



# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



**29<sup>th</sup> June 2025**  
**Feast of Sts Peter & Paul**

**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—3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of the month  
10.30am

Peninsula Village—4<sup>th</sup> 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**

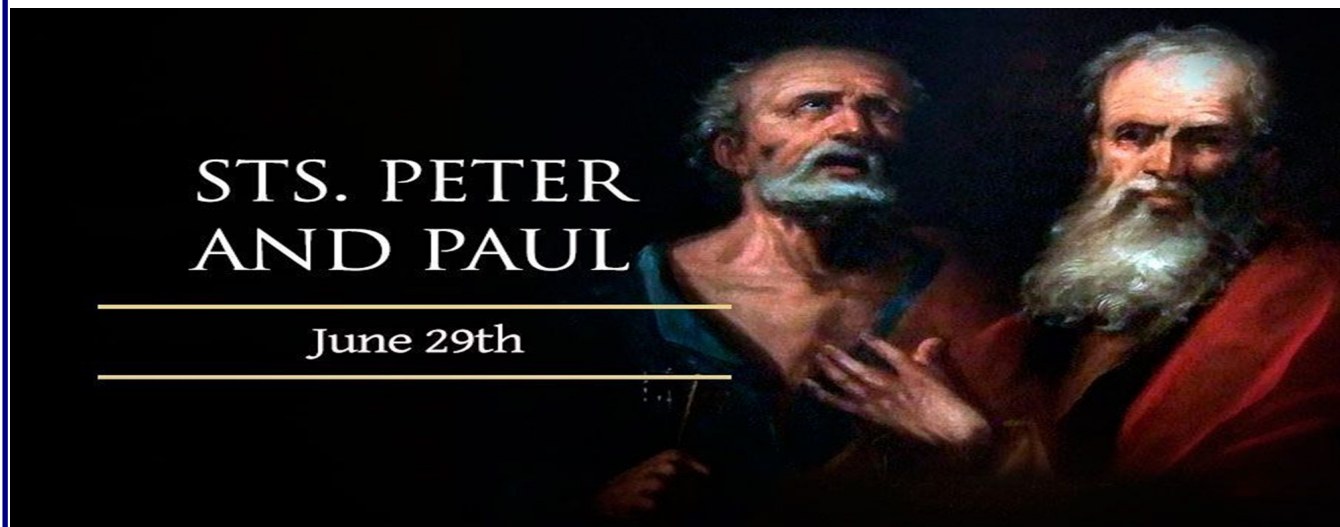
Fr Prince Joseph VC

### **Parish Secretary**

Triona Meagher

**P: 02 4341 1073**

**Emergency contact No. 02 4398 9076**



Today we celebrate the feast of two pillars of the Church, saints Peter and Paul. Very different characters, both were transformed by their encounter with the Lord and united in their witness to him. Our Gospel today recounts Simon's (Peter) confession that Jesus is 'the Christ, the Son of the living God' (Mt 16:15). Simon was never afraid to speak up and say what he thought even when his companions were reduced to silence. Acknowledging the divine inspiration behind Simon's words Jesus replies: 'You are Peter (giving him a new name by which he would henceforth be known) and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the underworld shall not prevail against it' (Mt 16:18).

Despite his obvious leadership qualities, Peter was far from perfect. He tried to prevent Jesus taking on the mantle of a suffering Messiah and enduring the Cross. He ends up deserting Jesus and even denying him three times. Following his denial we might well consider Jesus fully justified in transferring the role of leadership from Peter to John, the faithful and beloved disciple. But he doesn't do that. Neither does he ignore Peter's failure to stand by him in his darkest hour. Instead he gives him the opportunity to profess his love for him. 'Do you love me?' he asks Peter, not once but three times – one question for each of Peter's denials. Three times Peter gives the same answer, 'Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.' Undoubtedly, Jesus did know that Peter loved him. He knew and understood Peter far better than Peter understood himself. He knew his strengths and weaknesses. It was for Peter's sake that Jesus asked him to express his love three times. With each question and answer Jesus is drawing Peter away from his past failures and freeing him to take up his new role as leader of the renewed community of disciples. 'Feed my lambs; feed my sheep' (Jn 21:16-17).

