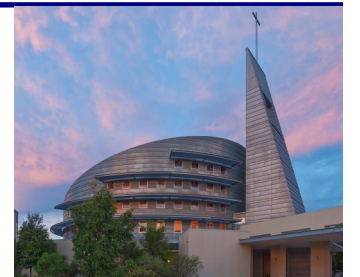




# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



**18<sup>th</sup> May 2025**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**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 M.S.F.S.

### **Assisting Priest (resident in Wyoming)**

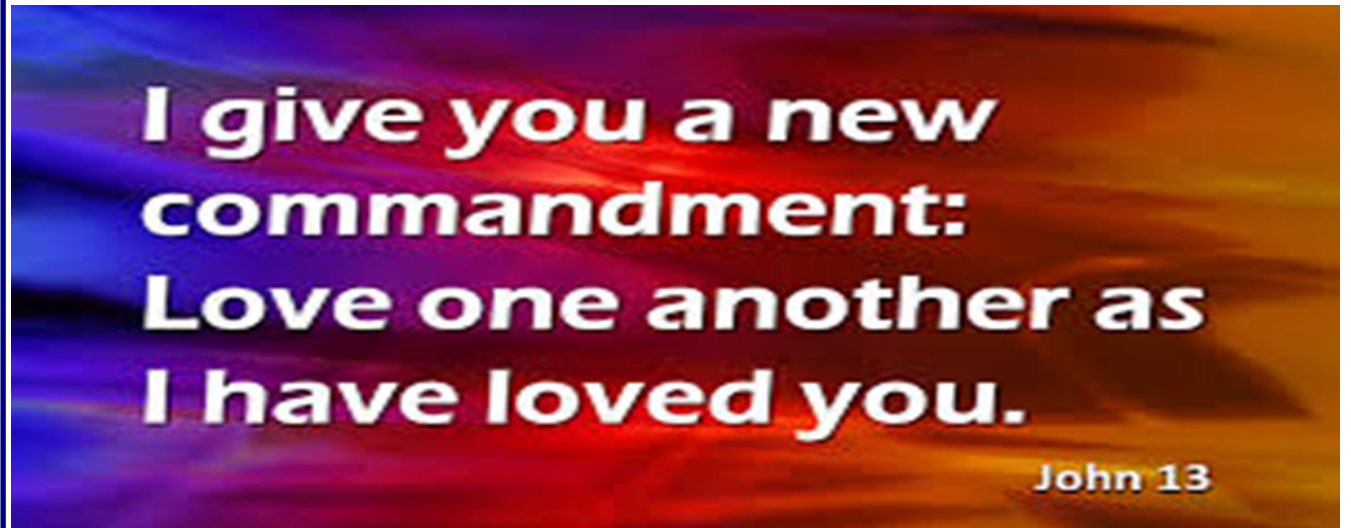
Fr Vincent Lourduswamy M.S.F.S.

### **Parish Secretary**

Triona Meagher

**P: 02 4341 1073**

**Emergency contact No. 02 4398 9076**



Dear brothers and sisters, "I give you a new commandment: love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another. By this love you have for one another, everyone will know that you are my disciples." This is Jesus' solemn legacy, his last will and testament. He speaks these words just before entering into his passion and death. We should treasure these words in the way we treasure the last words of a loved one who has just passed away, trying to understand their true meaning. "Love one another" is not a new commandment. We find these words already in the Old Testament. And yet Jesus' commandment is new because he sets the standard so high by telling his disciples to love one another as He himself loved them. The new commandment is not to love one another, but to love one another as Jesus loved when on earth, to the end. What does Jesus mean when he asks us to love as he loved us? Jesus loved selflessly. When we love, does it not happen that we think of what we shall get out of our love?

We think of the happiness we shall receive or on the contrary of the loneliness we shall suffer if love fails or is denied. If we are honest, we have to confess that sometimes, when we love, it is our happiness that we are seeking and not the happiness of the one we love. When Jesus loved his disciples, he never thought of himself. His one desire was to give himself and all he had for those he loved. To love as Jesus loved us is to put the other and not ourselves first and at the centre of the picture. To love was not always easy for Jesus. Suffering was an inevitable part of the process. Love led Jesus to meet with scorn, misunderstanding, hatred, unjust violence, and finally with his passion and his death on the Cross.

The same kind of experience can be ours when we try to love our neighbour as Jesus loved us. What is interesting to note is the way Jesus used to react when he found himself in these situations of opposition. Jesus always turned these painful situations into further expressions of love. There where we would be inclined to pay back eye for eye, or tooth for tooth, Jesus excelled in turning hatred into love, anger into graciousness, envy into blessing, bitterness into warmth, pettiness into compassion, chaos into peace, sin into forgiveness. Let us think of Jesus' compassion and the pardon he showed to Peter who had betrayed Him, or Jesus' prayer for the forgiveness of those who were crucifying Him: "Father, forgive them". We are called to do the same and it is not easy. This is to love our neighbour as Jesus loved us; and this is the way to life.

