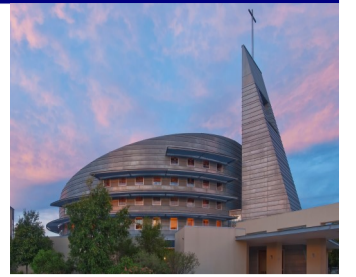




# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



29<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of  
The Fransalians since 2016

## FEASTS & MEMORIALS

1 Nov—All Saints

2 Nov—All Souls

3 Nov—St Martin de Porres

4 Nov—St Charles Borromeo

## 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



The Readings in today's liturgy remind us that the fulness of the law, as all of the divine Scriptures, is love. Therefore, anyone who believes they have understood the Scriptures, or at least some part of them, without undertaking to build, by means of their intelligence, the twofold love of God and neighbour, in reality proves to be still a long way from having grasped its deeper meaning. The Second Vatican Council asserts that "access to sacred Scripture ought to be open wide to the Christian faithful" (*Dei Verbum*, 22), so that persons, encountering the truth, may grow in authentic love. This is a requisite that is indispensable for evangelisation today. And since often the encounter with Scriptures is in danger of being not "a fact" of the Church, but informed by subjectivity and arbitrariness, a robust and credible pastoral promotion of the knowledge of Sacred Scripture to announce, celebrate and live the Word in the Christian community becomes indispensable, dialoguing with the cultures of our time, placing ourselves at the service of truth and not of current ideologies, and increasing the dialogue God wishes to have with all men (cf. *ibid*, 21). To this end special care should be given to the preparation of pastors, who are then ready to take whatever action is necessary to spread the biblical movement with appropriate means.

Many other reflections could be added but I will limit myself to underlining that the privileged place where the Word of God resounds, which edifies the Church, as was said many times in the Synod, is undoubtedly the liturgy. This is where it appears that the Bible is a book of the people and for the people: a heritage, a testament consigned to readers so that the salvation history witnessed in the text becomes concrete in their own lives. There is therefore a vital, reciprocal relationship of belonging between the people and the Book: the Bible remains a living Book with the people its subject who read it. The people cannot exist without the Book, because in it they find their reason for being, their vocation and their identity.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us pray that from renewed listening to the Word of God, guided by the action of the Holy Spirit, an authentic renewal in the universal Church and in every Christian community may spring forth. Amen!

Excerpt from Homily of Pope Benedict XVI 26 October 2008

*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.*

**Candidates for First Reconciliation:** Please keep these children in your prayers as they continue to prepare for the Sacrament.

**Cleaners for 3<sup>rd</sup> November:** Pam Hickey, Linda Potestas, Rano Spiteri, Veronica Jordan.

**Readers for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> November:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Leonie King & Dawn Torrens

Sunday 7.30am—Mabel Torres & Phoebe Glacken

Sunday 9.15am—Christine French & Maryrose Barlow

Sunday 5.00pm—Lorena Lalor & Sarah Hagarty

**Servers for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> November:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French & Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French & 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.

**Offering Mass for our Beloved Dead during November:**

*“Bury my body wherever you will; let not care of it cause you any concern. One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be.” St Monica to St Augustine.*

In the Catholic Church, Holy Mass offered for departed souls is a crucial and deeply rooted practice. This religious observance is known as a “Requiem Mass or a Mass for the Dead.” The importance of offering Mass for the departed souls can be summarized as follows:

**Prayer for the Deceased:** The primary purpose of the Requiem Mass is to pray for the souls of the departed. We believe in purgatory, a state where souls may undergo purification before entering heaven. Mass for the Dead is a way to intercede for these souls, asking God to grant them mercy and admission to heaven. CCC 958 states, ‘it is a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins’. Our prayer for them is capable not only of helping them, but also of making their intercession for us effective.

**Spiritual Support:** It offers comfort and support to the grieving family and friends of the deceased. It allows them to express their faith, seek solace, and remember the deceased in a sacred context.

