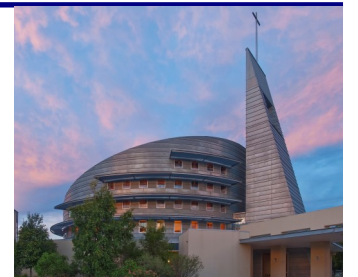




# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



## 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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

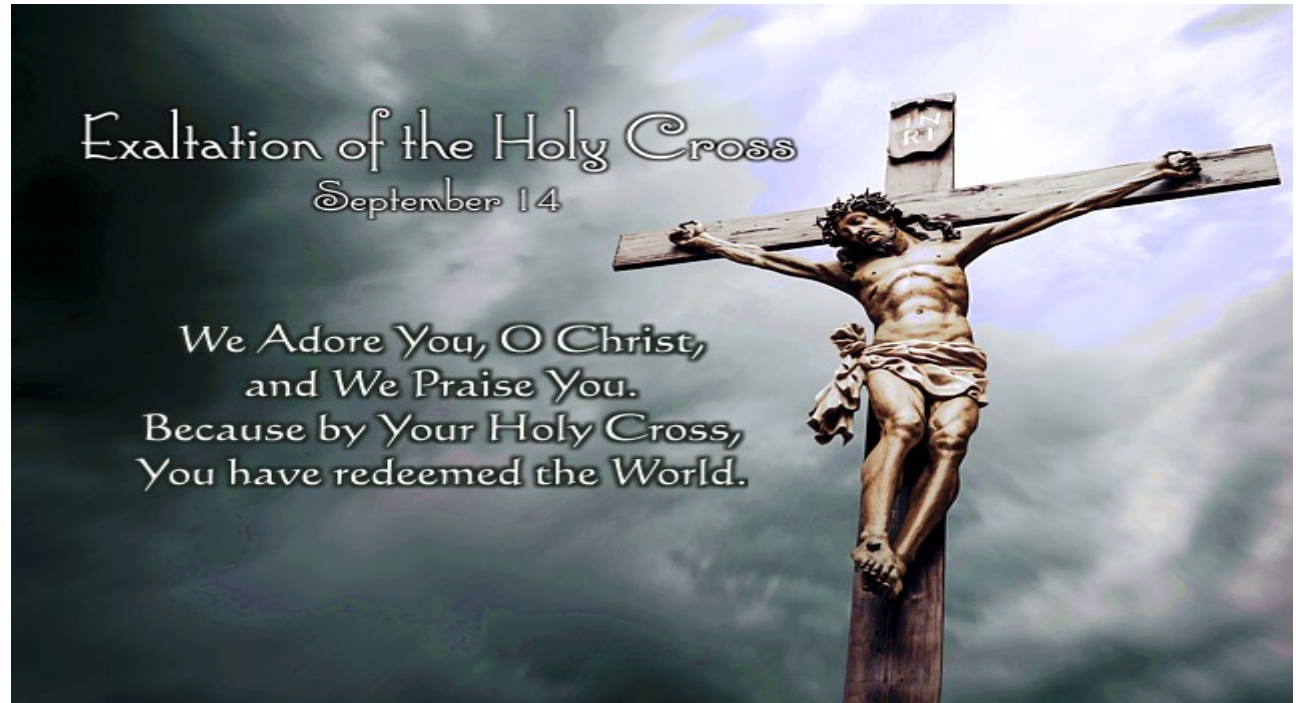
Fr John Prince VC

#### Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

**P: 02 4341 1073**

**Emergency contact No. 02 4398 9076**



On Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> September, we celebrate the Solemnity of The Exaltation of the Holy Cross, also known as the Feast of the Triumph of the Cross.

The universal symbol of the Christian faith, the cross represents Jesus Christ's victory over death and source of eternal salvation.

In the Eastern Churches the feast dates back to the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site of Christ's tomb, in Jerusalem around 335 AD.

It was adopted by the Roman Catholic Church in the 7<sup>th</sup> century. This redemptive transformation of a barbaric instrument of torture into a divine symbol of hope for mankind represents the universal nature of Christ's sacrifice.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross also commemorates the discovery around 326 AD of the True Cross, of Calvary, and the tomb of Christ by St Helena, the mother of Emperor Constantine, which the Romans had buried under a Temple to Venus.

