



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



23rd April 2023 Third Sunday of Easter

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

26 April—St Mark

28 April—St Peter Chanel

29 April—St Catherine of Siena

1 May—St Joseph the Worker

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.

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

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COMING HOME FROM EMMAUS

On most Sundays during the Easter season in Cycle A, our Gospel is taken from the Gospel of John. This week's Gospel, however, is taken from the Gospel of Luke. As in last week's Gospel, today's Gospel shows us how the first community of disciples came to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In these stories we gain insight into how the community of the Church came to be formed.

When we read today's Gospel, we may be surprised to learn that these friends of Jesus could walk and converse with him at some length yet not recognise him. Again we discover that the risen Jesus is not always easily recognised. Cleopas and the other disciple walk with a person whom they believe to be a stranger; only later do they discover that the stranger is Jesus. We learn that the first community met and recognised Jesus in the breaking of the bread, just as we meet Jesus in the Eucharist.

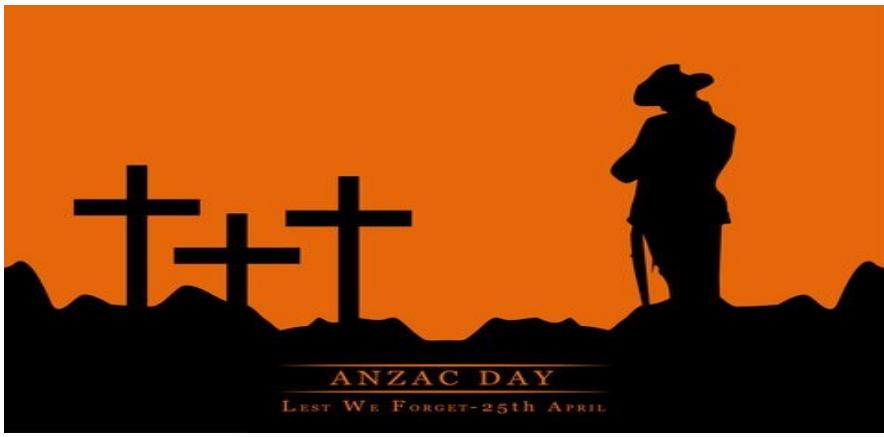
We can imagine the feelings of the two disciples in today's reading. They are leaving their community in Jerusalem. Their friend Jesus has been crucified. Their hope is gone. They are trying to make sense of what has occurred, so that they can put the experience behind them.

Jesus himself approaches the two men, but they take him for a stranger. Jesus asks them what they are discussing. He invites them to share their experience and interpretation of the events surrounding his crucifixion and death. When the two disciples have done so, Jesus offers his own interpretation of his crucifixion and resurrection, citing Jewish Scripture. In that encounter we find the model for our Liturgy of the Word—what we do each time we gather as a community for the Eucharist. We reflect upon our life experiences and interpret them in light of Scripture. We gather together to break open the Word of God.

In the next part of the story, we find a model for our Liturgy of the Eucharist. The disciples invite the stranger (Jesus) to stay with them. During the meal in which they share in the breaking of the bread, the disciples' eyes are opened; they recognise the stranger as Jesus. In the Eucharist too we share in the breaking of the bread and discover Jesus in our midst. Just as the disciples returned to Jerusalem to recount their experience to the other disciples, we too are sent from our Eucharistic gathering. Our experience of Jesus in the Eucharist compels us to share the story with others.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/third-sunday-of-easter-cycle-a-sunday-connection/>

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.



Anzac Day 25/04:

Please note that Mass is scheduled for 9.00am on Anzac Day. The Parish Office will be closed.

Anzac Day Services:

Dawn Service

5.15am - March commences Woy Woy Railway Station
5.30am - Service in Woy Woy Memorial Garden

Breakfast

6.00am - Breakfast at Ettalong Diggers for those who attend the Dawn Service

Vietnam Veterans' Service

8.00am - Vietnam Veterans Wreath Laying Service at Vietnam Veterans' Memorial on the Ettalong Waterfront

Morning Service

9.30am - Form up at Deepwater Plaza car park Woy Woy
10.00am - March commences to Woy Woy Memorial Garden
10.30am - Mid-morning service

Airport Bus for the Pilgrims: The Parish bus will leave for the airport at 3.00pm on Monday, 1st of May. There will be prayers at 2.45pm before departure.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2023—IMPORTANT DATES:

Please include the children in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Communion.

First Communion: Sat 29th & Sun 30th of April at 11am

Confirmation: Sunday 2nd July

Reconciliation: Friday 17th November

Attention Gardening Volunteers: On Saturday 6th May following 9.00am Mass, the garden bed on the eastern side of the Church will be planted out, under supervision of a horticulturalist. If you have an hour to spare, could you join in helping with this undertaking. The more helpers the better. Bring gardening gloves and a trowel if you can.