Let us now turn our attention to Paul, perhaps the greatest missionary of all time. The greater part of The Acts of Apostles is devoted to the missionary journeys of Paul. Luke presents him as initiating a new age in mission: the age that takes the Gospel beyond the rather confined circle of the apostles and gives concrete expression to its universal relevance. It was Paul who sowed the seeds of Christian faith in many of the great centres of the Roman civilisation of his day. But that was only one side of Paul. He was also a man acquainted with suffering. From his personal experience Paul came to realise that the following of Christ did not mean the elimination of weakness and suffering, but rather, the manifestation of divine power at the heart of weakness.

Suffering, for Paul, was not something to be endured passively. It was part and parcel of what it meant to be a missionary, to live in imitation of Jesus who suffered and died on the Cross. Hence Paul bears in his body 'the works of Jesus.' He shares in Christ's sufferings and is happy 'to make up all the hardships that still have to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church.' In Acts, Luke balances Paul's active proclamation of the gospel (chapters 13-20) with his three years of captivity. This latter period, far from being irrelevant to Paul's mission and the growth of the Church are, in the words of Lucien Legrand 'the most important period of Paul's entire ministry.' It is through the sufferings of his captivity that Paul fulfils his missionary calling, so that he can say, in the words of today's second reading, 'I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish.' By his suffering, Paul, like Jesus, entered into the mystery of pure divine power 'made perfect in weakness.' May the example of Saints Peter and Paul inspire us to be faithful and courageous in sharing the Gospel with others, always conscious that we carry this treasure 'in earthen vessels.'

<https://sma.ie/homily-for-the-solemnity-of-sts-peter-and-paul-2025/>



### Parish News:

**Welcome:** We warmly welcome Fr Prince Joseph VC who has been appointed as Assistant Priest to the Parish.

**Feast of St John the Baptist:** Many thanks to all who were involved in helping with the BBQ/morning tea and to those who brought a plate. Thanks as always to Joe and Rose from Bakers Delight Umina who donated all the baked goods.

**Morning Tea cancellation:** The Acolytes/Senior Servers' morning tea scheduled for Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> July has been postponed. It will take place after Fr Timothy returns from overseas.

**Confirmation Programme 2025:** Preparation lessons are continuing. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at St John the Baptist Church at 6.00pm on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> August.

**Brown Scapular:** Interested in being enrolled in the Brown Scapular? Want to learn more about this devotion? Brown Scapular investiture Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> July during 9.15am Mass followed by morning tea welcoming our new enrolees. To learn more about this devotion and/or register to be enrolled, please contact Emma Baker 0404 339 668 or Christine French 0431 765 401.



**Cleaners for 4<sup>th</sup> July:** Amanda Gray, Jo Salter, Linda Potestas, Renelyn Keighran.

**Readers for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> July:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Rutherford, Marie Andrews, Jane Rutherford

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken, Veronica Jordan, Dorothy Fulton

Sunday 9.15am—Michael Dixon, Maryrose Barlow, Joesie Cameron

Sunday 5.00pm—Pio Savea, Lorena Lalor, Peter Smith

**Servers for 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> July:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh, Vincent Cavanagh

Sunday 7.30am—Jose Torres

Sunday 9.15am—Hanaa El-Khatib, Jenny Fitzgerald

**Vinnies Winter Appeal:** There will be a Vinnies Winter Appeal this Saturday. Envelopes will be available for donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



**Congratulations:** Congratulations to Carl and Myree Bliim who will celebrate their 73<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary on 4<sup>th</sup> July. May you be blessed with many more years of happiness.

**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.

**What must I do to be a Catechist's Assistant?**

- Speak to our Parish Priest and Parish Catechist Co-ordinator, Michael Tebbutt.
- Obtain a Working With Children Clearance (WWCC).
- Complete some paperwork.
- Complete the required training, including Safeguarding and Child Protection.
- Most importantly, have one hour per week which you can give freely to the children of the Parish, attending the 4 primary state schools.