This day is a special reminder that crosses in life should not be avoided but transformed. Although the suffering may remain, it must be redeemed suffering, and so bearing an abundance of good fruit in ways that only God can accomplish.

In your parishes this weekend you are also invited to take a copy of Bishop Anthony's second Pastoral Letter – *The Mystery of Faith: Encountering Jesus Christ in the Eucharist*. This Letter offers a profound opportunity, not only to celebrate, but to renew our understanding, appreciation, and lived experience of the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of Christian life.

"As we journey together toward the Eucharistic Congress of 2028, may we grow in wonder at the gift of the Eucharist and renew our commitment to be, in all we say and do, a people formed and sent by the Eucharistic Lord,"  
Most Reverend Anthony Randazzo, Bishop of Broken Bay  
**BBNeighbourhoods #359 11 September**



**Parish News:**

**Morning Tea:** There will be a morning tea hosted by the Parish Pastoral Council after 9.15am Mass this Sunday. All welcome.

**Soup Night:** The next soup night will be on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> September after 5.00pm Mass. All welcome.

**Suggestion Box:** Fr Timothy would like parishioners to share their thoughts and ideas regarding the Jubilee Year of Hope. There will be a suggestion box in the gathering area.

**Cleaners for 19<sup>th</sup> September:** Jo Salter, Pam Hickey, Laila Dawe, Rano Spiteri.

**Readers for 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> September:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Kate Bravo, Jane Rutherford, Maryrose Barlow

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken, Joel Bajo, Theresa Gibson

Sunday 9.15am—Therese Carroll, Michael Dixon, Dawn Torrens

Sunday 5.00pm—Pio Savea, Kris Aitken, Lorena Lalor

**Servers for 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> September:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh, Vincent Cavanagh

Sunday 7.30am—Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson, Hanaa El-Khatib

**Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows:** The Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary will be prayed in the Church after 8.30am Mass on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> September.

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:** Marian Bowyer will be welcomed as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> September. We thank Marian for offering the gift of her time to serve in this vital ministry.

**Broken Bay Pilgrimage of Hope:** Two Spaces left!!!! Join with us in Rome and Assisi and pray at the tomb of our millennial Saint Carlo Acutis. Rome and Assisi 1-10 October 2025. For further details please contact Harvest Journeys 1800 819 156.



**Safeguarding Sunday:** Safeguarding Sunday is an important initiative of the Catholic Church in Australia and takes place at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week on 14 September.

It provides an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to child safe practices, celebrate the presence of children and young people in our communities, and pray for those harmed by abuse. It is also a time to recognise the importance of

ongoing change to ensure children grow up safe, supported, and valued within the Church.

# LITURGICAL FORMATION SERIES

**Session 4**

Facilitated by Chris Ohlsen

**Rekindle the Wonder**

Pope Francis, in his 2022 Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi* (on the liturgical Formation of the People of God) encouraged us to **rekindle our wonder** in the liturgy and the celebration of the Sacraments. This presentation will scope out some core principles such as: **what is liturgy**, **what is liturgical sign and symbol**, as well as delving into the **who, what, where, why** and some **practical aspects** of the Sacraments.

An exciting and interactive formation opportunity for all Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Musicians, Servers, Parish Liturgical Commission Members, diocesan parish staff and interested parishioners.

Saturday 25 October  
9:30 am - 3:00 pm  
Caroline Chisholm Centre  
2/423 Pennant Hills Rd Pennant Hills  
Morning tea and lunch provided

**REGISTER NOW**

✉ [mission@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:mission@bbcatholic.org.au)

**CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY**

**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: Num 21:4-9**

With their patience worn out by the journey, the people complained against God and Moses, "Why have you brought us up from Egypt to die in this desert, where there is no food or water? We are disgusted with this wretched food!" In punishment the LORD sent among the people saraph serpents, which bit the people so that many of them died. Then the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned in complaining against the LORD and you. Pray the LORD to take the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people, and the LORD said to Moses, "Make a saraph and mount it on a pole, and if any who have been bitten look at it, they will live." Moses accordingly made a bronze serpent and mounted it on a pole, and whenever anyone who had been bitten by a serpent looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

## **Responsorial Psalm:**

### **R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

Hearken, my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable, I will utter mysteries from of old.

