



# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



## 8th January 2023 The Epiphany of the Lord

### FEASTS & MEMORIALS



8th January—The Epiphany of the Lord  
9th January—The Baptism of the Lord

### 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

#### **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 7pm - 8pm

#### **Blessed Sacrament Chapel**

Mon, Tues, Thurs—8.30am—3.00pm

Wed and Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm

#### **Divine Will Cenacle**

Thursdays 9.15am -10.30am

#### **Christian Meditation**

Monday evenings from 6pm - 7pm

*Marian Bowyer* - 0432 882 776

### PARISH CONTACTS

#### **Administrator**

*Fr. Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.*

#### **Parish Secretary**

*Triona Meagher*

*P: 02 4341 1073*

*E:woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au*



On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

[Matthew 2:11](#)

"Epiphany" means manifestation. And the "Epiphany of the Lord" is Jesus' manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it's also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, travelling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him.

These Magi were "wise men" who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. They would have been versed in much of the wisdom of the day and would have been intrigued by the Jewish belief in the Messiah.

God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem they realized that something special was happening. So the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the "star" that God is using to call you. It's closer than you may think.

A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi, or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honour Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to Himself? When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

*Lord, I love You and adore You. I lay my life before You and surrender all. You are my Divine King and Saviour. My life is Yours. (Pray three times and then prostrate yourself before the Lord) Jesus, I trust in You.*

<https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/2020/01/04/the-epiphany-of-the-lord/>

***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.***



**Christmas Decoration Working**

**Bee:** There will be a Christmas decoration working bee after 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 16th January. Please come and lend a hand to remove the Christmas

decorations. Morning tea afterwards. Bring a plate.

**Readers' Rosters:** Readers' rosters are available for collection from the Servers' Sacristy.

**Sharing Wisdom:** Mon-Fri, 9-13 January 2023—Leo Mahon Room at St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy. Discussing God's wisdom in Scripture, the wisdom of G.K.Chesterton, the wisdom of the Saints in their writings and prayers and also learning some wisdom from each other. There is no cost. Morning tea from 9.15am. Start at 9.45am sharp. Finish at 12noon. Each morning will be different. Attend as many or as few mornings as you are able to.

**Divine Will Cenacle** has taken a break and will resume on 12th January.

**Piety Stall:** The Piety stall will reopen this weekend.

**Cash Housie !!!**

Saturday nights 7.30pm  
50 games at Peninsula  
Community Centre  
93 McMasters Rd Woy Woy.



**Proceeds benefit our parish.**

**Fr Peter Prusakiewicz csma  
Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Terrigal - Thursday 12  
January 5.30 pm Mass, Homily & Adoration**

Fr Peter, a priest from the Congregation of St Michael the Archangel from Poland is a well-travelled international speaker for over twenty years and has spoken about St Michael and the Holy Angels and St Faustina at many conferences, retreats and Parish missions all over the world. Fr Peter will be coming to Terrigal Parish to talk about St Michael and St Faustina. There will be Mass at 5.30pm, Homily, Eucharistic Adoration and an individual blessing with a relic of St Faustina.

**WORLD YOUTH DAY  
LISBON 2023**



**REGISTRATION UPDATE**

- The excitement is certainly building as we continue to plan and prepare for WYD23 to Lisbon next year!
- Places for Over 18's on the full pilgrimage have reached capacity.
- We have a number of spaces on the Direct Pilgrimage 29 July to 11 August
- It's not too late to let us know that you'd like to journey with us on the Direct pilgrimage.
- Register to secure your place: <https://bit.ly/wyd2023bbc>

**CLEANERS for 13 January 2023:**

Christine French                      Anne-Marie Young  
Pam Hickey                                Rano Spiteri  
\*\*\* if unable to work on your appointed day,  
please swap or arrange a replacement\*\*\*

**SERVERS for 14-15 January :**

Sat 5pm— Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh  
Sun 7.30am— Kevin Glacken & Paul Nolan  
Sun 9.15am— Bob Wilson & Joesie Cameron  
Sun 5pm— Pio Savea or Allan Moore

**READERS for 14-15 January :**

Sat 5pm— Jane Rutherford & Jane Somerville  
Sun 7.30am— Joel Bajo & Phoebe Glacken  
Sun 9.15am— Emma Baker & Dawn Torrens  
Sun 5pm— Lorena Lalor & Peter Smith

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED**

- ♦ **Welcomers** are sought to greet parishioners and visitors for each weekend Mass.



**SHRINES OF OUR LADY PILGRIMAGE**

A 16 DAY PILGRIMAGE TO EUROPE  
FRANCE, PORTUGAL & ITALY PARIS, LISIEUX, LOURDES, FATIMA,  
ASSISI, ROME, ROTONDO, VENICE, MILAN

**TOUR CHAPLAIN: FR TIMOTHY RAJ MSFS**

**DEPARTURE: 1st May 2023  
RETURN: 18th May 2023**

**INDICATIVE COST**  
\$8,590 per person/21-30 Pilgrims  
\$8,190 per person/31-40 Pilgrims  
Single supplement \$1,790 per person



- ♦ **The last day to register is 16/01/23.** Registration forms are available for collection on the table in the Gathering Area.
- ♦ For further information please contact Parish Office 4341 1073.
- ♦ Flights will be confirmed only at the time of booking with a deposit.
- ♦ **Fr Timothy is hoping to lead a group of AT LEAST 20 pilgrims.**

**FOOTPRINTS OF JESUS**

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND—PETRA, BETHLEHEM,  
JERICHO, MASADA, SEA OF GALILEE, JERUSALEM

**TOUR CHAPLAIN: FR SALAS MUTTATHUKATTIL MSFS**

**DEPARTURE: 21st May 2023  
RETURN: 3rd June 2023**

Enquiries: tel 02 9774 3662/email  
stcpanania@hotmail.com



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 **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

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**Reading 1: Is 60:1-6**

Rise up in splendour, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71:1-2**

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

**Reading 2: Eph 3:2-3, 5-6**

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

**Alleluia:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel: Mt 2:1-12**

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel.*" Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way.

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**Keep Us In Your Prayers of your charity pray for the souls of:**

**Recently deceased:** John Bush, Paul Jaquino, Eddie Grazzio, Colin Fulton, Patricia O'Malley, Roger Diebold, Fr Allan Connors SM, Fr Jim Knight SVD, Hanna Ablamowcz

**Anniversary:** Vincent & Maryann Gauci, Joe & Brenda Gauci, Lewie & Vicky Gauci, John & Maryann Gauci

**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 Zdilai, Loraine Wanless, Alison Richmond, Saxon Smith, Jack Rogan-Clark, John Farnham, Chris Parker, Alana Rose, Joy Burt Ernie Mullins, Stan Page, Alexandra Carrol

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December**

**Volunteer Not-for Profit Organisations**

*We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation.*



**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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