



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



7th May 2023 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

10 May—St John De Avila

12 May—St Nereus, St Achilleus, St Pancras

13 May—Our Lady of Fatima

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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Taken from the long discourse given by Jesus at the Last Supper, the **Gospel**, John 14:1-10, reflects on this time and the understanding it will require from the disciples, that is, from the Church. In fact, there are two 'departures' of Jesus in view. The actual setting of the supper on the night before Jesus is to die makes it natural to understand the 'going away' of which he speaks as a reference to this imminent departure in death; his 'return', then, would refer to his reappearance, on the third day, as risen Lord. While at one level this is true, the discourse really addresses the more permanent 'going away' of Jesus when he finally returns to the Father following his appearances to the disciples as risen Lord.

On this second level, what Jesus is really addressing in the discourse is not the period between Good Friday and Easter Sunday but the 'time of Church' that will follow – and will in fact extend indefinitely. This will be a time when the disciples will not have the reassurance of his physical presence and will feel that loss keenly. What Jesus wants to insist on here, however, is that it will be a 'graced' time, in fact a 'better' time. His departure to the Father will not mean loss but enrichment.

This gives the clue to understanding rightly Jesus' statement about there being 'many rooms' in his Father's house and about his going there to prepare a place for the disciples. In a way that has long provided comfort for many people, the statement, at face value, conveys the impression of heaven as a kind of vast motel to which Jesus is going in order to prepare 'rooms' for the faithful after they die. This does not, however, do full justice to the way the Johannine gospel confronts the problem of death and, in particular, to the richness which the gospel draws out of the motif of divine 'remaining'/'dwelling'.

In the human person of Jesus Christ, God has made a dwelling-place – literally, 'has pitched his tent' – among us. The disciples 'have seen his glory' in the sense that the words and actions of Jesus, notably his 'signs' (miracles), have rendered ordinary human life transparent to God's presence and to the gift of 'eternal life' which, through Jesus, God wishes to impart. To 'have eternal life' in this sense is nothing less than to have a share in God's own life, to become 'children of God' (1:12; 11:52), inhabitants of God's 'house' forever. What Jesus is attempting to explain to the puzzled disciples in today's Gospel is that this gift of eternal life, and the divine 'at-homeness' that goes with it, can only come about through his 'going away' for a time. His suffering and death are necessary to defeat the grip of sin and death upon the human race and open up the way to life.

The many 'rooms' or 'dwelling places' which he is going away to prepare are in fact the separate instances of God's 'indwelling' in the heart of each and every believer. As he will say later, 'Those who love me will keep my Word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them' (14:23). The disciples, as Philip so plaintively points out, cannot 'see' the Father. But, Jesus explains, he himself is 'the Way' to the revelation of the Father (the 'Truth'), in which is contained the gift of '(eternal) life' ('the Life'). In relating to him (Jesus), they are becoming 'at home' with God and God with them.

Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/homily-notes-5-easter-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.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2023

Confirmation Information Night: Monday, 8th May at 7.00pm in the Walter Baker Hall, 100 Blackwall Road.

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.

Morning Tea: There will be a Catechist Morning tea after 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 7th May. All welcome.



We welcome Breea Cavers-Psaila, Zaylee Delaporte, Cameron Hewett, Cooper Hewett, Leo Horton and Leo Robertson who will be Baptised this weekend.

Cleaners for 12th May: Maria Wickens, Anne-Marie Young, Cheryl Sillick, Laila Dawe.

Readers for 13th & 14th May:

Sat 5pm— Paul Rutherford & Jane Rutherford

Sunday 7.30am— Mabel Torres & Joel Bajo

Sunday 9.15am— Don Matheson & Emma Baker

Sunday 5.00pm— Sarah Hagarty & 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 begin this weekend and continue on 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.

Church tour - Friday, 12th May: Parishioners from St Agatha's Church at Pennant Hills will be visiting our Church for a guided tour at 11.00am followed by Mass on Friday, 12th May. Parishioners from St John the Baptist Church are invited to join us to learn more about the history of the Parish and the features of the Church. Please contact Anne Bailey on 4341 6300 for further details.

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.**

Young Adult Event: Join us on Friday May 12 for a special holy hour and discernment event for young adults! Fr Sam French, Director of Vocations for Broken Bay, will be speaking on the Sacrament of Reconciliation and dinner will be included. Come out and enjoy a night of prayer, reflection, and growth in the Catholic faith.

#HolyHour #Discernment #FrSamFrench #Sacrament #Reconciliation #YoungAdults #CatholicFaith

Date: Friday, 12th May

Time: 6.00pm—8.30pm

Venue: Holy Name Parish, Wahroonga

Please rsvp for catering purposes, on 0418 522 449 or email Michelle at vocations.ministry@bbcatholic.org.au

HOLY HOUR & DISCERNMENT EVENING



On the Sacrament of Reconciliation



12 MAY
6PM-8.30PM

SPEAKER
FR SAM FRENCH
Vocations Director

YOUNG ADULT EVENT
18 - 35 YEARS

HOLY NAME PARISH WAHROONGA
35 Billyard Ave
NSW Wahroonga 2076

RSVP



0418 522 449



VOCATIONS.MINISTRY@BBCATHOLIC.ORG.AU





LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Acts 6:1-7

As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, "It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them. The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Reading 2: 1 Pet 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it says in Scripture: *Behold, I am laying a stone in Zion, a cornerstone, chosen and precious, and whoever believes in it shall not be put to shame.* Therefore, its value is for you who have faith, but for those without faith: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, and A stone that will make people stumble, and a rock that will make them fall.* They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny. You are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises" of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Jn 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father."



I AM THE WAY THE TRUTH
AND THE LIFE

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

Recently deceased: Michael Slattery

Anniversary: Alfred Bugeja, Leo Bugeja, Gregory Glanz, Tom Fauvette, Reg, Pat & Paul Hogan

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 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, Susie Simmons, Chris Dowling, Doris Coleman, Alice Lynn, Dianne Smyth, Gail Smith, Roy Cutrone, Wendy Cohen, Bill Hunt, Charles Newham, Patricia Quinn, Alan Ball



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for May

For Church movements and groups

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelisation each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in 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

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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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