



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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

2nd February 2025

The Presentation of the Lord

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.

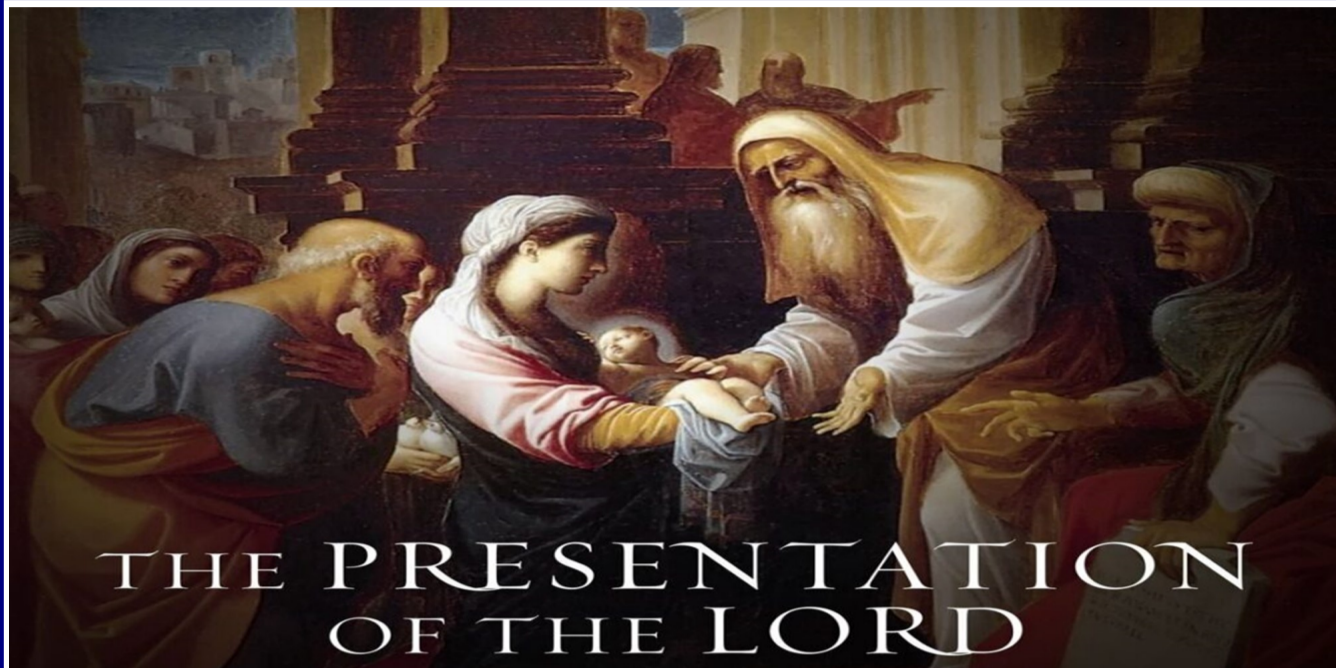
Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

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"Candlemas" is also a traditional name given to today's feast because as early as the fifth century, the custom of celebrating this feast with lighted candles had developed. The lit candles symbolised Simeon's prophecy that Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles." This Feast has been referred to as the "Feast of the Holy Encounter" because God, in the Person of Jesus, encountered Simeon and Anna in the Temple.

Today's feast is celebrated in our Church forty days after Christmas, marking the day that Mary and Joseph would have brought Jesus into the Temple. Though Mary was pure and free from sin from the moment of her conception, and though the Son of God did not need to be redeemed, Mary and Joseph fulfilled these ritual obligations.

At the heart of this celebration is the encounter of Simeon and Anna with the Christ Child in the Temple. It is in that holy encounter that Jesus' divinity is manifested by a human prophet for the first time. At His birth, the angels proclaimed His divinity to the shepherds, but in the Temple, Simeon was the first to understand and proclaim Jesus as the Saviour of the World. He also prophesied that this salvation would be accomplished by a sword of sorrow that would pierce the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Anna, a prophetess, also came forward and "gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem" (Luke 2:38). Thus, these ritual acts were also a moment in which Jesus' divine mission was made manifest to the world.

As we celebrate Mary's ritual purification and Jesus' ritual redemption, we should see them as acts in which we are called to participate. First, each of us is unworthy of entering the true Temple of the Lord in Heaven. Yet we are invited to enter that Temple in union with Mary, our Blessed Mother. It was her consent to the will of God that opened the door of God's grace to us all, enabling us to spiritually become Jesus' "mother" by allowing Him to be born in our hearts by grace. With her, we are now able to appear before God, purified and holy in His sight.

We must also see Saint Joseph redeeming us as he presented Jesus in the Temple. In offering Christ Jesus to the priest to offer Him to the Father, Saint Joseph also presents all who strive to live in union with Jesus. The hope is that, like Simeon and Anna, others will see God alive within us and experience the Saviour of the World through us. As Christ continues to enter into the temple of your soul, pray that He will shine forth for others to see so that, like Simeon and Anna, they will encounter our Lord within you.

