

**OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL EMERGENCY**  
0438 631 327

"He must increase, I must decrease"

**Administrator**

Fr. Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.

**Office Staff**

Raelene Spithill, Johnson Mani, Triona Meagher.

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

Vigil Saturday 5pm;  
Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES**

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds)  
Saturday and Public Holidays 9am.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK** First Friday  
4pm Mass

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE** Friday  
after morning Mass; First Friday  
3.30pm; Saturday 9.30am (after  
morning Mass) & 4.30pm; Sunday  
7.00am.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** Baptism  
Preparation - 9.30am second and  
fourth Sunday of the month  
Sacrament of Baptism - 11.00am first  
and third Sunday of the month . Please  
contact the parish office for more  
information.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED  
SACRAMENT** Saturday after 9am Mass  
until 10am Monday until 9am (Public  
Holidays 10.15am) Thursday 7.30pm-  
8.30pm for the needs of the Parish.

**PARISH CHOIR** Enquiries: 0417 659  
526. Practice Wed nights in the church  
@ 7pm. New members welcome.

**Christian Meditation** Thursday  
afternoons from 2-3pm and Monday  
evenings 6-7pm, in the Leo Mahon  
room. All welcome!

**St John the Baptist Church**  
Cnr Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy  
**Ethel Cox Parish Centre**  
100 Blackwall Road Woy Woy  
**Parish Office:** Open Mon, Wed & Fri 9.30 am - 4.00 pm and  
Tues & Thu 8.30 am - 3.00 pm  
54 Victoria Road / P.O. Box 264 WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256  
Phone: (02) 4341 1073 Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au  
Website: www.woywoycatholic.org.au  
**St John the Baptist Primary School:**  
Principal: Nicole Cumming, 21a Dulkara Rd, South Woy Woy 2256.  
P: 024341 0884 www.sjbwoywoy.dbb.org.au

Psalm Response © Colin D. Smith cfc



**Gospel Acclamation**  
*Alleluia, alleluia!* Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your  
salvation. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

**Keep Us In Your Prayers** OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF:

**Recently Deceased:** Fr Barry Nobbs, John Hickey, Angela Feneck, Sr  
Elizabeth Carr.

**Anniversary:** Thomas & Annie Peachey, Margaret Wahlin.

**Sick:** Michael Taylor, Kathleen Bezzina, Geoff Floyd, Elaine Finlayson,  
Tom Searle, Bill Seton, Joan Kelleher, Brian Smith, Jason Simon, Vicki  
Pirie, Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James  
Morreti, Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin  
Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis & Rose Aloisio, Amanda  
Sheridan, Audey Barsenbach, Marta Panczyna, Sue James, Mary  
Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Jo Farrelle, Anne Singleton,  
Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros  
Harbig, Sheila Rogan, Karen Chorazyczewska, Ian Wilks, Michael  
Hourigan, John Horrigan, Ed Hyland, Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty,  
Ada-Primrose Murphy, Tim Parker, Lorraine Smith, Larry Cresswell,  
Ken Joyce, Alison Richmond, June Townsend, Andrew Muggs, Sheila  
Houghton, Chrissy Toms, Frank Levy, Dorothy Fulton, Roger  
Mitchell.

*Quotes from Amoris Laetitia... "The Joy of Love"*  
Pope Francis

We also find it hard to make room for the consciences of the  
faithful, who very often respond as best they can to the  
Gospel amid their limitations, and are capable of carrying out  
their own discernment in complex situations. We have been  
called to form consciences, not to replace them.

ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE



# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

**Mission and Vision**  
Bringing Jesus Christ to ALL, through:  
Worship and Liturgy  
Outreach  
Our Parish School  
Hospitality  
Adult & Child Faith Formation



**1st Sunday of Advent**  
**1<sup>st</sup> December, 2019, Year A**  
**Gospel Reflection - © Fr Richard Leonard SJ**



Night and day is the dominant image presented to us in today's readings. The season of Advent is for the Church the time just before the dawn of Christmas, when the fullness of God's love took human flesh in Jesus.

The moments before dawn are often special: cities are still, the air is damp, noise is at a minimum and, at least on clear days, there is an anticipation of the sun bursting forth into daylight. No wonder Paul and Matthew found it such a rich metaphor for the coming of Christ.

