



# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



**20<sup>th</sup> August 2023**  
**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Under the Pastoral Care of  
The Fransalians since 2016

## FEASTS & MEMORIALS

**23 August—St Rose of Lima**

**24 August—St Bartholomew**

**25 August—St Louis**

**28 August—St Augustine**

## 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

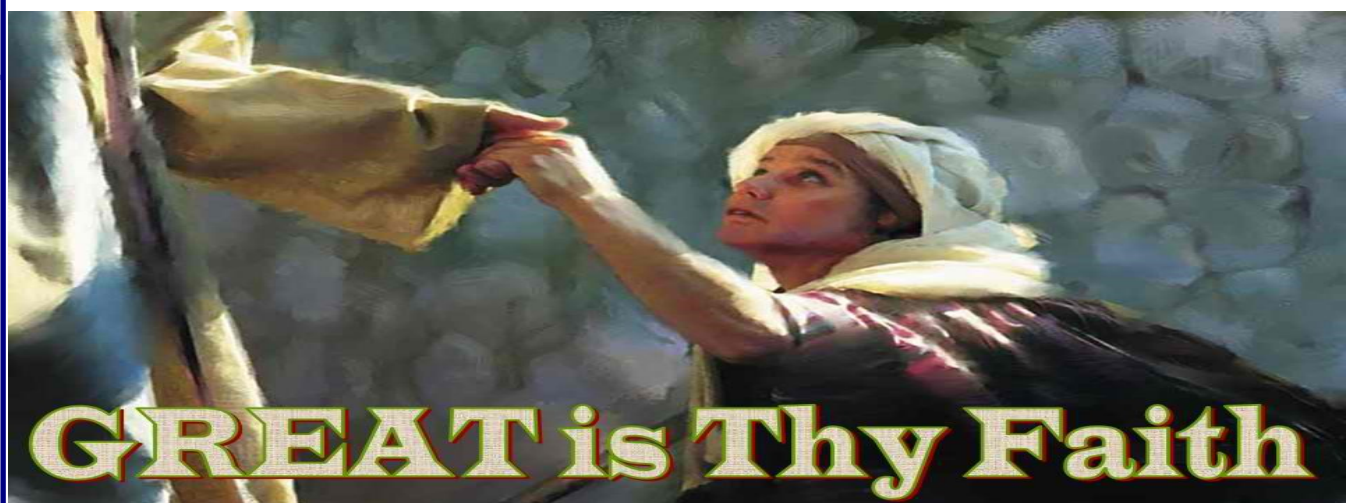
## FAITH OVERCOMES OBSTACLES

The Gospel account recalls the Canaanite woman who comes to Jesus seeking a cure for her daughter who is possessed by a demon. As a Canaanite she is a Gentile. In today's language these terms are sometimes used: "alien," "foreigner" and "stranger." She represents everyone who is outside of the Jewish people. She comes to Jesus, who is Jewish, seeking help. "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David!" is the cry she makes. Her first words indicate a faith in Jesus for she calls him "Lord" and "Son of David." The initial response from Jesus and the proverb he uses might strike us as harsh. At first, he says nothing. Then at her persistence the disciples ask him to send her away. He does not; rather he speaks. The words may sound harsh to our ears but when we see the dynamic interchange, we realise he is not just speaking to the woman but to all the people gathered. He says: "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel."

The question then becomes, is he speaking to the woman alone or is he speaking to the crowd? It seems he is speaking to the crowd. They saw him as the Jewish messiah and in the popular mindset would have expected words like this. It is as if he is drawing them in to have their expectations shattered by something more. They hear these words and, at first, seem to be confirmed in that understanding. This is furthered by his use of the proverb.

The Canaanite woman, however, is not rattled by his words; she has faith and persistence. After he first spoke, she replies "Lord help me;" then after the proverb she says: "Even the dogs eat the scraps that come from the table of their masters." At this Jesus says: "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And at his word the daughter is healed. The concept of the messiah in the popular mindset, at least for those who are gathered there, is transformed. The story speaks to us today as it does in every generation and every historical context. God's love is for all people and nations. Everyone is invited. What are God's expectations for me? What are God's hopes for me? What are God's expectations and hopes for all peoples? God's love is strong and powerful, it never goes away. He constantly loves and calls us to love. He shows us how to live in divine love and he teaches us that all peoples have a share in that life of love.

<https://catholicphilly.com/2020/08/catholic-spirituality/jesus-challenges-us-to-see-salvation-is-for-all-people/>



*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.*



**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Group:** The RCIA group is now meeting on Sundays, upstairs in the Parish Office Boardroom, after 9.15am Mass.

**Cleaners for 25<sup>th</sup> August:** Rano Spiteri, Reg Harrington, Tom French, Jenny Mitchell.

**Readers for 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> August:**

Saturday 5.00pm— Kate Bravo & Maryrose Barlow

Sunday 7.30am— Veronica Jordan & Joel Bajo

Sunday 9.15am— Emma Baker & Michael Dixon

Sunday 5.00pm— Sarah Hagarty & Kris Aitken

**Servers for 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> August:**

Saturday 5.00pm— Jeff Freeman & Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am— Kevin Glacken & Steve Hopley

Sunday 9.15am— Bob Wilson & 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.

**El Shaddai Prayer Group:** The next El Shaddai prayer group meeting will be held between 12pm and 4pm on Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> August in the Walter Baker Hall.



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

**New Parishioners:** Welcome to all our new Parishioners. If you haven't already done so, we invite you to complete a census form. Make sure you include any Parish community groups you wish to get involved in. Forms are available on the table in the Gathering Area.

**Volunteers Needed:** We are looking for volunteers for some of our Ministries. Please contact the Parish Office on 4341 1073 if you can spare some time.



MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS 7.00AM - 1.00PM

# VOLUNTEER NEEDED

EXPERIENCE IN COOKING FOR LARGE NUMBERS REQUIRED

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**Booking & Enquiries**

For further information or to make an application, please contact the Australian Pilgrimage Co-Ordinator

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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## **Reading 1: Is 56:1, 6-7**

Thus says the LORD: Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed. The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, ministering to him, loving the name of the LORD, and becoming his servants—all who keep the sabbath free from profanation and hold to my covenant, them I will bring to my holy mountain and make joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be acceptable on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

## **Responsorial Psalm: 66:2-3, 5-6, 8**

### **R. O God, let all the nations praise you!**

May God have pity on us and bless us;  
may he let his face shine upon us.  
So may your way be known upon earth;  
among all nations, your salvation.

### **R. O God, let all the nations praise you!**

May the nations be glad and exult because you  
rule the peoples in equity;  
the nations on the earth you guide.

## **Reading 2: : Rom 11:13-15, 29-32**

Brothers and sisters: I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

### **Alleluia:**

#### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom  
and cured every disease among the people.

#### **R. Alleluia.**

## **Gospel: Mt 15:21-28**

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.





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

**Recently deceased:**

**Anniversary:** Safa El-Khatib, Wanda Grima, Umiliano Menezes, Paulina Menezes, Francis Brian Morrison, David Staunton, Sebastian Lee Hee-Chang, Margaret French

**Remembrance:**

**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, Lucrecia Nunes-Rebelo, Marie Sourini, David Pragasam

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August**



**For World Youth Day**

**We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives**

**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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