



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



24th September 2023
25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

27 Sept—St Vincent de Paul

29 Sept—Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

30 Sept—St Jerome

4 Oct—St Francis of Assisi

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.

Assistant Priest

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

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

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SO THE LAST WILL BE
FIRST, AND THE FIRST
WILL BE LAST."
— MATTHEW 20:16

GOD'S GENEROSITY

This passage of the Gospel, this parable, makes us understand this: God goes out to find us. Five times in this passage we speak of the exit: the exit of God, the master of the house, who goes to fetch the workers for his vineyard. And the day is a person's life, and God goes out in the morning, mid-morning, noon, afternoon until evening, at five. He doesn't get tired of going out. Our God never tires of going out to look for us. "But, father, I am a sinner ...". And how many times do we stand in the square like these [in the parable] who are there all day long; and being in the square is being in the world, being in sins, being ... "Come!" – "But it's late..." – "Come!". For God it is never late. This is the logic of his conversion. He goes out of Himself to seek us, and so much has He left Himself that He sent His Son to look for us. Our God always has his gaze on us. But why did she see him? Because every day, and perhaps several times a day, she went up to the terrace to see if her son came, if the son came back. This is the heart of our God: he is always waiting for us. And when someone says: "I have found God", he is wrong. In the end, he found you and took you with him. It is He who takes the first step. He never tires of going out, going out ... He respects the freedom of every man but he is there, waiting for us to open the door for him a little.

And this is the great thing about the Lord: he is humble. He humbles himself by expecting us. He is always there, waiting. We are all sinners and we all need an encounter with the Lord; of an encounter that gives us strength to move forward, to be better, simply. But let's be careful. Because He passes, He comes and it would be sad that He passes and we do not notice that He is passing. And today we ask for grace: "Lord, may I be sure that You are waiting. Yes, waiting for me, with my sins, with my defects, with my problems ". We all have them, all of them. But He is there: He is there, always. I believe the worst of sins is not understanding that He is always there waiting for me, not having faith in this love: distrust in God's love.

May the Lord grant you this grace on this joyful day for you. The grace of being sure that He is always at the door, waiting for me to open a little bit to enter. And do not be afraid: when the prodigal son met his father, the father came down from the terrace and went to meet his son. That old man was in a hurry, and the Gospel says that when the son began to speak: "Father, I have sinned ...", he did not let him speak; he embraced him, kissed him. This is what awaits us if we open the door a little bit: the embrace of the Father. **(Pope Francis 24/09/17, Translated, Excerpt)**

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.

Daylight Saving: Daylight Saving begins at 2am Eastern Standard Time on Sunday, 1st October 2023.

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 6th October: Pam Hickey, Tom French, Maria Wickens, Laila Dawe.

Readers for 30th Sept & 1st October:

Saturday 5.00pm—Wendy Whiteman & Leonie King
Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken & Isaak Guinta
Sunday 9.15am—Joesie Cameron & Colleen McCormack
Sunday 5.00pm—Marian Bowyer & Kris Aitken

Servers for 30th Sept & 1st October:

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

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.

Children's Liturgy: Children's liturgy is on a break for the school holidays and will return Sunday, 15th October during 9.15am Mass.



Cash Housie at Peninsula Community Centre, Saturdays 7.00pm, 93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy. Proceeds benefit the Parish.

Funeral Announcement—Judith Taylor: Judith was the wife of Michael Taylor, a former Senior Server in our Parish. Judith's life will be celebrated on Wednesday 27th September at 12.30pm at **Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Wyoming.**

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

Public Holiday Morning Tea: There will be a morning tea on Monday, 2nd October after 9.00am Mass in the Leo Mahon Room. If you have been a pilgrim during 2023, please wear your Magi, Harvest or World Youth Day name tag and bring #2 large photos A4 size or similar of places where God particularly touched your heart. Please note that Daylight Saving will have started the day before.

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: <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/evangelisation/ccd> 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.

El Shaddai Prayer Group: The next El Shaddai prayer group meeting will be held between 12pm and 4pm on Saturday, 30th September, in the Walter Baker Hall.

Voice to Parliament: Information session on a Voice to Parliament: Wiradjuri/Ngunnawal woman Corinne Hodson from Barang Regional Alliance has kindly offered to lead an information session ahead of the referendum on what a Voice to Parliament would mean for Aboriginal people and why this change in the constitution would be an important step toward reconciliation. If you are unsure, have questions or are still undecided, come along to learn more and ask questions. Bring a friend. The information session will take place on Thursday, 5th October at 11.30am in the Leo Mahon Room. Morning tea will be donated by Baker's Delight Umina. RSVP to Rebecca 0450 790 218.



Please join us for

Together

Gathering of the people of God

7pm, Friday 29 September at
**Hornsby Cathedral Parish,
Queen of Peace Catholic Church**
18 Stuart Ave, Normanhurst NSW

Together is an ecumenical prayer vigil in Rome on 30 September to pray for the Synod on Synodality. Preparations are being led by the Taizé community.

Prayers will also be held around the world and in Australia on the weekend of 29 September to 1 October.

We'd love you, your family, school or parish to get involved in this ecumenical event.

Please contact: Roslyn Rajasingam
roslyn.together2023@gmail.com
or 0449 160 710

Coffee available from 6pm.

Together Gathering of the People of God www.together2023.net

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call him while he is near. Let the scoundrel forsake his way, and the wicked his thoughts; let him turn to the LORD for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm: 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

Every day will I bless you, and I will praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD and highly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and of great kindness.

The LORD is good to all and compassionate toward all his works.

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

The LORD is just in all his ways and holy in all his works. The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.

R. The Lord is near to all who call him.

Reading 2: Phil :20-24, 27

Brothers and sisters: Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain. If I go on living in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. And I do not know which I shall choose. I am caught between the two. I long to depart this life and be with Christ, for that is far better. Yet that I remain in the flesh is more necessary for your benefit. Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

R. Alleluia.

Larghetto **ANIMA CHRISTI** **Marco Frisina**
♩ = 62 *mf*



Soprano A - ni - ma Chri - sti, san - cti - fi - ca me. Cor - pus Chri - sti, sal - va me.

6
S. San - guis Chri - sti, i - ne - bri - a me. A - qua la - te - ris Chri - sti, la - va me.

Gospel: Mt 20:1-16

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. Going out about nine o'clock, the landowner saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard, and I will give you what is just.' So they went off. And he went out again around noon, and around three o'clock, and did likewise. Going out about five o'clock, the landowner found others standing around, and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.' When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.' When those who had started about five o'clock came, each received the usual daily wage. So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last ones worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us, who bore the day's burden and the heat.' He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?' Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."

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

Recently deceased: Sandra McCutcheon, Judith Taylor

Anniversary: Karen Chorazyczewska, Thomas Ochea, Mary Lozito, Hugo Cutrone, Arthur Andrews, Ron Dixon

Remembrance: Jack Dunne, Molly Dunne, Andrew Gauci, Merle Wade

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, Vicki Pirie, Beau Burt, Joel Lloyd

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. <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.

Thank You

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Come and enjoy delicious culinary delights that will take you on a journey into the magical world of Indian Cuisine. 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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