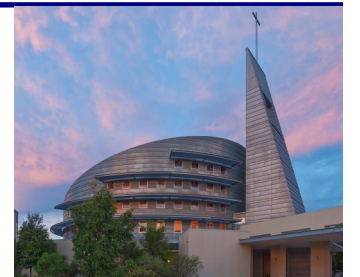




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



27th July 2025
17th 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

P: 02 4341 1073

Emergency contact No. 02 4398 9076

"Teach Us to Pray" **Luke 11:1-13**

"God is in his holy dwelling; ... He gives power and strength to his people," we say in this Sunday's Entrance Antiphon. In a 1997 pastoral letter, the late Archbishop Adam Exner, OMI, of Vancouver asked whether this optimism is really warranted. Archbishop Exner noted that in our secular and godless world, right and wrong are giving way to personal opinion and preference, truth and falsehood are being replaced by political correctness, the death culture is eroding respect for human life, and the communications media are filling our minds and hearts with a message that is anything but Christian. "How then can we be optimistic?" he asked. "How can we look to the future with a realistic hope?" In answer, he pointed out that after Pentecost, a group of rustic fishermen from Galilee and the handful of people who followed them went forth with optimism, courage, and trust and transformed the world of their time, turning an unbelieving society upside down and laying the foundation of Christian civilisation for centuries to come.

"This Sunday's First Reading shows how much God can and will do with even the least co-operation from us: for the sake of ten righteous men in Sodom, he was prepared to "forgive the whole place." The reign of God "is like yeast which a woman took to knead into three measures of flour until the whole mass of dough began to rise," Jesus said once. "Jesus is still present among us," the archbishop said. "He has not left us orphans. The Holy Spirit is still strengthening and empowering us. He is no less powerful today than he was 2000 years ago ... We have the power to change our world. We have the power to build a civilisation of life based on truth and love. That power is the power of the Holy Spirit."

To co-operate with that power, we must live our lives "rooted" in Christ, "built up in him and established in the faith," as St. Paul says in the Second Reading. If, as Jesus said in the Gospel Reading, we pray in union with him, surely he will hear our prayers for ourselves and our society. "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you," he said. "For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened." "If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?" he questioned rhetorically. To bring about the hope — or trust — to which Pope Francis dedicated this present Jubilee, "our prime focus must be spiritual renewal through deeper conversion so that we may become more filled with God's Spirit, more docile to his guidance, and more ready to act in his power," as Archbishop Exner said.

It is "a terrible mistake" to think that our prayers and actions cannot make a difference, he warned. We must reject this attitude and follow the example of Mary, the poor young peasant woman who gave humanity its greatest gift, God made man, "through her perfect trust and obedience." Each of us can make a difference, even with the little we have and the little we can do — even if we ourselves do not see it. "The world needs us to give what we have and to trust that God will do the rest."

No matter how great society's sins and offences, God can and will forgive us for the sake of a few good people, "erasing the record" that stands against us, "setting it aside, nailing it to the cross," as St. Paul says in the Second Reading.

"Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me," we can say confidently in this Sunday's Psalm.

<https://bccatholic.ca/voices/fr-vincent-hawkswell-bccath/we-can-each-make-a-difference>

Parish News:

Jubilee Year bus pilgrimage: There will be a Jubilee Year bus pilgrimage to Manly and St Mary's Cathedral on Friday, 15th August. The cost will be \$30 and lunch is included. The bus will leave the Church at 9.15am and arrive at Manly at approximately 10.30am. The group will pray The Stations of the Cross at Manly and after lunch, will depart by ferry, to St Mary's Cathedral. The group will return to Manly by 4.00pm and return home by bus. Spaces are limited. The \$30 is payable in cash in advance and the cost of the ferry journey is not included. Please record your name on the list on the table in the gathering area and see Emma Baker before or after any 9.15am Sunday Mass for payment. Alternatively you can contact Emma on 0404 339 668.

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 1st August: Gay Tiansay, Anne-Marie Young, Mabel Torres, Jo Salter.

Readers for 2nd & 3rd August:

Saturday 5.00pm—Marie Andrews, Leonie King, Kate Bravo

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken, Greg Gibson, Dorothy Fulton

Sunday 9.15am—Christine French, Emma Baker, Jacqui Scholte

Sunday 5.00pm—Lorena Lalor, Peter Smith, Marian Bowyer

Servers for 2nd & 3rd August:

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh, Vincent Cavanagh

Sunday 7.30am—Bernie French

Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson, Hanaa El-Khatib

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Children's Liturgy of the Word resumes this weekend. It takes place during 9.15am Mass on the 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of each month, except during school holidays.

Brown Scapular: Congratulations to all who were enrolled in the Brown Scapular last weekend — may it be a sign of your deepening faith and devotion. Thank you also to everyone who helped provide and serve the lovely morning tea afterwards. May God bless you all.

Readers' Roster: A new readers' roster is available from the Servers' Sacristy.

