



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



7th December 2025
2nd Sunday of Advent

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 DETAILS:

Address: 54 Victoria Road, Woy Woy, NSW 2256

Postal Address: PO Box 264, Woy Woy, NSW 2256

Website: www.woywoyparish.org.au

Phone: 02 4341 1073

Office Hours: 8.30am to 3.00pm M-F

Email:

woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest — Fr Timothy Raj MSFS

Assistant Priest — Fr John Prince VC

Parish Secretary — Triona Meagher

For emergencies requiring a Priest, please call 02 4398 9076



Today is the second Sunday of Advent. As a family of God's people, we continue to move in the hope of receiving the fulfillment of God's promise through our ancestors in faith. One thing is common to the readings of this Sunday. They are all anchored on the prophecy of Isaiah about the Messiah. In the first reading, Isaiah prophesied of the Lord's coming in unequivocal terms. He equally described the qualities and marks of this promised king. First, he shall be filled with the spirit of God. He shall be a man of integrity, judge with equity and righteousness, and respect his people. What a great hope the prophet brings us this season! Isaiah reminds us that the future is bright in Christ, our Messiah. He promises that he shall be different from other kings and that his reign shall bring us freedom from evil and oppression. It shall bring us peace with God and with one another. In the second reading, Paul continues with the same message of hope for all nations. He reminds us: "Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope." It is this same hope that sustains us this season. It will keep us united in faith, prayer, and love until what is written in the scriptures is fulfilled at the end of this season. Hence, following the scriptures, Paul exalts us to rejoice and praise God for what he is about to do. He concludes with the same message from Isaiah: "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the nations; in him, the nations shall hope."

In today's gospel, the appearance of John the Baptist is also a message of hope that the coming of the Messiah is near. However, it brings an important message to us: "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is near!" Also, he employed the prophecy of Isaiah to exalts us to: "prepare the way of the Lord and make his path straight!"

The message of John this Sunday underscores the importance of this season. It is a time not just for material preparation. Instead, it is a time of retreat and deep reflection on the mystery God is about to reveal to the world. It is a time of cleaning up and levelling the rough edges of our lives with the hope of receiving our Lord in a beautiful state of mind and body. It suffices to remind us here that John's message is another way of telling us that: "Without holiness, no one will see the Lord" (Heb 12:14).

<https://https://frcanicenjoku.com/2025/12/02/homily-for-the-2nd-sunday-of-advent-year-a-2/>

Parish News:

We are pleased to announce that Anne Bailey has been appointed as Pastoral Care Co-ordinator for the Parish. Anne has almost 15 years experience in similar roles in other Parishes. She will work 2-3 days per week. If you have any pastoral needs you would like to bring to the attention of the Priests or staff, please reach out to Anne via the Parish Office.

Grounds Working Bee: We will have a working bee to tidy up the grounds next Saturday, 13th December at 8.00am. Please record your name on the list in the gathering area if you can assist.



Christmas Decoration Working Bee: Many thanks to all who were involved in decorating the Church so beautifully in preparation for Christmas.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: There will be no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 9.00am Mass on Saturday, 13th December.

Christmas Hamper Wishlist: The Pastoral Council is collecting hamper items in the church on behalf of those in our Parish who need a hand. This year our Christmas hampers are going to help families and not just the homeless. Goodies like Christmas puddings, cakes, custard and mince tarts would be great additions to any treats you might like to contribute. We hope to distribute the bulk of the items by 12th December. There are collection baskets in the gathering area. All donations will be gratefully received by those in our parish community who are doing it tough.

Sit n Chat: Sit n Chat for December has been cancelled. January's gathering will be on the 19th.

Reinstitution of the Chalice at Communion:

The reinstitution of the Chalice at Communion will happen on the weekend of 13th and 14th December. If anyone who served pre-Covid with the distribution of Communion would be willing to do so again, please contact the Parish Office. We are looking for new volunteers also and full training will be provided.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Children's liturgy occurs every 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sunday of the month during 9.15am Mass, excluding school holidays. Enquiries contact Christine French 0431 765 401.

Baptism: We warmly welcome Lucia-May, Miles and Oliver who will be baptised this weekend.

Hour of Grace - 8 December: Silent personal prayer, 12noon - 1pm, St John the Baptist Church.

Pilgrimage to Vietnam and China: Fr Timothy is planning on co-hosting a Pilgrimage to Vietnam and China from 7th to 27th April 2026. He will be travelling with Fr Vinh Dong from the Diocese of Perth. For those who are interested please contact Fr Timothy for further details. Final numbers will be needed before Christmas. The cost of the trip is \$5,700 AUD Twin share and \$750 AUD for single supplement. Everything is included eg Airfare, accommodation, visa, etc except travel insurance.

