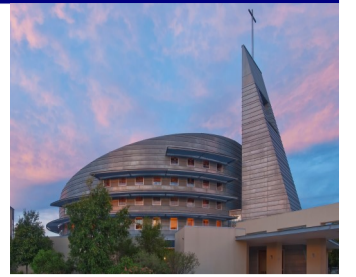




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



1st October 2023
26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

2 Oct—The Holy Guardian Angels

4 Oct—St Francis of Assisi

6 Oct—St Bruno

7 Oct—Our Lady of the Rosary

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.

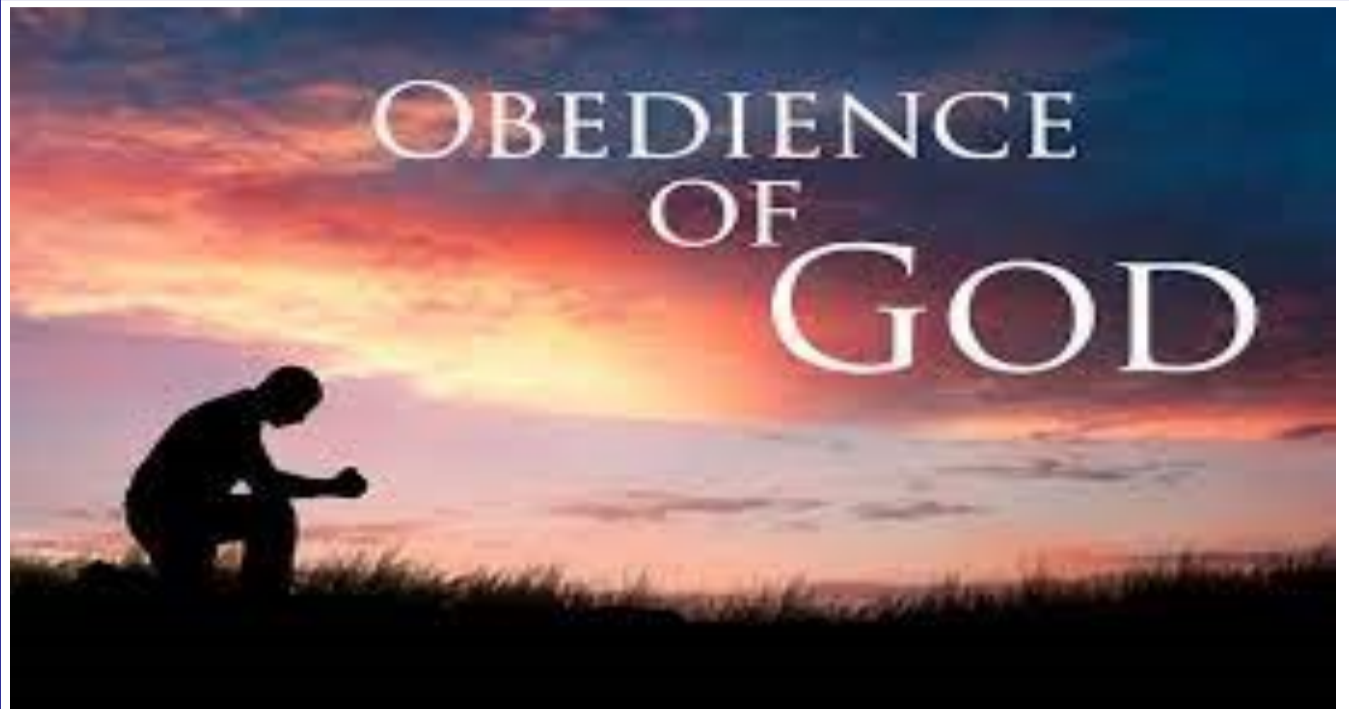
Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

P: 02 4341 1073

Emergency contact No. 0438 631 327

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OBEDIENCE AND REPENTANCE

The readings for the 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A focus on staying on the path of discipleship. When we do sin, we need to turn back to God. He will show us the way. It requires a humble heart to admit we have sinned and seek to get back on the right path. Christ is our model of obedience and humility.

- **Parable of Two Sons:** The parable of the two sons highlights the theme of obedience and response to God's call. The contrast between the two sons' initial reactions illustrates the importance of genuine actions over empty promises.
- **Repentance and Actions:** The son who initially refused but later obeyed his father showcases the theme of repentance and transformation. This emphasises the possibility of change and the significance of aligning one's actions with God's will.
- **Hypocrisy and Self-Deception:** The theme of hypocrisy and self-deception is evident as Jesus contrasts verbal agreement with actual obedience. He challenges the religious leaders' outward appearances that mask their lack of genuine response.
- **Tax Collectors and Prostitutes:** Jesus' reference to tax collectors and prostitutes entering the kingdom ahead of the religious leaders emphasises the theme of unexpected redemption. This highlights God's willingness to forgive and transform even those society deems less worthy.
- **Belief and Transformation:** The parable's focus on the son's eventual change highlights the theme of belief leading to transformation. This emphasises the importance of faith that results in authentic life changes.
- **Humble Acceptance of God's Will:** The son's shift from rebellion to obedience showcases the theme of humbly accepting God's will. This emphasises the value of yielding to God's plans rather than asserting our own desires.

<https://young-catholics.com/2935/26th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a/#homilies>

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.

Parish Office: The Parish Office will be closed on Monday 2nd October and will re-open on Tuesday, 3rd October. Morning Mass on Monday, 2nd October will be at 9.00am followed by a morning tea 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. All welcome.

