



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



16th July 2023
15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

20 July—St Apollinaris

21 July—St Lawrence of Brindisi

22 July—Mary Magdalene

25 July—St James

26 July—Sts Joachim and Anne

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

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When election campaigns begin we are generally bombarded with politicians looking for our time and our votes. We often hear phrases such as; you have my word on that, I give you my word and my word is my bond.

This Sunday the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah speaks about the power of God's Word. The Word of God rains down from the heavens and will not return until it has succeeded in what it was sent to do. In the gospel Jesus continues this message by telling his followers and us today the powerful parable of the sower and seed. The farmer sows his seed. According to where it fell and how it took root, some of it died, withered and produced no fruit crop. Other seeds fell on rich, deep and fertile soil and produced a bumper crop.

We know that through this parable Jesus is talking about and describing himself. The sower and seed is Jesus himself, the Word. He is the Word that has come down from heaven and he will not return until he has succeeded in what he was sent to do. The soil into which the seeds are sown are our daily lives. At times the words that Jesus speaks to us literally falls on deaf ears. We hear these powerful and challenging words from Jesus, but perhaps because of fear, we are reluctant to let them take root in our lives. But there are also times when we hear and welcome the words that Jesus speaks to us. We allow them to be sown in us, they take root, we nourish and nurture them and they produce fruit that can be seen in the quality of our daily lives.

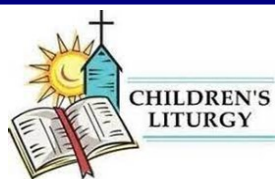
Generally we hear the word of God proclaimed when we gather as part of the parish community on a Sunday. Hopefully through the hymns, the readings and the gospel and the homily we hear a word that nourishes, nurtures and challenges us as we strive to live the Christian life. The real challenge is how we take that word away from the Church after Mass and live it our daily lives with and for others in our families, parish community and neighbourhood.

In his letter to the Hebrews, St. Paul wrote that 'the word of God is alive and active'. This is as challenging now as when it was first written and read. It is a relevant now to us as to those who first heard it. The Word of God is alive and active, not out there somewhere, but in you and me, in all of us. May this word take root in us and bear much fruit, fruit that will last. Michael Moore OMI

<https://oblates.ie/gospel-reflection-15th-sunday-ordinary-time/>



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.



Children's liturgy is on a break during the school holidays and will return on Sunday, 23rd July.



Thank you to all the Children's liturgy and Church cleaning volunteers who were able to help with the morning tea last Sunday. It was a blessed time with plenty of food and fellowship.



We warmly welcome Wyatt Labindao Dela Cruz, Vincent Moore, Harry Turner & Holly Turner who will be Baptised this weekend.

Cleaners for 21st July: Tom French, Elena Egan, Maria Owen, Reg Harrington.

Readers for 22nd & 23rd July:

Saturday 5.00pm— Jane Somerville & Olga Mhilli
 Sunday 7.30am— Isaak Giunta & Joel Bajo
 Sunday 9.15am— Emma Baker & Colleen McCormack
 Sunday 5.00pm— Kris Aitken & Lorena Lalor

Servers for 22nd & 23rd July:

Saturday 5.00pm— Jeff Freeman & Joel Bajo
 Sunday 7.30am— Peter French & Rae Busby
 Sunday 9.15am— Bernie French & Jenny Fitzgerald
 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.



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.

Central Coast Chaplaincy: You are invited to an Information Morning Tea to explore new volunteering opportunities in Spiritual Care within the Central Coast Local Health District.

When: Tuesday 1st August 2023 at 10 am

Where: Gosford Hospital Chapel, Level 4

RSVP: Eleanor Castle 0414 193 979

Peter Wakeley 0418 445 289



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

Divine Will Cenacle: The Divine Will Cenacle meetings continue each Thursday after morning Mass. All welcome. Feel free to join in any week.

Peter's Pence Collection: Many thanks for your generous donations to the Peter's Pence Collection last weekend. A total of \$1,257 was collected.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay Receipts: Pastoral Works Broken Bay receipts for the year 2022/2023 are available on the table in the Gathering Area. If you would like your receipt emailed please contact the Parish Office.

World Youth Day Pilgrimage:



How did World Youth Day begin? It is a fruit of the Holy Year of the Redemption: Ash Wednesday 1983 to Easter Sunday 1984. During a Holy Year various groups are invited to Rome on pilgrimage e.g. consecrated life, families. On Palm

Sunday, a week before the end of the Holy Year, it was the day for young people. Over 300,000 young people from around the world showed up. Looking over such a crowd St John Paul II exclaimed, *'What a fantastic spectacle is presented on this stage by your gathering here today! Who claimed that today's youth has lost their sense of values? Is it really true that they cannot be counted on?'* It was at this gathering that the Holy Father entrusted the youth with the World Youth Day Cross, to be carried throughout the world as a symbol of the love of Christ for humanity. That Cross visited Woy Woy and Umina in 2008 and is still being carried around the world. In 1985 an Apostolic Letter *'To the Youth of the World'* was issued to mark the International Year of Youth, and on Palm Sunday 1985 when the youth gathered again with the Pope, he announced that the first International World Youth Day was to be held in Rome in 1986.

In August 2023, World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon. Back in July 2008 Sydney hosted World Youth Day. In between there have been World Youth Days in Madrid, Rio de Janeiro, Krakow and Panama City.

We have three 'over 18' Woy Woy Parishioners going to World Youth Day Lisbon with the Broken Bay diocese pilgrimage: Oliver Shepherd, Vincent Cavanagh and seminarian Matthew French. They fly out late evening on 21 July and visit holy places in Italy before arriving in Lisbon on 31 July. From 1 August to 6 August they attend the World Youth Day events, and then visit Fatima before coming home. Please pray for them and for all diocesan and international pilgrims.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 55:10-11

Thus says the LORD: Just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

Responsorial Psalm: 64:10-14

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have visited the land and watered it;
greatly have you enriched it.
God's watercourses are filled;
you have prepared the grain.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have crowned the year with your bounty,
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;
The untilled meadows overflow with it,
and rejoicing clothes the hills.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows,
breaking up its clods,
Softening it with showers,
blessing its yield.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

The fields are garmented with flocks
and the valleys blanketed with grain.
They shout and sing for joy.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Reading 2: : Rom 8:18-23

Brothers and sisters: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labour pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;
all who come to him will have life forever.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Mt 13:1-9

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear."



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

Recently deceased: John McDermott, Frank Roach

Anniversary: Timby Neville, Sr Anne O'Shaughnessy

Remembrance: Joyce Fotheringham, Norfa Chirinos Benitez, Sheila (Carroll) Walsh

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, 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, Betty McDermott, Jacki Asic



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for July

For a Eucharistic Life

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

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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