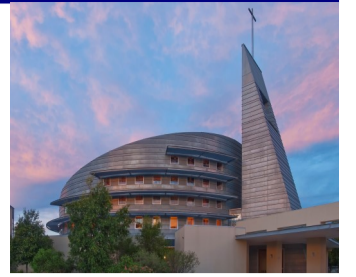




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church



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

11th May 2025

Fourth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day

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 M.S.F.S.

Assisting Priest (resident in Wyoming)

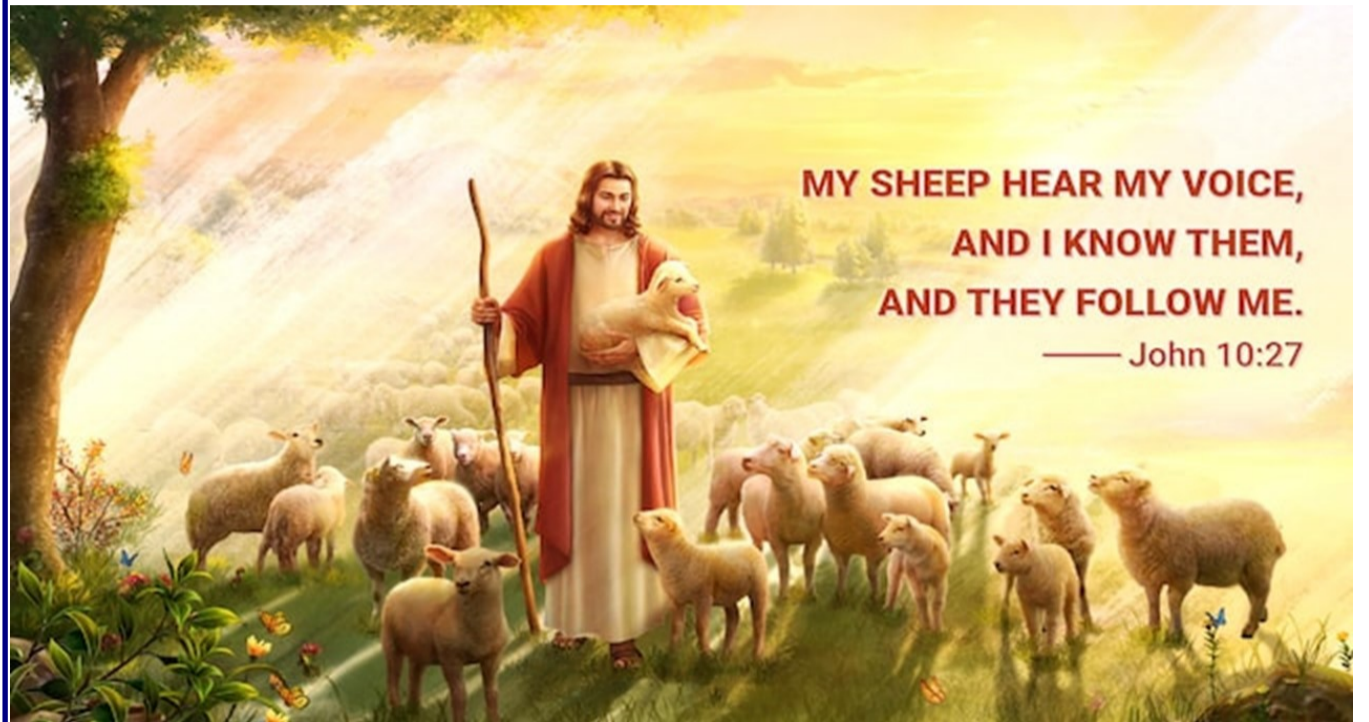
Fr Vincent Lourduswamy M.S.F.S.

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

P: 02 4341 1073

Emergency contact No. 02 4398 9076



One of the Bible's most informative images of Jesus is, "the Good Shepherd". As Jesus faces growing opposition from his enemies, he draws his followers ever closer in Sunday's passage by reminding them of the kind and caring leader he embodies—the Good Shepherd. Jesus wants his followers to recognise that he is not like the abusive religious leaders who were in constant conflict with him, his ministry, and his followers. He tells them that they must follow and listen to him as sheep follow and listen to their shepherd.

