

Remembrance: Olive Britliffe

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, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, 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, Marsha Burzynski, Emma Mitchell, Vince Weigold, Lola DeSouza, Bev Purser, Joseph King, Christine Semark, Vicki Leach, Willy Woods, John Zdilar, Alison Richmond, Saxon Smith, Jack Rogan-Clark, John Farnham, Chris Parker, Alana Rose, Joy Burt, Stan Page, Serge Fauvette, Roger Lambert, Ron Manning, Ken Dixon, Maria Lourenco, Doris Coleman, Alice Lynn, Dianne Smyth, Gail Smith, Roy Cutrone, Wendy Cohen, Bill Hunt, Patricia Quinn, Alan Ball, John McDermott, Betty McDermott



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for June

For the abolition of torture

We pray that the international community may commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition of torture and guarantee support to victims and their families.

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.

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LUNCH TUESDAY TO SATURDAY (11.00am to 2.30pm)
DINNER TUESDAY TO THURSDAY & SUNDAY (4.30pm to 9.30pm)
FRIDAY & SATURDAY (4.30pm TILL LATE)

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