<https://mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/february-2-presentation-of-the-lord-feast/>

Parish News:



Feast of St Francis de Sales supper: Thanks to all our volunteers who were involved in the organisation of the Feast day supper last Friday. It was a very enjoyable evening. Thanks also to Rose and Joe from Bakers Delight Umina for providing baked goods for the evening.

Morning Tea: There will be a morning tea following 9.15am Mass this Sunday, 2nd February hosted by the Parish Pastoral Council. All welcome.

Bus drivers needed: We are currently looking for volunteer bus drivers for 7.30am Mass on Sundays. If you can help please call Jim Dixon on 0417 021 675 for further details.

Cleaners for 7th February: Anne-Marie Young, Frances Giunta, Linda Potestas, Rano Spiteri.

Readers for 8th & 9th February:

Saturday 5.00pm—Leonie King, Marie Andrews, Jane Somerville

Sunday 7.30am—Dorothy Fulton, Veronica Jordan, Joel Bajo

Sunday 9.15am—Joesie Cameron, Christine French, Michael Dixon

Sunday 5.00pm—Kris Aitken, Pio Savea, Armella Dogillo

Servers for 8th & 9th February:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French, Jenny Fitzgerald

Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French, Joesie Cameron, Joseph French

Sunday 5.00pm—Allan Moore

Funeral Announcement: On behalf of the Parish, we offer our sincere condolences to Fr John Hill and his family on the recent passing of his sister Margaret Ayres. Funeral Mass at St Therese's, New Lambton, will be at 11.00am on Friday, 7th February, and the graveside service for her burial at Palmdale will be at 11.00am on Saturday, 8th February.

First Fruits Offering 2025: Our First Fruits Offering is coming in two weeks. God calls us to be generous with all our gifts.

Stewardship means giving back to God in gratitude for all He has given us, including giving from our treasure. Our First Fruits Offering starts two weekends from now. This program is essential to support funding our maintenance and other special projects. Our Parishioners will hear about our plans and be asked to pray and reflect on their financial commitment to St John the Baptist parish. More details will be made available in the coming weeks. Thank you for your interest in serving our Parish. God Bless you.

St John the Baptist Mens' group: Meetings to be held the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 7pm-8pm in the Leo Mahon Room. Next meeting 3rd February. For further information contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

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



Jubilee for
CONSECRATED LIFE
FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Holy Mass: 9:30am, Sunday 2 February 2025

Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara

PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT: **Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL**





LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Mal 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord GOD: Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me; And suddenly there will come to the temple the LORD whom you seek, And the messenger of the covenant whom you desire. Yes, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who will endure the day of his coming? And who can stand when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire, or like the fuller's lye. He will sit refining and purifying silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi, Refining them like gold or like silver that they may offer due sacrifice to the LORD. Then the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem will please the LORD, as in the days of old, as in years gone by.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Who is this King of glory? It is the Lord!

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory.

R. Who is this King of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is the King of glory? The Lord, the mighty, the valiant. The Lord, the valiant in war.

R. Who is this King of glory? It is the Lord!

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of armies.

R. Who is this King of glory? It is the Lord!

Who is he, the King of glory? He is the Lord of armies, He is the Lord, the King of glory.

R. Who is this King of glory? It is the Lord!

Reading 2: Heb 2:14-18

Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the Devil, and free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life. Surely he did not help angels but rather the descendants of Abraham; therefore, he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested through what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people, Israel.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 2:22-40

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, *Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord*, and to offer the sacrifice of *a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons*, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord. Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted -and you yourself a sword will pierce- so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

Readings for the Week:

Monday, 3rd February:

St Blaise, St Ansgar - Heb 11:32-40/Ps 30:20-24/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday, 4th February:

Heb 12:1-4/Ps 21:26-28, 30-32/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday, 5th February:

St Agatha - Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 102:1-2, 13-14, 17-18/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday, 6th February:

St Paul Miki - Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 47:2-4, 9-11/Mt 6:7-13

Friday, 7th February:

Heb 13:1-8/Ps 26:1, 3, 5, 8-9/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday, 8th February:

St Jerome Emiliani, St Josephine Bakhita - Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 22/Mk 6:30-34

Sunday, 9th February:

Is 6:1-8/Ps 137:1-5, 7-8/1 Cor 15:1-11/Lk 5:1-11

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently deceased: Margaret Ayres, Noel Bjorndahl, Benedetto Bortone, Jean Carr, Josephine Kennedy, Kerri Lane, Charles Law, Margaret Penfold

Anniversary: Earnest & Morva Burton, Joyce Magro, Ennio Muratore

Sick: John Aarts, Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Rae Busby, Marie Carr, Anne-Marie Dixon, Ken Dixon, Marie Dixon, David Hopkins, Aline Fauvette, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Janice Hayward, Bill Hunt, Linda Italiano, Marge Lawrence, Kay McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, Oscar James Moretti, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Kenneth John Reddacliff, Susie Simmons, Charlotte Stenson, Barry Tierney, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Josie Weate, Pauline White, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesiastical community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

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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