Cleaners for 28th April: Rano Spiteri, Jenny Mitchell, Rose Kissing, Lana Berg.



Fr Timothy will present Brown Scapulars at 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 23rd April. Please contact Emma Baker 0404 339 668 or Christine French 0431 765 401 for further information.

Readers' Roster: Copies of the new Readers' Roster are available from the Servers' Sacristy.

Readers for 29th & 30th April:

Sat 5pm—Brian Nairn & Jane Rutherford
Sunday 7.30am—Dorothy Fulton & Joel Bajo
Sunday 9.15am—Virginia Burton & Dawn Torrens
Sunday 5.00pm—Marian Bowyer & Peter Smith

St John the Baptist School Centenary Anniversary: On June 22nd at 11.00am the Bishop will be celebrating Mass at St John the Baptist School. Everyone is invited. As part of the celebrations the school will have a display of memorabilia. If you have any photos or memorabilia that you would like to share can you please contact Jane Rutherford on janerutherford69@gmail.com.

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.

Diocesan Count of Mass Attendance: The 2023 Diocesan count will take place over the #4 weekends of May: 6 & 7 May, 13 & 14 May, 20 & 21 May and 27 & 28 May.



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

Vacancy—Diocesan Pastoral Discernment Project Facilitator: The appointment of the Diocesan Discernment Project Facilitator will:

- act as an **Executive Officer** assisting the newly appointed **Pastoral Discernment Central Coast Implementation Task Group** in the formulation and implementation of the recommendations from the Central Coast Discernment Project; and
- coordinate and facilitate strategic planning in preparation for the **Northern Beaches Pastoral Discernment Project.**

This is a full time position for a maximum of two years. For more information contact: recruitment@bbcatholic.org.au for an **Information Pack** including details on how to apply.

Applications close **Thursday, 18th May 2023.**

 **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Reading 1: Acts 2:14, 22-33

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "You who are Jews, indeed all of you staying in Jerusalem. Let this be known to you and listen to my words. You who are Israelites, hear these words. Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs, which God worked through him in your midst, as you yourselves know. This man delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God, you killed, using lawless men to crucify him. But God raised him up, releasing him from the throes of death, because it was impossible for him to be held by it. For David says of him: *I saw the Lord ever before me, with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed. Therefore, my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted; my flesh, too, will dwell in hope, because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld, nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.*

"My brothers, one can confidently say to you about the patriarch David that he died and was buried, and his tomb is in our midst to this day. But since he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he abandoned to the netherworld nor did his flesh see corruption. God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured him forth, as you see and hear."

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11

R. Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Reading 2: 1 Pet 1:17-21

Beloved: If you invoke as Father him who judges impartially according to each one's works, conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your sojourning, realizing that you were ransomed from your futile conduct, handed on by your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold but with the precious blood of Christ as of a spotless unblemished lamb. He was known before the foundation of the world but revealed in the final time for you, who through him believe in God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us; make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31

That very day, the first day of the week, two of Jesus' disciples were going to a village seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognising him. He asked them, "What are you discussing as you walk along?" They stopped, looking downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know of the things that have taken place there in these days?" And he replied to them, "What sort of things?" They said to him, "The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over to a sentence of death and crucified him. But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel; and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place. Some women from our group, however, have astounded us: they were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; they came back and reported that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who announced that he was alive. Then some of those with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women had described, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are! How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the Scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognised him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of bread.

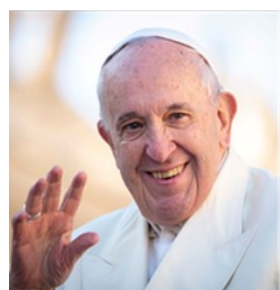
Keep Us In Your Prayers— pray for the souls of:

Recently deceased: Janice McDonnell, Katarina Zdilar, Ian Wilks

Anniversary: Raelene Pitt, Bob Scholte, Robert Dennis Clifford, Joseph Bugeja

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, Ken Joyce, Jo Farrelle, Donna Briemer, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Rose Aloisio, Tina Cohen, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Mary Wood, 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, Charles Lawson, Marsha Burzynski, Emma Mitchell, Vince Weigold, Lola DeSouza, Bev Purser, Joseph King, Christine Semark, Vicki Leach, Willy Woods, John Zdilair, Loraine Wanless, 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, Susie Simmons, Chris Dowling, Doris Coleman, Alice Lynn, Dianne Smyth, Gail Smith, Roy Cutrone, Wendy Cohen, Bill Hunt, Charles Newham, Patricia Quinn



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April

For a culture of peace and non violence
We pray for the spread of peace and non violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

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

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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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