St John the Baptist Men's Group: Meetings to be held the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 7pm-8pm in the Leo Mahon Room. Next meeting 4th August. For further information contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

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 12th August 2025, held at Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Chatswood. To register or for more information, visit www.trybooking.com/DAPZO



VOCATIONS **ANSWERING THE CALL:**
a celebration of faith and hope
Seminararians' Benefit Gala Dinner

Date: Friday 22 August, 2025 **Time:** 7pm-11.30pm

Venue: The Epping Club, 45-47 Rawson St, Epping 2121

Cost: \$120 per person or \$1,000 for table of 10 Dinner & Beverages

AUCTION | PRIZES | MUSIC

Booking: www.trybooking.com/DDOPW

QR Code

VOCATIONS CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY **CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY**

Further information events@bbcatholic.org.au

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.



LIMITED places available

Broken Bay Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope

ROME and ASSISI
1-10 October 2025

Once in a lifetime journey!!

QR Code

mission@bbcatholic.org.au



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Gen 18:20-32

In those days, the LORD said: "The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is so great, and their sin so grave, that I must go down and see whether or not their actions fully correspond to the cry against them that comes to me. I mean to find out." While Abraham's visitors walked on farther toward Sodom, the LORD remained standing before Abraham. Then Abraham drew nearer and said: "Will you sweep away the innocent with the guilty? Suppose there were fifty innocent people in the city; would you wipe out the place, rather than spare it for the sake of the fifty innocent people within it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to make the innocent die with the guilty so that the innocent and the guilty would be treated alike! Should not the judge of all the world act with justice?" The LORD replied, "If I find fifty innocent people in the city of Sodom, I will spare the whole place for their sake." Abraham spoke up again: "See how I am presuming to speak to my Lord, though I am but dust and ashes! What if there are five less than fifty innocent people? Will you destroy the whole city because of those five?" He answered, "I will not destroy it, if I find forty-five there." But Abraham persisted, saying "What if only forty are found there?" He replied, "I will forbear doing it for the sake of the forty." Then Abraham said, "Let not my Lord grow impatient if I go on. What if only thirty are found there?" He replied, "I will forbear doing it if I can find but thirty there." Still Abraham went on, "Since I have thus dared to speak to my Lord, what if there are no more than twenty?" The LORD answered, "I will not destroy it, for the sake of the twenty." But he still persisted: "Please, let not my Lord grow angry if I speak up this last time. What if there are at least ten there?" He replied, "For the sake of those ten, I will not destroy it."

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered. You increased the strength of my soul.

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

The Lord is high, yet he looks on the lowly and the haughty he knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of affliction, you give me life and frustrate my foes.

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O lord, is eternal. Discard not the work of your hands.

R. Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.

Reading 2: Col 2:12-14

Brothers and sisters: You were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And even when you were dead in transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, he brought you to life along with him, having forgiven us all our transgressions; obliterating the bond against us, with its legal claims, which was opposed to us, he also removed it from our midst, nailing it to the cross.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

You have received the Spirit which makes us God's children, and in that Spirit we call God our Father.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 11:1-13

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread and forgive us our sins for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us, and do not subject us to the final test." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend to whom he goes at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived at my house from a journey and I have nothing to offer him,' and he says in reply from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked and my children and I are already in bed. I cannot get up to give you anything.' I tell you, if he does not get up to give the visitor the loaves because of their friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence. "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. What father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish? Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

Readings for the Week:

Monday, 28th July:

Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 105:19-23/**Mt 13:31-35**

Tuesday, 29th July:

Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus - 1 Jn 4:7-16/Ps 33:2-11/Jn 11:19-27

Wednesday, 30th July:

St Peter Chrysologus- Ex 34:29-35/Ps 98:5-7, 9/**Mt 13:44-46**

Thursday, 31st July:

St Ignatius of Loyola - Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 83:3-6, 8, 11/**Mt 13:47-53**

Friday, 1st August:

St Alphonsus Liguori - Lev 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34-37/Ps 80:3-6, 10-11/**Mt 13:54-58**

Saturday, 2nd August:

Sts Eusebius of Vercelli & Peter Julian Eymard - Lev 25:1, 8-17/Ps 66:2-3, 5, 7-8/**Mt 14:1-12**

Sunday, 3rd August:

Eccl 1:2, 2:21-23/Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/**Lk 12:13-21**

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently Deceased: Maureen Martin, Phil Pring

Anniversary: Margaret Carr, Molly Dunne, Vincent Joseph Jordan Jr, Jack Lalor, Amy & Veronica Moloney, Sr Anne O'Shaughnessy, Florencia Potestas

Remembrance: John Connolly, Timothy Thurlow, Umiliano Menezes

Sick: Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Roberto Bocor, Fr Michael Brady, Rae Busby, Matthew Cooper, Bill de Rooy, Anne-Marie Dixon, Marie Dixon, Iris Drewett, Marie Drewett, Aline Fauvette, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Maureen Fotheringham, 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>

Name: St John the Baptist Parish Woy Woy

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