### Schools, Times and Days for Special Religious Education:

**Woy Woy South Primary School** – 9.00am & 9.30am Tuesdays

**Ettalong Primary School** – 10.20am & 11.30am Tuesdays

**Woy Woy Primary School** – 9.00 am & 9.30am Wednesdays

**Umina Primary School** – 9.20am & 10.00am Fridays

### Broken Bay Jubilee Pilgrimage:



**Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage:** Once again this year, the Sisters of St Joseph are holding the Pilgrimage 'In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop.' This is an official Pilgrimage led and run by the Sisters of St Joseph. This Pilgrimage will offer a unique opportunity to celebrate the Year of Jubilee as a Pilgrim of Hope. The Pilgrimage is being held from 9<sup>th</sup> September to 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and is being led by Sr Annie Bond, a Sister of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart. For more information contact Sr Annie Bond RSJ on +61 406 195 861 or email: [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au). You can also visit the website [www.marymackillop.org.au/retreats-spirituality/Australia-national-pilgrimage](http://www.marymackillop.org.au/retreats-spirituality/Australia-national-pilgrimage).

### 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.

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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## Reading 1: Acts 12:1-11

In those days, King Herod laid hands upon some members of the Church to harm them. He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword, and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews he proceeded to arrest Peter also. It was the feast of Unleavened Bread. He had him taken into custody and put in prison under the guard of four squads of four soldiers each. He intended to bring him before the people after Passover. Peter thus was being kept in prison, but prayer by the Church was fervently being made to God on his behalf. On the very night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter, secured by double chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while outside the door guards kept watch on the prison. Suddenly the angel of the Lord stood by him and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and awakened him, saying, "Get up quickly." The chains fell from his wrists. The angel said to him, "Put on your belt and your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Put on your cloak and follow me." So he followed him out, not realising that what was happening through the angel was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first guard, then the second, and came to the iron gate leading out to the city, which opened for them by itself. They emerged and made their way down an alley, and suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter recovered his senses and said, "Now I know for certain that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people had been expecting."

## Responsorial Psalm:

**R. The lord set me free from all my fears.**

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad.

**R. The lord set me free from all my fears.**

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free.

**R. The lord set me free from all my fears.**

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. When the poor cry out the Lord hears them, and rescues them from all their distress.

**R. The lord set me free from all my fears.**

The angel of the Lord is encamped around those who revere him, to rescue them. O taste and see that the Lord is good. They are happy who seek refuge in him.

**R. The lord set me free from all my fears.**

## Reading 2: 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18

I, Paul, am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance. The Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the proclamation might be completed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil threat and will bring me safe to his heavenly Kingdom. To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Alleluia:

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

**R. Alleluia!**

## Gospel: Mt 16:13-19

When Jesus went into the region of Caesarea Philippi he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus said to him in reply, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."



## Readings for the Week:

**Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> June:**

Gen 18:16-33/Ps 104:1-4, 8-11/**Mt 8:18-22**

**Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> July:**

Gen 19:15-29/Ps 25:2-3, 9-12/**Mt 8:23-27**

**Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July:**

Gen 21:5, 8-20/Ps 33:7-8, 10-13/**Mt 8:28-34**

**Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July:**

**St Thomas** - Eph 2:19-22/Ps 16/**Jn 20:24-29**

**Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> July:**

**St Elizabeth of Portugal** - Gen 23:1-4, 19, 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 105:1-5/**Mt 9:9-13**

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> July:**

**St Anthony Zaccaria** - Gen 27:1-5, 5-29/Ps 134:1-6/**Mt 9:14-17**

**Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> July:**

Is 66:10-14/Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20/**Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12, 17-20**

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Let us keep in our prayers:

**Recently deceased:** David Hopkins, Don Malone

**Anniversary:** Hilda Andrews, Joan Fitzgerald, Adam Meany, Catherine Joyce Roberts, Feliciano Soler

**Remembrance:** Louis & Rose Aloisio, Timothy Thurlow

**Sick:** Jackie Ascic, 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 June Intention:

**Pope Leo XIV releases his first monthly prayer intention for the month of June, inviting the faithful to pray "that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from His Heart, learn to have compassion on 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>

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**BSB:** 062 784 **Account no:** 10000 1742

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