



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



19th November 2023
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

22 Nov—St Cecilia

23 Nov—St Clement I

25 Nov—St Catherine of Alexandria

26 Nov—Christ the King

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

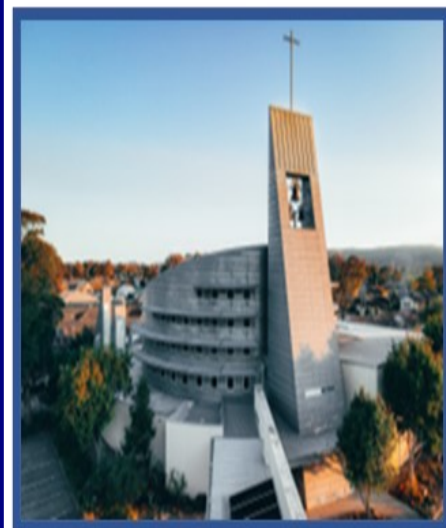
E:woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au

On 18th November we celebrate the 16th Anniversary of the Dedication of our Church

Throughout the Bible we are reminded of the importance of the Lord's wonderful works and how he has worked in our lives. Celebrating the Anniversary gives us an opportunity to look back and reconnect with our Church and the reasons behind its design. When we take the time to understand the significance behind each liturgical symbol, we realise the stories of past and present all being brought together into this sacred space. Every time we walk into a church our faith is strengthened by these visual reminders.



Our church is built around the idea of the Christian as pilgrim. The pebble surface that begins at the pedestrian gate continues under the covered way, through the main doors and the gathering space to the pews, and is also visible around the altar, ambo and chair. As we enter the worship space, we see on the doors the words (in four languages) from the pilgrim psalm 120 (8): 'The Lord will guard your going and coming, both now and forever.'



The gathering spaces doubles as a devotional space—an area where we can engage in our private devotions. There are the Way of the Cross and chapels in honour of the Sacred Heart, the Blessed Virgin, St Joseph and St Anthony.

Inside, the stained glass draws our attention to the Patron, Saint John the Baptist (the upper windows, in the colours of red [martyrdom], blue [his baptism], and desert colours), and to our worship in the community of saints and the angels (especially the faces and the angels' wings).

The altar, ambo, chair and font form a set, made from Persian travertine and highlighted in Roman travertine. They are the focal points of the building, according to what is happening, and they emphasise the unity of Sacramental action. It is around these that we gather at various important events on the journey, especially when we assemble on Sunday. The exact centre of the church is just in front of the altar steps, in the centre. In church-building tradition, this is called the *omphalos* or "navel", where really important events take place. The priest stands there to distribute Communion; marriages and ordinations take place there.

The pilgrim route which we mostly follow (in and out the main doors) is not the way in which we finish our journey. We have a special set of funeral doors, like those in mediaeval monasteries, and after the Mass or Service of Christian Burial, the body is taken through these doors to the hearse waiting outside.

(From: St John the Baptist Parish Newsletter, 15th November 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.



Fr Alex celebrated his birthday during the week. We wish him every blessing for the year ahead.

Parish News: Fr Timothy and Fr Alex will be in Adelaide at a Fransalian Annual Meeting from 13th to 15th November and Fathers Raphael and Stephen will be celebrating Mass in their absence. We sincerely thank both Fathers for kindly stepping in to help.

Morning Tea: To celebrate the Dedication of St John the Baptist Church, The Feast of Christ the King, Fr Alex's birthday and to welcome our Advent placement seminarian Paul Cunningham, there will be a morning tea after 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 26th November and a soup night after 5.00pm Mass that evening.

Parish Pastoral Council: The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Thursday, 23rd November at 7.00pm.



Expressions of Interest—Advent

Programme: If there are any gentlemen interested in forming a group for Advent reflection please contact Allan Moore on 0492 988 168.

Discover the profound spiritual journey of Advent and Christmas with **The Sign: Daily Advent and Christmas Reflections 2023**—a captivating 80-page book containing spiritually rich, yet accessible, daily reflections from the beginning of Advent (3 December 2023) through to the Baptism of the Lord (8 January 2024). Copies available now at the Piety Stall for \$5 each.