Piety Stall: Copies of 'Joy of the Gospel, Daily Reflections', priced at \$15 are now available at the piety stall. Columban calendars also available. Vinnies Christmas cards and envelopes in packs of #10 priced at \$2 per pack.

Cleaners for 12th December: Anne-Marie Young, Frances Giunta, Elena Egan, Cheryl Sillick.

Readers for 13th & 14th December:

Saturday 5.00pm Jane Rutherford, Marie Andrews
Leonie King

Sunday 7.30am Dorothy Fulton, Greg Gibson
Isaak Giunta

Sunday 9.15am Michael Dixon, Violetta Chol,
Therese Carroll

Sunday 5.00pm Lorena Lalor, Peter Smith,
Kris Aitken

Servers for 13th & 14th December:

Saturday 5.00pm Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am Bernie French, Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am Joesie Cameron, Jenny Fitzgerald

Carols in the Stadium: Our local churches and Christian schools are coming together this year to create an exciting Christmas carols event on Saturday, 20th December from 5.30pm – 9.00pm at Polytec Stadium, 14 Dane Drive, Gosford. For tickets visit carolsinthestadium.com.au or **Ticketek**. Adult tickets are \$10. Family tickets are \$25.



Christmas Mass Times 2025:

December 19th

2nd Rite of Reconciliation—7.00pm SJB Church

December 24th: Christmas Eve

5.30 pm - St John the Baptist School Oval
21a Dulkara Rd, Woy Woy
7.00 pm - Church
9.00 pm - Church

December 25th: Christmas Day

7.30 am
9.15 am
5.00 pm



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 11:1-10

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slay the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist, and faithfulness a belt upon his hips. Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbours, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, On that day, the root of Jesse, set up as a signal for the nations, the Gentiles shall seek out, for his dwelling shall be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. In his days justice shall flourish and peace 'till the moon fails.

O God, give your judgement to the king, and to a king's son give your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in righteous judgement.

R. In his days justice shall flourish and peace 'till the moon fails.

In his days, justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to the bounds of all the earth.

R. In his days justice shall flourish and peace 'till the moon fails.

For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and he will save the lives of the poor.

R. In his days justice shall flourish and peace 'till the moon fails.

May his name be blessed forever and endure like the sun. Every tribe shall be blessed in him, and all the nations will bless his name.

R. In his days justice shall flourish and peace 'till the moon fails.

Reading 2: Rom 15:4-9

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I say that Christ became a minister of the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, to confirm the promises to the patriarchs, but so that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written: *Therefore, I will praise you among the Gentiles and sing praises to your name.*

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: : Mt 3:1-12

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: *A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.* John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptised by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptising you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Readings for the Week:

Monday, 8th Dec:

Feast of the Immaculate Conception - Gen 3:9-15, 20/Ps 97:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

Tuesday, 9th Dec:

St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin - Is 40:1-11/Ps 95:1-3, 10-13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, 10th Dec:

Our Lady of Loreto - Is 40:25-31/Ps 102a:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, 11th Dec:

St Damasus I - Is 41:13-20/Ps 144:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15

Friday, 12th Dec:

Our Lady of Guadalupe Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, 13th Dec:

St Lucy - Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:10-13

Sunday, 14th Dec:

3rd Sunday of Advent - Is 35:1-6, 10/Ps 145:6-10/James 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently Deceased: Romulo Cueno, Nadege Hennequin, Daniel Rutherford

Anniversary: Helen Fittock

Sick: Vincent Aarts, Jacki Asic, Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Roberto Bocor, Luke Bohun, Fr Michael Brady, Matthew Cooper, Bill de Rooy, Anne-Marie Dixon, Marie Dixon, Iris Drewett, Hanaa El-Khatib, Aline Fauvette, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Maureen Fotheringham, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Bill Hunt, Thomas J, Marge Lawrence, Betty & Sean McDermott, Ronald Matthews, Theresa Mitchell, Oscar James Moretti, Maureen Mullane, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Bill & Colleen O'Farrell, Marta Panczyna, Fr Reggo, Anthony Salis, Susie Simmons, Barry Tierney, Patricia Toohey, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Nigel Watts, Josie Weate, Janelle Whiteland, Melissa Wong, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

Pope Leo's December Intention: For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

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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Thank you for your generous contribution.

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