Jesus loved his disciples as they were and not as he wanted them to be. Sometimes, we would like others to be like us, to think like us, to speak like us. This is not respectful of others, of their identity, of their uniqueness in God's sight. It has been said that we never really know people until we have lived with them. It is when we live with them that we discover their moods, their irritabilities and their weaknesses. Jesus knew his disciples. He had lived with them day in and day out for many months and years; he knew them, he knew their limits and their weaknesses, and He still loved them. Jesus' heart was big enough to love his disciples as they were. He loves us as we are. Our heart has to become big enough to love others as they are. This is easily said; it is less easily put into practice. Love which has not learned to forgive is bound to die. Let us ask the Risen Lord to teach us how to love. He loved all those he met warmly and openly. May he grant us the grace and the courage to do the same: to love as he loved us!

<https://www.benedictinemonks.co.uk/homilies/>



**Parish News:**



**Mother's Day:** A total of \$1,585 was raised by our raffle for our building fund. Many thanks to the Filipino ladies for the donation of all the prizes. The following were the lucky winners: Elizabeth Agresta, Sherry Ponds, Brian, Maria Aurora, Gibson, Mauricius Torres, Rebecca Potestas, Rita Grima, Virginia Tecson, Francis G, Jenny, Grace Lloyd, Elaine Andrews. If you have not already collected your prize, please see Emma Baker or tel 0404 339 668.

**Soup Night:** Many thanks to Bakers Delight Umina for donating all the bread supplies for the soup night this Saturday.

**Sit n Chat:** A group of seniors meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. This month's meeting date has changed and is now scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> May. Transport can be provided if necessary. Please contact Jane for further information 0419 233 284.

**Cleaners for 23<sup>rd</sup> May:** Mabel Kan, Carmen T Hernandez, Rosalind Stewart, Anthony Kearns.

**Readers for 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Marie Andrews, Dawn Torrens, Leonie King

Sunday 7.30am—Joel Bajo, Veronica Jordan, Isaak Giunta

Sunday 9.15am—Christine French, Emma Baker, Joesie Cameron

Sunday 5.00pm—Marian Bowyer, Kris Aitken, Pio Savea

**Servers for 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French, Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson, Bernie French

Sunday 5.00pm—Laurie Jarvis

**Diocesan Count of Mass Attendance:** The first Diocesan Count of Mass Attendance for 2025 continues this weekend and will conclude on 25<sup>th</sup> May.

**St John the Baptist Men's group:** Meetings to be held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from 7pm-8pm in the Leo Mahon Room. Next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> May. For further information contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

**Congratulations:** Congratulations to Ric and Patricia Baxter who will celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on 17<sup>th</sup> May. May God Bless you with many more years together, full of love and happiness.

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

In this Holy Jubilee Year, our hope is to connect to the mission of Jesus Christ each day.

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St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School is enrolling now for Kindergarten 2026. Other grades can apply at any time.

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[www.sjbwwdbb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sjbwwdbb.catholic.edu.au)

Kinder 2026



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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## **Reading 1: Acts 14:21-27**

After Paul and Barnabas had proclaimed the good news to that city and made a considerable number of disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch. They strengthened the spirits of the disciples and exhorted them to persevere in the faith, saying, "It is necessary for us to undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God." They appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, commended them to the Lord in whom they had put their faith. Then they travelled through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. After proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia. From there they sailed to Antioch, where they had been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now accomplished. And when they arrived, they called the church together and reported what God had done with them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.

## **Responsorial Psalm:**

**R. I will praise your name forever, my King and my God.**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.

**R. I will praise your name forever, my King and my God.**

All your creatures shall thank you O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. The shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare you might, O God.

**R. I will praise your name forever, my King and my God.**

They will make know to all, your mighty deeds and the glorious splendour of your reign.

**R. I will praise your name forever, my King and my God.**

## **Reading 2: Rev 21:1-5**

Then I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away." The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new."

## **Alleluia:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

**R. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Jn 13:31-35**

When Judas had left them, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and God will glorify him at once. My children, I will be with you only a little while longer. I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

*I will praise  
Your Name forever  
my King and my God!*

## **Readings for the Week:**

**Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> May:**

Acts 14:5-18/Ps 113B:1-4/Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> May:**

**St Bernardine of Siena** - Acts 14:19-28/Ps 144:10-13, 21/Jn 14:27-31

**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> May:**

**St Christopher Magallanes** - Acts 15:1-2/Ps 121:1-5/Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May:**

**St Rita of Cascia** - Acts 15:7-21/Ps 95:1-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

**Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> May:**

Acts 15:22-31/Ps 56:8-12/Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May:**

**Our Lady, Help of Christians** - Gen 3:9-15, 20/Ps 102:1-4, 8-9, 11-12/Eph 3:14-19/  
**Lk 8:19-21**

**Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> May:**

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8/Rev 10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

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Let us keep in our prayers:

**Recently deceased:** Margaret Brownette, Marilyn Deguara, Marianne Gatt, Frances Ozment, Timothy Thurlow

**Anniversary:** Fr Leo Mahon, Larry Sheil

**Remembrance:** Charlie Grima

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

Be at peace.

Do not look forward in fear to the changes of life; rather look to them with full hope as they arise. God, whose very own you are, will deliver you from out of them. He has kept you hitherto, and He will lead you safely through all things; and when you cannot stand it, God will bury you in his arms. Do not fear what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you then and every day. He will either shield you from suffering, or give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imagination. St Francis de Sales

#### 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.

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