**Community and Communion:** The Mass for the Dead is a communal act of worship. It unites the living members of the Church in prayer and solidarity with the deceased. It emphasises the idea that the Church is a community, both on Earth and in the afterlife.

**Eternal Memory:** Through Mass for the Dead, the Church keeps the memory of the deceased alive. It’s a way of

acknowledging the continued connection between the living and the deceased.

**Redemption and Forgiveness:** We believe that the Mass can have a redemptive effect on the souls in purgatory. Through Mass, the sins of the departed may be further forgiven, and their time in purgatory may be shortened.

**All Souls Day—2 November:** Masses will be held at 8.30am and 7.00pm. The 7.00pm Mass will be live streamed and can be accessed via [www.youtube.com/@stjohnthebaptistcatholicpa5498](http://www.youtube.com/@stjohnthebaptistcatholicpa5498). Mass intentions will be received for the departed souls during the month of November. Please include your intentions with a November Masses envelope.

**All Souls Day Point Clare Cemetery Visit:** Prayers start in the Green Hut at 10.30am on Thursday, 2nd November.

**Cash Housie:** Closed Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> October due to Ettalong art and craft exhibition using the hall.

**Vinnie’s Christmas Appeal:** There will be a Vinnies Christmas Appeal on the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup> November. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**FRANSALIAN CORNER:**

Who is a Fransalian? **FRANSALIAN** is another name for the Missionary of St. Francis de Sales.

**FRANSALIAN** is a man of living faith who is deeply in love with God. He is in daily communion with Him, through the Eucharist, the sun of religious existence, as well as through his awareness of His presence. This love of God is shown in his love for his neighbour and for the entire creation. He is a confident optimist who is aware that God is present in his life, in his community, and in the events of history. He lives the Salesian charism of joyful holiness, firm gentleness, and positive regard for the other, with hospitality, cheerful availability and genuine humanness. The Good News of God’s love is made known through his witness in the form of service to humanity. Knowledge is his eight sacraments. He is a realist who is well equipped to read the signs of the times. He has his feet planted firmly on the ground, while reaching for the skies. He is a man who is open to and lives the culture of the people, courageous to respond to their needs. He is a committed messenger of hope, filled with missionary zeal. And all this in firm solidarity with his confreres, the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales.

**Our Virtues:** Gentleness and zeal combined with Hospitality were the hallmarks of the Congregation. The Founder Fr Mermier himself laid stress on these virtues. Self-denial, readiness to accept discomfort, to be all to all, everywhere, in the least things, like the grain of wheat buried in the ground. Charity and kindness to one’s neighbour are the hallmarks of God’s love.

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## **Reading 1: Ex 22:20-26**

Thus says the LORD: "You shall not molest or oppress an alien, for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan. If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry. My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword; then your own wives will be widows, and your children orphans. "If you lend money to one of your poor neighbours among my people, you shall not act like an extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him. If you take your neighbour's cloak as a pledge, you shall return it to him before sunset; for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body. What else has he to sleep in? If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

## **Responsorial Psalm: 17:2-4, 47, 51**

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

I love you, O LORD, my strength,  
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

My God, my rock of refuge, my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold!

Praised be the LORD, I exclaim, and I am safe from my enemies.

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

The LORD lives and blessed be my rock! Extolled be God my saviour.

You who gave great victories to your king and showed kindness to your anointed.

**R. I love you, Lord, my strength.**

## **Reading 2: 1 Thess 1:5c-10**

Brothers and sisters: You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything. For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

**Alleluia:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

**R. Alleluia.**

## **Gospel: Mt 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."



## Keep us in your Prayers—pray for the souls of:

**Recently deceased:** Daniel Bruns, Bob Scott, Peter Carr, Vitalina Pene

**Anniversary:** Catherine Davis

**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 De Souza, 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, Tom Shepherd, Lorraine Blandford



### 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**

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Thank you for your generous contribution.

*Thank You*



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