



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



20th July 2025
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016**

MASS TIMES & OTHER WORSHIP

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm

Sundays - 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 Service

First Friday of the month during Mass
at 4.00pm

Nursing Home Masses:

Hillview House—3rd Thurs of the month
10.30am

Peninsula Village—4th Thurs of the
month 10.00am

BlueWave—2nd Fri of the month
9.30am

Reconciliation/Confession

Fridays—9.00am

First Friday of the month - 3.30pm

Saturdays - 9.30am and 4.30pm

Sundays - 7.00am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday evenings from 7.00pm -
8.00pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Mon—Fri - 8.30am—3.00pm

Christian Meditation

Monday evenings - 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Marian Bowyer - 0432 882 776

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest

Fr Timothy Raj MSFS

Assistant Priest

Fr John Prince VC

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

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Martha welcomed Jesus into her house (cf. Lk 10:38), but she failed as a hostess, because – as Saint Luke puts it – she was distracted with much serving (cf. Lk 10:40) and therefore had no time to listen. It would seem, then, that the very epitome of a true disciple was Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his word (cf. Lk 10:39). Mary's attitude, however, should not be misconstrued as a call to passivity, for the Bible gives us Abraham as the perfect example of a host who was every bit as active as Martha, and yet, instead of being reproved, was rewarded by the Lord with the promise of a son.

The secret of Abraham's success was that he worshipped and listened before he started to act. As the biblical author carefully notes: *Abraham looked up and saw three men standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground* (Gn 18:2). He then offered them hospitality, and didn't move until they replied: *"Do as you have said"* (Gn 18:5).

Martha, for her part, didn't begin by worshipping and inquiring, but immediately plunged into action, trying to provide what she thought was good hospitality. On account of her misguided self-confidence, she soon lost her inner peace, and ended up addressing harsh words to Jesus: *"Lord, – she cried – do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me"* (Lk 10:40). Martha was so worked up that she could not see the real cause of her frustration and resentment; therefore Jesus replied: *"Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things, but there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her"* (Lk 10:41).

We are meant to take this gentle reproach as a warning to avoid Martha's mistake and to follow Mary's example. In other words, if we truly wish to serve the Lord, if we aspire to love him with all our heart, with all our soul and with all our strength (cf. Dt 6:5), then we need to listen to his word at all times, as attentively as we possibly can, and with a genuine desire to do his will.

There is nothing more personal than this constant dialogue with the Lord, where he calls each one by their name and confirms them in the mission they were born to fulfil. One he may encourage to play a very active role in the Church or in the world, and another he may ask to remain at his feet, worshipping his divine nature, which he shares with God the Father and the Holy Spirit. The latter is indeed what the author of *The Cloud of Unknowing* thought Mary was doing: *"As she was listening to his word – writes the 14th century mystic – she was contemplating with all the love of her heart the supreme wisdom of his Godhead shrouded in the dark words of his manhood"* (*The Cloud of Unknowing*, XVII).

Such exegesis became standard in the Middle Ages, but to look at Mary simply as typifying what later came to be called the contemplative life – which is the kind of life hermits, for instance, are supposed to lead – is to read too much into Saint Luke's gospel. There Mary is presented as a model for all disciples, who like her should sit at the Lord's feet and listen to his word (cf. Lk 10:39). So we are all invited to choose the good portion, and we are all promised that it will not be taken away from us; for the Lord will never refuse to speak to those who seek to hear his voice in the innermost depths of their heart, and life eternal is to partake in the unceasing dialogue of love between the three persons of the Most Holy Trinity.

<https://www.glenstal.com/homily-16th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-c/>

Parish News:

MSFS Zambia Appeal: A total of \$5,580 was raised as part of the MSFS Zambia Appeal. Your kind generosity is most appreciated.

Brown Scapular: Brown Scapular investiture this Sunday, 20th July during 9.15am Mass followed by morning tea welcoming our new enrollees. All welcome.

Volunteer Cleaners: We are looking for volunteer cleaners for the Mary Mac's complex. Please contact Sally for further details on 0428 122 136.

Cleaners for 25th July: Patrick Donnellan, Andrew Hopkins, Mabel Kan, Maria Wickens.

Readers for 26th & 27th July:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jane Rutherford, Maryrose Barlow, Paul Rutherford

Sunday 7.30am—Dorothy Fulton, Veronica Jordan, Joel Bajo

Sunday 9.15am—Christine French, Emma Baker, Michael Dixon

Sunday 5.00pm—Lorena Lalor, Kris Aitken, Marian Bowyer

Servers for 26th & 27th July:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French

Sunday 9.15am—Hanaa El-Khatib, Bernie French

Craft Group: The craft group meets each Thursday in the Walter Baker Hall from 9.00am to 12.00pm. Bring yourself and your craft items. All welcome. Please contact Pat Savage for further information 0402 153 650.