In this illustration, the sheepfold represents a place of security, the protective shelter of the family of God. He protects his sheep and leads them, and even lays down his life for them. "When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice" (John 10:4). Christ leads by example. His life demonstrates how we ought to live. The simple statement *My sheep hear My voice* is pregnant with meaning. It expresses personal intimacy between the shepherd and his sheep. In the first century, a single sheep pen held multiple flocks, so it was essential for the sheep to know and recognise their own shepherd's voice. There had to be an unmistakable familiarity between sheep and shepherd for the sheep to feel safe and know which voice to follow. Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me". Knowing the Lord's voice implies experiential knowledge through a relationship with Him.

My sheep hear My voice speaks of those who listen with obedient attention—this kind of listening flows from faith. Paul taught the Romans, "Faith comes from what is heard and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ" (Romans 10:17). By hearing his voice in Scripture, we come to know our Lord, cultivate faith in him, and that faith obtains obedience. *My sheep* affirms that there are true sheep and false sheep. True sheep know, listen to, and obey, the Good Shepherd's voice; false sheep pay no heed. Christ's sheep know how to listen, what to ignore, and whom to follow. "A stranger they will not follow" (John 10:5). *My voice* is the singular, direct, and authoritative voice of Jesus. It is the same voice that stilled the waves, silenced demons, raised the dead, and forgave sins.

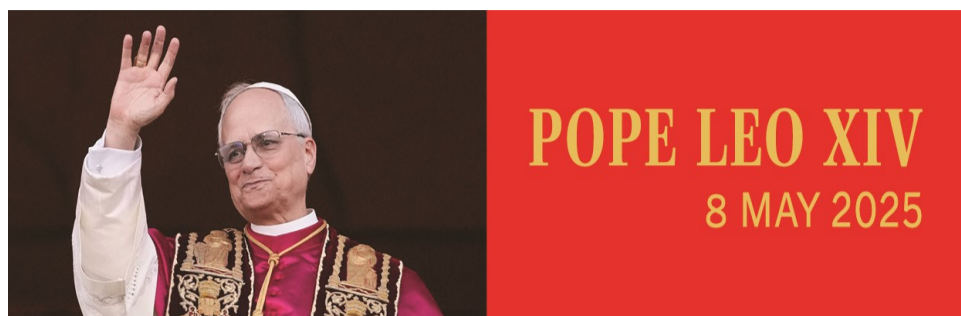
The concluding sentence in Sunday's passage, about the unity of the Father and the Son, provides the basis for our Nicene faith. The Father and the Son are one. This declaration harkens back to the prologue of John's Gospel: "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

The thrice-repeated assurance in Sunday's passage, that the sheep of our Lord shall never perish nor be snatched out of the shepherd's hand, is indeed Good News.

Let us be attentive, obedient, sheep that follow with no regrets and no provisos. Anything less is not a true sheep.

<https://www.stjohnvianney.org/sunday-reflections/fourth-sunday-of-easter-year-c/>

Parish News:



With great joy and deep gratitude to God, I share with you the wonderful news of the election of Pope Leo XIV as the 267th Successor of Saint Peter, Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Jesus Christ, and Supreme Pontiff of the Universal Church. We rejoice in the guidance of the Holy Spirit and give thanks for the gift of our new Holy Father. May Mary, Mother of the Church, intercede for Pope Leo XIV and for the whole Church, that we may walk together in faith, hope and charity. Sincerely yours in Christ, Most Reverend Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay.





Lord, we give thanks today for the precious gift of motherhood. We entrust all mothers and motherlike figures to your divine grace in the care and nurture of their families. Grant unto them the fruits of the Holy Spirit in their sacred role of motherhood. May our Blessed Mother, embrace them in her love and protection as she did Your son Jesus, so that they may be a source of love, comfort and strength to their families. Amen.

Mother's Day: We wish all our mothers, grandmothers, great grandmothers and mother figures, a very Happy Mother's Day. Be assured of our prayers as you, and your family, celebrate the wonderful gift you are to them.



