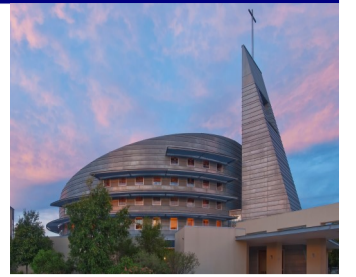




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



8th October 2023
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

9 Oct—St Denis & Companions

11 Oct—St John XXIII

13 Oct—Our Lady of Fatima

14 Oct—St Callistus I

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

E:woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au



TRUTH OF OUR FAITH

An absentee landowner with slaves to do his bidding is not a very attractive hero for a story, at least not from a 21st century perspective. The chief priests and elders, Jesus' audience, make him even less attractive than Jesus may have intended. They complete Jesus' story by making the landowner a murderer like his tenants. They also unwittingly condemn themselves as the unworthy tenants who will be supplanted by others, probably others whom they currently despise. Jesus takes up their response and turns it back on them. In Jesus' summing up, the vineyard becomes God's empire or reign and the grapes become the fruit of God's way of being in the world. Whether Jesus intends the landowner to be an image of God remains an open question, especially as it is not Jesus but his opponents who depict the owner as a murderer.

Jesus refashions a story first told by the prophet Isaiah and Matthew reworks Mark's version of the story from Isaiah. In its present context and form, the story evokes and foreshadows the fate of Jesus, the last in a long line of persecuted prophets and God's executed son. The careful preparation of the vineyard and the quality of the harvest form the all important subtext. God's people can reasonably expect to be safe in the hands of trusted caretakers or 'tenants'. When the tenants resort to violence, even if they have legitimate demands, they find themselves replaced by more worthy tenants.

The parable continues the theme of last week's gospel: society's outcasts are entering God's arena before the temple authorities. Maybe Matthew is reminding his generation of Christian leaders to handle their sacred responsibilities with the utmost care and attention to the values of God's reign or they too will find themselves replaced by others.

This gospel story continues to function as a reminder that we are tenants or caretakers, entrusted with the sacred mission of bringing God's compassionate love to a fractured world. We can do this effectively if we listen to the voices of the prophets in our midst. There is no place in God's vineyard for the sort of destructive self-interest that persecutes or silences the prophets.

https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_welcom/27th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a/

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 after 5.00pm Mass upstairs in the Parish Office Boardroom.

Cleaners for 13th October: Rano Spiteri, Jo Salter, Lana Berg, Christine French.

Readers for 14th & 15th October:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jane Somerville & Marie Andrews
 Sunday 7.30am—Joel Bajo & Dorothy Fulton
 Sunday 9.15am—Michael Dixon & Maryrose Barlow
 Sunday 5.00pm—Peter Smith & Lorena Lalor

Servers for 14th & 15th October:

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh
 Sunday 7.30am—Bernie French & Paul Nolan
 Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson & Hanaa El-Khatib
 Sunday 5.00pm—Darrin Patterson

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.



Happy birthday to Josie Weate who celebrated her 98th birthday last weekend. Congratulations Josie!



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

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.

Fransalian Corner:

The Congregation of the Missionaries of St Francis de Sales (MSFS), also known as FRANSALIANS, was founded by Fr Peter Marie Mermier in Annecy, France, on October 24, 1838, under the patronage of St Francis de Sales. It is constituted of priests and brothers.

Founding and growth:

The context of the founding of the Congregation was the French Revolution, the emergence of Jansenism and the emigration of Christians from Savoy. The political disturbances in the context of the French Revolution left the people in a deep spiritual crisis and indifferent towards their religious duties. Sensing the signs of the time, Fr Peter Mermier took upon himself the task of a spiritual renewal of his people by preaching parish missions. Thus, the MSFS Congregation was founded at a (historical) critical moment in human history, to address the three-fold issues of de-Christianisation and the anti-clerical attitudes developed as a result of the French Revolution; negative influence of Jansenism; and the emigration of the poverty-stricken population to France and Switzerland. Fr Mermier was fully convinced of and advocated preaching of parish missions as the best solution to bring people back to faith. Parish missions consisted of week-long retreat preaching and visits of families for the purpose of spiritual renewal of the parish. The preachers proceeded from parish to parish, motivating the people to receive sacraments regularly and encouraging them to live genuine Christian lives. The initial focus of the parish missions was to reform the educational institutions, the clergy and the parishes. Once Monsieur Favre wrote to the missionaries at Annecy, "religion can only pick up again in Savoy by means of the missions." This special apostolate, in turn, gave rise to a community of preachers who gathered around Fr Mermier. The MSFS Congregation was founded in response to the great desire of St Francis de Sales to establish a society of missionary priests. Nearly two centuries after the saint's death, Msgr Joseph Rey, a successor of the saint, in the see of Annecy, broached the subject of such a society to Fr Peter Mermier, who had been considering the same idea. Accordingly, Fr Mermier put the design into execution. In 1830, the institute was formed with La Feuillette as the site of the Mother House. On September 29, 1836, Bishop Joseph Rey gave a provisional approval to the religious community of priests. On September 24, 1838, after a fervent retreat, six missionaries - namely Peter Mermier, Jacques Martin, Philippe Gaidon, Joseph Cheminal, AimePetitjean and Joseph Lavorel - made the vow of stability. Bishop Rey received the royal assent for founding the religious Congregation from Charles Albert, King of Sardinia and Duke of Savoy, on September 29, 1838. Then on October 24, 1838, Bishop Rey gave canonical approval to the Congregation, making the MSFS Congregation a diocesan religious institute, thereby becoming the first Congregation to bear the name of St Francis de Sales. On October 24, 1840, Frs Mermier, Martin, Cheminal, Petitjean and Lavorel made their final commitment. The approval of the Holy See was granted on June 22, 1843, and the final approval on March 19, 1860.