### **R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

While he slew them they sought him and inquired after God again, Remembering that God was their rock and the Most High God, their redeemer.

### **R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

But they flattered him with their mouths and lied to him with their tongues, Though their hearts were not steadfast toward him, nor were they faithful to his covenant.

### **R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

But he, being merciful, forgave their sin and destroyed them not; Often he turned back his anger and let none of his wrath be roused.

### **R. Do not forget the works of the Lord!**

## **Reading 2: Philippians 2:6-11**

Brothers and sisters: Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## **Alleluia:**

### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Cross you have redeemed the world.

### **R. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Jn 3:13-17**

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.



## **Readings for the Week:**

### **Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> September:**

### **Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> September:**

**Our Lady of Sorrows** - Heb 5:7-9/Ps 30:2-6, 15-16, 20/**Jn 19:25-27**

**Sts Cornelius & Cyprian** - 1 Tim 3:1-13/Ps 100:103, 5, 6/**Lk 7:11-17**

1 Tim 3:14-16/Ps 110:1-6/**Lk 7:31-35**

**Sts Hildegard of Bingen & Robert Bellarmine** - 1 Tim 4:12-16/Ps 110:7-10/**Lk 7:36-50**

**St Januarius** - 1 Tim 6:2-12/Ps 48:6-10, 17-20/**Lk 8:1-3**

**Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon & Paul Chong Ha-Sang** - 1 Tim 6:13-16/Ps 99/**Lk 8:4-15**

Amos 8:4-7/Ps 112:1-2, 4-8/1 Tim 2:1-8/**Lk 16:1-13**

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Let us keep in our prayers:

**Recently Deceased:** Patricia Hoare, Andrew Wills

**Anniversary:** Ken Nomchong

**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, Thomas J, Marge Lawrence, Betty & Sean McDermott, Ronald Matthews, Theresa Mitchell, Oscar James Moretti, Maureen Mullane, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Fr Reggo, Anthony Salis, Susie Simmons, Joseph Svanberg, Barry Tierney, Patricia Toohey, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Nigel Watts, Josie Weate, Janelle Whiteland, Melissa Wong, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

**Pope Leo's September Intention:**

**For our relationship with all of creation**

**Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.**

**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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<p><b>not just notes</b></p> <p>Would you like to play the piano? Would you like to play the pipe organ? Do you want to improve your skills?</p> <p>Learn to play and love your music! Recently moved from Sydney to Umina Beach With over 20 years of teaching experience I aim to inspire whilst teaching good technique and improving skills.</p> <p><a href="mailto:godelieve@notjustnotes.com.au">godelieve@notjustnotes.com.au</a> 0404 837 363</p>	<p><b>Bryan J. Reid</b> Funeral Services</p> <p>1/39 Victoria Road, Woy Woy.</p> <p>1800 032 225</p> <p>100% Australian Owned Family Operated Company.</p>	<p><b>Spices 29</b> GOAN INDIAN RESTAURANT</p> <p>Come and enjoy delicious culinary delights that will take you on to a journey into the magical world of Indian Cuisine. Our chefs capture the aromatic flavours and present to you the tastiest dishes from the country with great heritage and flamboyant culture.</p> <p><b>LUNCH</b> TUESDAY TO SATURDAY (11.00am to 2.30pm) <b>DINNER</b> TUESDAY TO THURSDAY &amp; SUNDAY (4.30pm to 9.30pm) FRIDAY &amp; SATURDAY (4.30pm TILL LATE)</p> <p>34 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy-NSW 2256, Tel: 02 43398225, <a href="http://www.spices29.com.au">www.spices29.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>ADVERTISE HERE</b></p>	<p><b>ADVERTISE HERE</b></p>	<p><b>forte</b> Piano Studio</p> <p>Private lessons All ages welcome Family discounts</p> <p><b>Enrol now!</b></p> <p><b>Gerard Nicholls</b> Piano &amp; Organ Teacher</p> <p>☎ 0426 845 150 f Forte Piano Studio 📍 Springfield location</p>