Broken Bay Jubilee Pilgrimage:



Free Wills Seminar & Morning Tea – “Plan Well, Live Faithfully”: The Clergy and Parishes Broken Bay team invites all parishioners to a special Free Wills Seminar and Morning Tea on Tuesday 12 August 2025, held at Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Chatswood. Led by Cecilia Castle, Principal of Castle Lawyers, the seminar will cover essential topics including:

- Writing or updating a Will
- Understanding Power of Attorney
- Enduring Guardianship

This free seminar includes time for Q&A and morning tea will be provided. Attendees may also be eligible for a complimentary Will, thanks to our collaboration with Castle

Lawyers. Tuesday 12 August from 10.30am–12.30pm at Our Lady of Dolours Parish, 94 Archer Street, Chatswood. To register or for more information, visit www.trybooking.com/DAPZO



Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Gen 18:1-10

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the terebinth of Mamre, as he sat in the entrance of his tent, while the day was growing hot. Looking up, Abraham saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them; and bowing to the ground, he said: "Sir, if I may ask you this favour, please do not go on past your servant. Let some water be brought, that you may bathe your feet, and then rest yourselves under the tree. Now that you have come this close to your servant, let me bring you a little food, that you may refresh yourselves; and afterward you may go on your way." The men replied, "Very well, do as you have said." Abraham hastened into the tent and told Sarah, "Quick, three measures of fine flour! Knead it and make rolls." He ran to the herd, picked out a tender, choice steer, and gave it to a servant, who quickly prepared it. Then Abraham got some curds and milk, as well as the steer that had been prepared, and set these before the three men; and he waited on them under the tree while they ate. They asked Abraham, "Where is your wife Sarah?" He replied, "There in the tent." One of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah will then have a son."

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The just will live in the presence of God.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? Those who walk without fault; those who act with justice and speak truth from their hearts; those who do not slander with their tongue.

R. The just will live in the presence of God.

Those who do no wrong to their kindred, those who cast no slur on their neighbours, who hold the godless in disdain, but honour those who fear the Lord.

R. The just will live in the presence of God.

Those who keep their word, come what may, who take no interest on a loan, and accept no bribes against the innocent. Such people will stand firm forever.

R. The just will live in the presence of God.

Reading 2: Col 1:24-28

Brothers and sisters: Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ on behalf of his body, which is the church, of which I am a minister in accordance with God's stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God, the mystery hidden from ages and from generations past. But now it has been manifested to his holy ones, to whom God chose to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; it is Christ in you, the hope for glory. It is he whom we proclaim, admonishing everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone perfect in Christ.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Happy are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 10:38-42

Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me." The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."



Readings for the Week:

Monday, 21st July:

Tuesday, 22nd July:

Wednesday, 23rd July:

Thursday, 24th July:

Friday, 25th July:

Saturday, 26th July:

Sunday, 27th July:

St Lawrence of Brindisi - Ex 14:5-18/Ps Ex 15:1-6/**Mt 12:38-42**

St Mary Magdalene - Song 3:1-4/Ps 62:2-6, 8-9/**Jn 20:1-2, 11-18**

St Bridget - Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 77:18-19, 23-28/**Mt 13:1-9**

St Sharbel Makhlef - Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20/Ps Dan 3:52-56/**Mt 13:10-17**

St James - 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 125/**Mt 20:20-28**

Sts Joachim and Anne - Ex 24:3-8/Ps 49:1-2, 5-6, 14-15/**Mt 13:24-30**

Gen 18:20-32/Ps 137:1-3, 6-8/Col 2:12-14/**Lk 11:1-13**

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently Deceased: Edward Gillroy, Maureen Martin, Joan Weston

Anniversary: Milagros Farthing, Joseph Kasunic, Leslie Moroney, Pasquale Sergei, Alzbeta & Michal Stefanakovi, Sheilah Walsh, Enrico Zappavigna

Remembrance: Peter Beebar, Charlie Grima, Frank Roach, Timothy Thurlow

Sick: Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Roberto Bocor, Fr Michael Brady, Rae Busby, Bill de Rooy, Anne-Marie Dixon, Marie Dixon, Iris Drewett, Marie Drewett, Aline Fauvette, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Bill Hunt, Marge Lawrence, Kay McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, Ronald Matthews, Theresa Mitchell, Oscar James Moretti, Maureen Mullane, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Fr Reggo, Anthony Salis, Brooke Simmons, Susie Simmons, Joseph Svanberg, Barry Tierney, Patricia Toohey, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Josie Weate, Pauline White, Janelle Whiteland, Melissa Wong, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

Pope Leo's July Intention:

During the month of July, Pope Leo invites us to pray for formation in discernment. Let us pray that we might again learn how to discern, to know how to choose paths of life and reject everything that leads us away from Christ and the Gospel.

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>

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