Prayer for the Synod

As we embrace this Synodal Process, this prayer invites the Holy Spirit to be at work in us so that we may be a community and a people of grace.

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever.

Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 5:1-7

Let me now sing of my friend, my friend's song concerning his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside; he spaded it, cleared it of stones, and planted the choicest vines; within it he built a watchtower, and hewed out a wine press. Then he looked for the crop of grapes, but what it yielded was wild grapes. Now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I had not done? Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes, did it bring forth wild grapes? Now, I will let you know what I mean to do with my vineyard: take away its hedge, give it to grazing, break through its wall, let it be trampled! Yes, I will make it a ruin: it shall not be pruned or hoed, but overgrown with thorns and briars; I will command the clouds not to send rain upon it. The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished plant; he looked for judgment, but see, bloodshed! for justice, but hark, the outcry!

Responsorial Psalm: 79:9, 1-16, 19-20

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

A vine from Egypt you transplanted; you drove away the nations and planted it.

It put forth its foliage to the Sea, its shoots as far as the River.

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel. Why have you broken down its walls, so that every passer-by plucks its fruit.

The boar from the forest lays it waste, and the beasts of the field feed upon it?

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted, the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name. O LORD, God of hosts, restore us; if your face shine upon us, then we shall be saved.

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Reading 2: Phil 4:6-9

Brothers and sisters: Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Alleluia:

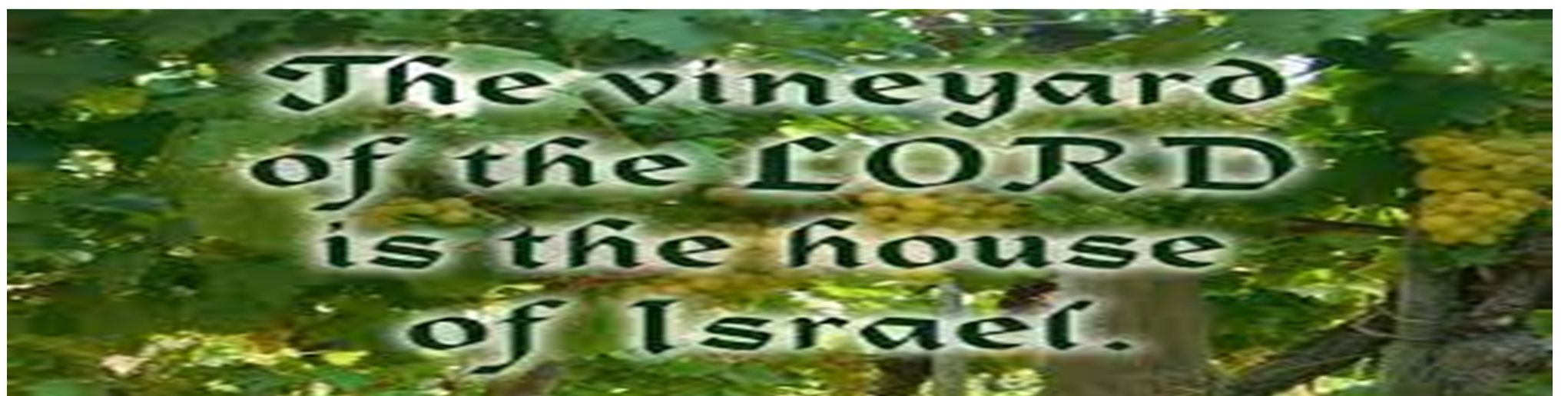
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, to go and bear fruit that will remain.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Mt 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes?* Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."



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

Recently deceased: Gillian Selley, Sr Petra Ries rsj, Emma Borong Mangorsi, Jim McCormack

Anniversary: Mary Lozito, Hugo Cutrone, Dora Vera, Noëlle Davidovic

Remembrance: Joyce Fotheringham, Bruno de Souza

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, Belinda Cochrane, Ken Stewart, Caterina Shinoda



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



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESS



**Aged Care &
Retirement Planning
Free Initial Meeting
1300 661 424
www.tfs.com.au**

Anthony Tanti Pty Ltd trading as Tanti® Financial Services ABN 18 070 533 836 is an Authorised Representative and Credit Representative of AMP Financial Planning Pty Limited ABN 89 051 208 327 AFS Licence No.232706

CALVARY
FUNERALS
LOW COST FUNERAL DIRECTORS

1300 663 753 OUR FAMILY
1/77 Rawson Rd *Caring For*
Woy Woy *Your Family*



Website www.Vipcc.com.au
Mobile 0437 134 161
Phone 1300 847 338

Coco
wax & brow

Tel 0466 111 730
10/39 George St Woy Woy NSW 2256



**Bryan J. Reid
Funeral Services**

1/39 Victoria Road,
Woy Woy.

1800 032 225

100% Australian Owned
Family Operated Company.



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)

34 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy-NSW 2256, Tel: 02 43398225, www.spices29.com.au