We welcome Tommy Mangan and Mattaius Mortimer who will be Baptised this weekend.

Piety Stall: Columban and Josephite Calendars priced at \$10, are now available for sale in the Piety Stall.

Christmas Cards: Vinnies Christmas cards are now available at the Piety Stall. Packs of 10 cards plus envelopes for \$2.00 per pack. Three designs and this year the traditional designs are drawn by pupils from a number of NSW Catholic Primary Schools.



Cleaners for 24th November: Rose Kissing, Reg Harrington, Jenny Mitchell & Lana Berg.

Readers for 25th & 26th November:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jane Rutherford & Leonie King
 Sunday 7.30am—Veronica Jordan & Dorothy Fulton
 Sunday 9.15am—Michael Dixon & Dawn Torrens
 Sunday 5.00pm—Sarah Hagarty & Lorena Lalor

Servers for 25th & 26th November:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman & Joel Bajo
 Sunday 7.30am—Peter French & Jose Torres
 Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson & Jenny Fitzgerald
 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.

Bakers Delight Umina—Christmas Fundraising

Opportunity: Bakers Delight Umina would like to offer the Parishioners of St John the Baptist, the opportunity to purchase fruit mince tarts and lemon tarts, to benefit the Parish. For every 6 pack of fruit mince or lemon tarts you order, Bakers Delight Umina will give \$2.00 to our Church. Simply fill in the details on the form located in the Gathering Area and bring it with full payment to Bakers Delight Umina by Monday, December 11th.

Know our Patron St. Francis de Sales—continued:

Later, Francis was to have a great devotion to the Holy Shroud because his mother had been delivered much better than expected through her veneration of this holy relic. He considered the Shroud to be his country's shield and greatest relic. It was his favourite devotional picture, and he had numerous images of it painted, engraved and embroidered, placing them in his room, chapel, oratory, study, reception rooms and breviary. St Francis de Sales wrote that his devotion to the Holy Shroud due to the fact that "my mother, when I was still in her womb, dedicated me to Our Lord before this holy banner of salvation."

As he grew older, St Francis de Sales studied literature, law, philosophy and theology in Paris and Padua. Upon finishing his studies, he received a doctorate in civil and canon law. Though he could have had a brilliant secular career, he set his soul on following the call of God to the priesthood, and was ordained in 1593 at the age of 26. He was consecrated Bishop of Geneva at age 35 and was to remain Bishop of Geneva for the remaining 20 years of his life. Some years after St Francis de Sales took charge of Geneva, King Henry IV suggested to him the possibility of a transfer to a diocese with more worldly advantages; the saint replied in words that soon became famous all over Paris: "I have married a poor wife and I cannot desert her for a richer one. (To be continued)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls. Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize. She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and works with loving hands. She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle. She reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy. Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting; the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her a reward for her labours, and let her works praise her at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm: 127 1:5

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Blessed are you who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways!

For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be and favoured.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine in the recesses of your home;

Your children like olive plants around your table.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Behold, thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

The LORD bless you from Zion: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

R. Blessed are those who fear the Lord.

Reading 2: 1 Thes 5:1-6

Concerning times and seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need for anything to be written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief at night. When people are saying, "Peace and security," then sudden disaster comes upon them, like labour pains upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to overtake you like a thief. For all of you are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness. Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us stay alert and sober.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me bears much fruit.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Mt 25:14-15, 19-21

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "A man going on a journey called in his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one-- to each according to his ability. Then he went away. "After a long time, the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.'"



**"Well done,
good and
faithful servant...
Enter into the
joy of your
Master."**

Matthew 25:21

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

Recently deceased: Gail Connolly

Anniversary: Fr John Harcombe, Maria Linda Cabatingan, Sr Elizabeth Carr SGS

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, Alan Ball, Betty McDermott, Marie Sourini, David Pragasam, Vicki Pirie, Beau Burt, Joel Lloyd, Belinda Cochrane, Ken Stewart, Caterina Shinoda, Tom Shepherd, Lorraine Blandford, Michael Searle, Mary Lucas, Maxine Tinkler



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November

For the Pope

We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

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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