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 7th & 8th October:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jane Rutherford & Rose Mondal
Sunday 7.30am—Veronica Jordan & Mabel Torres
Sunday 9.15am—Don Matheson & Colleen McCormack
Sunday 5.00pm—Sarah Hagarty & Kris Aitken

Servers for 7th & 8th October:

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



Baptism: We warmly welcome Lyla Brown who will be Baptised this weekend.

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

Thank you: Thank you for supporting CatholicCare's Homelessness Week Fundraiser. \$2,764.50 was raised by the Parish which will allow CatholicCare to continue supporting some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese.



Cash Housie Mega Marathon at Peninsula Community Centre, Saturday 30th September, 2.00pm to 11.00pm, 93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy. Hall open from 12.00pm. Free catering during half time break 5.00pm. Proceeds benefit the Parish.

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.

Learn more before the Referendum vote: Wiradjuri/ Ngunnawal woman Corinne Hodson will lead an information session this Thursday, 5th October at 11.30am in the Leo Mahon room on what a Voice to Parliament would mean for Australia. If you are unsure, have questions or are still undecided, come along to learn more and ask questions. Bring a friend. Morning tea will be donated by Baker's Delight Umina. RSVP for numbers to Rebecca 0450 790 218. Learn more about what the Catholic Church has said on the Voice here: <https://indigenousvoice.church/>



Members of the XVI General Ordinary assembly will be gathering in Rome in just a few days' time, along with our Broken Bay representatives, Bishop Anthony Randazzo, and Diocesan Chancellor, Mrs Kelly Paget.

The Vatican is asking all baptised people to participate in October's assembly of the Synod of Bishops with their prayers.

"The Synod is first and foremost an event of prayer, and listening does not solely involve the members of the synodal assembly, but every baptised person, every particular Church," Synod general-secretary Cardinal Mario Greco said this week.

"Indeed, all are called in this moment to join ourselves to the communion of prayer and in the insistent invocation of the Holy Spirit so it may guide us in the discernment of what the Lord asks today of his Church.

"To pray for the synodal assembly, to intercede for all of its members, firstly the Holy Father who so often asks us to pray for him, is to realise the highest level of participation," Cardinal Greco said.

Liturgy of Lament: Every year the Diocese holds a Liturgy of Lament. It is an opportunity to gather and pray to God in acknowledging the suffering caused to our most vulnerable and to give public expression to sorrow. Everyone is invited to attend on 12 October at 4.30pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Ezek 18:25-28

Thus says the LORD: You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!" Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, and does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

Responsorial Psalm: 24:4-9

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach
me, for you are God my saviour.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your
love are from of old. The sins of my youth and my
frailties remember not;
in your kindness remember me, because of your
goodness, O LORD.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Good and upright is the LORD;
thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to
justice and teaches the humble his way.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Reading 2: Phil 2:1-11

Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others. Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Alleluia:

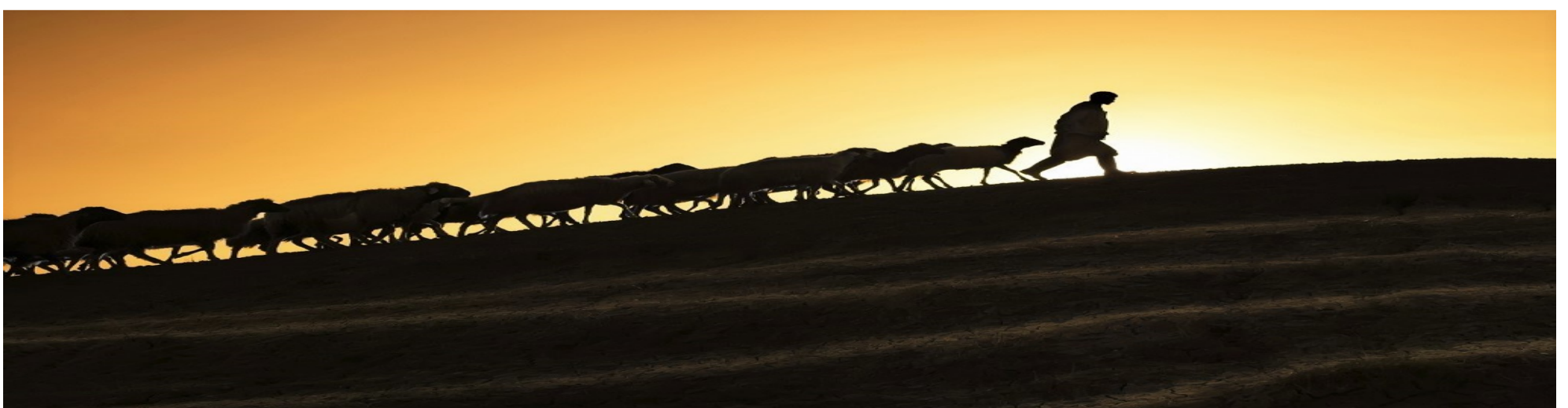
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Mt 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not,' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did his father's will?" They answered, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him."



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

Recently deceased: Lucrecia Nunes Rebelo

Anniversary: Damiana & Pedro Bulual, Pat Fitzgerald, Ron Dixon, Stanley Walsh, Fr Terry O'Brien, Monsignor Vince Malley, Damiana & Pedro Bulual, Sara Selim

Remembrance: Charles, Lydia & Alfred Dreis, James Casey, Bryan Moroney

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, Marie Sourini, David Pragasam, Vicki Pirie, Beau Burt, Joel Lloyd

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October



For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

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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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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