Morning Tea: There will be a morning tea after 9.15am Mass this Sunday and the winning Easter/Mother's Day raffle tickets will be drawn. All welcome.

In this Holy Jubilee Year, our hope is to connect to the mission of Jesus Christ each day.
Please support our upcoming
Pastoral Works May 2025 Appeal

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care

Your gift to MAY 2025 APPEAL is tax-deductible. Donate via QR Code or at www.bbcatholic.org.au/pastoralworks

We will be conducting a Pastoral Works Broken Bay Collection this weekend. Our quota for the year is \$32,416 and we have raised \$15,900 so far. This leaves a shortfall of \$16,516. Thank you for your generosity to date. To donate, either complete the form in

the envelope available or go online to <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/giving/pastoral-works-broken-bay>. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: World Day of Prayer for Vocations is this Sunday, 11th May. Please pray for our priests and seminarians, and those discerning a vocation.

Soup Night: Our next soup night will be after 5.00pm Mass on Saturday, 17th May. All welcome.

Sit n Chat: A group of seniors meet every 3rd Monday of the month in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. This month's meeting is scheduled for 19th May. Transport can be provided if necessary. Please contact Jane for further information 0419 233 284.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Children's Liturgy of the Word resumes this Sunday during 9.15am Mass.

Cleaners for 16th May: Mabel Torres, Elena Egan, Geraldine Baxter, Amanda Gray.

Readers for 17th & 18th May:
Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Rutherford, Jane Rutherford, Jane Somerville

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken, Isaak Giunta, Dorothy Fulton

Sunday 9.15am—Ingrid Stevens, Therese Carroll

Sunday 5.00pm—Peter Smith, Lorena Lalor, Kris Aitken

Servers for 17th & 18th May:
Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh, Vincent Cavanagh
Sunday 7.30am—Paul Nolan, Jenny Fitzgerald
Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson, Hanaa El-Khatib, Joesie Cameron
Sunday 5.00pm—Charles Kivunja

Funeral Announcement: The life of Timothy Thurlow will be celebrated at St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy on Thursday, 15th May at 11.00am. We offer our sincere condolences to Timothy's family and friends.

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

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: Acts 13:14, 43-52

Paul and Barnabas continued on from Perga and reached Antioch in Pisidia. On the sabbath they entered the synagogue and took their seats. Many Jews and worshipers who were converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to remain faithful to the grace of God. On the following sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said. Both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first, but since you reject it and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, *I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth.*" The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and glorified the word of the Lord. All who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region. The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who were worshipers and the leading men of the city, stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them, and went to Iconium. The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. We are God's people, the sheep of his flock.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before him singing for joy.

R. We are God's people, the sheep of his flock.

Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us, we belong to him. We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

R. We are God's people, the sheep of his flock.

Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age.

R. We are God's people, the sheep of his flock.

Reading 2: Rev 7:9, 14-17

I, John, had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. Then one of the elders said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. "For this reason they stand before God's throne and worship him day and night in his temple. The one who sits on the throne will shelter them. They will not hunger or thirst anymore, nor will the sun or any heat strike them. For the Lamb who is in the centre of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 10:27-30

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."



Readings for the Week:

Monday, 12th May:

Tuesday, 13th May:

Wednesday, 14th May:

Thursday, 15th May:

Friday, 16th May:

Saturday, 17th May:

Sunday, 18th May:

Sts Nereus, Achilleus, Pancras - Acts 11:1-18/Ps 41:2-3, 42:3-4/Jn 10:1-10

Our Lady of Fatima - Acts 11:19-26/Ps 86:1-7/Jn 10:22-30

St Matthias - Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 112:1-8/Jn 15:9-17

Acts 13:13-25/Ps 88:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27/Jn 13:16-20

Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-11/Jn 14:1-6

Acts 13:44-52/Ps 97:1-4/Jn 14:7-14

Acts 14:21-27/Ps 99:1-3, 5/Rev 21:1-5/Jn 13:31-35

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently deceased: Marie Anderson, Marilyn Deguara, Marianne Gatt, Timothy Thurlow, Marivic Valderrama

Anniversary: Rebecca Gauci

Remembrance: Bob Birchall, Alfred Bugeja, Leo Bugeja

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.

Thank You



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