# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time & Father's Day Under the Pastoral Care of The Fransalians since 2016

# FEASTS & MEMORIALS

8 Sept—The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

14 Sept—The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

**15 Sept—Our Lady of Sorrows** 

#### 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



# **DENYING SELF AND FOLLOWING CHRIST**

We live in a society that glorifies winners. Our heroes and heroines are people who have accomplished great things; champions who make us proud. But then we also know that winning isn't everything. Winning can only take us so far. In fact, failure rather than success can play a vital role in forming the character of the person. It forces us to question our motives and at times there is more to be gained in losing than winning. This was true of St Francis of Assisi. It was his imprisonment as a prisoner of war that was a catalyst for a radical change of life's direction and transformation.

Scripture for this 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the year teaches us that Christian life is not about winning or staying on top of the social ladder. Rather, it is about giving oneself to a greater cause. We followers of Christ are to live life to the full by surrendering to the process of defeat, suffering, and dying.

In the first reading, Jeremiah known as "the weeping prophet" because of his lamentations for the sins of Israel, reflects on the costs of being God's faithful mouthpiece. Jeremiah had spoken against the movers and shakers who took advantage of the politically unstable situation in Israel prior to the Babylonian captivity. He had condemned the corruption, moral decay, shifting alliances, and opportunism in Israel. He was attacked by his own brothers, put into the stocks by the temple priests and thrown into a cistern by the court officials. In the end, though, he remained fully committed and faithful to his mission in the face of adversity. Such courage and commitment are also demanded of the disciples as evident by the Gospel reading. "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me." These words of Jesus form the kernel of Christian discipleship. To be his follower is to walk the path of the cross. It is to lose oneself for the sake of the Kingdom. It is to commit oneself not to self-preservation but to self-sacrifice for the sake of others.

"For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it". Peter had a shock to his system when he heard these words. He learned that he could only be a true rock when he had the courage to emulate the Suffering Servant. On the other hand, he would be a stumbling rock or an obstacle, if he emptied Christian discipleship of the cross.



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

**Assistant Priest** 

Fr. Alex Peter M.S.F.S.

**Parish Secretary** 

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Jesus challenges us as he challenged Peter to move from the cultural model of power, dominion, and self-preservation to the new Kingdom model of service, love, and self-sacrifice. Paul echoes the teaching of Jesus by saying: "Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you" but instead discern the will of God and do what He wants.

https://parracatholic.org/homily-for-the-22nd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a-2020/

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.

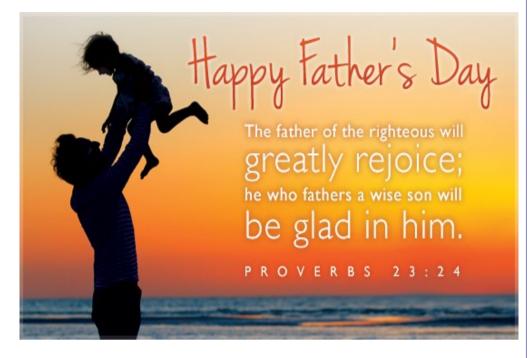


# **COMMUNITY NEWS**

#### **New Assistant Priest:**

We welcome Fr Alex Peter MSFS who has joined us to assist Fr Timothy. There will be a morning tea after 9.15am Mass this Sunday, 3rd September. Please bring a plate to share. All welcome.





grandfathers and father figures a very happy Father's Day. Be assured of our prayers, as you and your family celebrate the wonderful gift you are to them.



**Baptism:** We warmly welcome Esther Lee who will be Baptised this weekend.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Group: The RCIA group is now meeting on Sundays after 5.00pm Mass upstairs in the Parish Office Boardroom.

Cleaners for 8th September: Anne-Marie Young, Elena Egan, Maria Owen, Brian Nairn.

# Readers for 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> September:

Saturday 5.00pm— Paul Rutherford & Jane Rutherford Sunday 7.30am — Mabel Torres & Dorothy Fulton Sunday 9.15am — Michael Dixon & Emma Baker Sunday 5.00pm — Sarah Hagarty & Peter Smith

Servers for 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> September:

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.

Planned Giving Envelopes: Planned Giving envelopes for the coming year are available to collect from the table in the Gathering Area. If you would like to contribute to the Parish via Planned Giving envelopes please contact the Parish Office.

Ever Wondered Why People Become Catechists? If you have ever wondered why people give up some time each week to prepare lessons and then go to the local government school, either a primary or secondary school, to teach the students there about the Catholic faith? For more information go to: <a href="https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/">https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/</a> Father's Day: We wish all our fathers, grandfathers, great evangelisation/ccd It will take you to the CCD and watch "I Am a Catechist", You will hear some answers.

> To find out more about this ministry, contact Michael Tebbutt by phone or email. Mobile: 0437 440 169 or Email: Michael.Tebbutt@bbcatholic.org.au.



Saturday 5.00pm— Jeff Freeman & Joel Bajo Sunday 7.30am — Jose Torres & Paul Nolan 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.



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

A new document produced by the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry encourages Catholics to "preach all the Gospel, to all the world, all the time". The document reflects on the proclamation of the Gospel, drawing on recent Papal teaching and referring to well-known Gospel parables. This document offers good formation for parish leaders, ministers and all parishioners in better understanding the key concepts of evangelisation, discipleship and mission in a clear and relevant way. Copies available in the Gathering Area.

### Reading 1: Jer 20:7-9

You duped me, O LORD, and I let myself be duped; you were too strong for me, and you triumphed. All the day I am an object of laughter; everyone mocks me. Whenever I speak, I must cry out, violence and outrage is my message; the word of the LORD has brought me derision and reproach all the day. I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.

#### Responsorial Psalm: 62:2-6, 8-9

**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek; for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary to see your power and your glory, for your kindness is a greater good than life; my lips shall glorify you.

**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name. As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

You are my help, and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy. My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me.

**R.** My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

# Reading 2: <u>Rom 12:1-2</u>

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

#### Alleluia:

#### R. Alleluia, alleluia.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, that we may know what is the hope that belongs to our call.

# R. Alleluia.



#### Gospel: Mt 16:21-27

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer greatly from the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised. Then Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall ever happen to you." He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay all according to his conduct."

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

### Recently deceased:

#### Anniversary:

#### **Remembrance:** John Catania, Joyce Fotheringham

*Sick:* Melissa Bezzina, Lisa Ryan, Marie Head, Lisa Yeo, Marta Panczyma, 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, Vicki Pirie

# **Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September**

For people living on the margins We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

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. <u>https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/woywoyparish</u> Name: St John the Baptist Parish Woy Woy

Shank

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Come and enjoy delicious culinary delights that will take you on to a journey into the magical world of Indian Cusine. Our chefs capture the aromatic flavours and present to you the tastiest dishes from the country with great heritage and flamboyant culture.

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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