American lyricist and composer, Marty Haugen has found the image of light and darkness inspirational in his text, God of Day and God of Darkness (©1984, 1995, published by GIA Inc.) He writes:

God of day and God of darkness, now we stand before the night;

As the shadows stretch and deepen, come and make our darkness bright.  
All creation still is groaning for the dawning of your might, When the Son of peace and justice fills the earth with radiant light. Still the nations curse the darkness, still

the rich oppress the poor; Still the earth is bruised and broken by the ones who still want more. Come and wake us from our sleeping so our hearts cannot ignore All your people lost and broken, all your children at our door.

Show us Christ in one another, make us servants strong and true;  
Give us all your love of justice, so we do what you would do.  
Let us call all people holy, let us pledge our lives anew,  
Make us one with all the lowly, let us all be one in you.

Marty Haugen's take on the light and dark in the world is entirely consistent with the way Catholic mystics have applied these metaphors. Being in the light is not just about what we see, it is about what we do. St Ignatius Loyola often spoke about the things we keep buried in the dark. For Ignatius the experience we won't speak about, the sins we won't confess and the memories we suppress are the signs of the bad spirit. They gain an inordinate power over us and we displace a lot of energy keeping them buried in the dark. Ignatius always saw the hand of the good spirit when these things came into the light. Every time someone says to me, 'Father, I've never told anyone this before, but I want to talk about it now ... I thank God that the good spirit is alive and active. St Ignatius encourages us to be alert to all the ways we con ourselves that keeping secrets hidden in the dark is a necessary or acceptable way to live.

May this Advent be the season in which we bring to consciousness all the things that stop us from being fully alive and basking in the light. May our preparation for Christmas confirm us in the truth of Haugen's words about Jesus Christ and humanity. You shall be the path that guides us, you the light that in us burns; Shining deep within all people, yours the love that we must learn, For our hearts shall wander restless, 'til they safe to you return; Finding you in one another, we shall all your face discern.

## Parish News

**Working bees and butterflies Saturday 7 December:** Bring along your wheelbarrows, shovels (and yourselves) to help tidy the church gardens. Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

**Melbourne Cup Trifecta Winner:** The winner of the Melbourne Cup Trifecta was Jack Greentree. The rosary makers would like to once again thank our generous parishioners for their support which is very much appreciated.

**Parish Family Ministry Christmas Hampers:** List of various types of hampers needed are on display. Hampers to be returned by the weekend of 7/8 December.

**Sound system:** We are in the process of changing our sound system. This will be done in two phases. The first phase will be the PA System upgrade and the second phase will be the Radio Mic System upgrade. If you would like to contribute to the upgrade, the cost is due to be \$6,165.50. Work will commence soon.

**Blessing of the Jesse Tree:** Sunday 1st December after 9.15 am mass in the Leo Mahon Room.

**IT Upgrade:** We are in the process of updating our IT systems. We will keep you updated with progress.

**Piety Stall:** Columban calendars and SVdP cards are now available for sale at the Piety Stall. Calendars \$9 & cards \$5 for a pack of 8. "Joy of the Gospel, Daily Reflection" \$10.

**Thank you:** The Catholic Mission Parish Appeal raised \$4,096.20. Many thanks to all who contributed.

### St John Paul II Pilgrimage

20 days Pilgrimage to Croatia and All Italian Shrines with Fr Timothy Raj MSFS Spiritual Director. Francis Williams (Travel Coordinator)

Depart Sydney Thursday 3 September 2020 and return Sydney Tuesday 22 September 2020 (17 nights)

#### Trip includes

Round-trip airfare Sydney/Dubai/Zagreb/Dubrovnik - Venice/Dubai/Sydney. One way flight Split/Rome  
17 nights centrally located 3 stars hotels: (or similar)  
04-08 September 2020 Medjugorje 4 nights  
08-11 September 2020 Rome 3 nights  
11-13 September 2020 San Giovanni Rotondo 2 nights  
13-16 September 2020 Assisi 3 nights  
16-18 September 2020 Florence 2 nights  
18-21 September 2020 Padua 3 nights  
Cost from Au\$6,700 per person twin/Double sharing (cost is based on 20 pilgrims) Single supp from Au\$7,700.

### Rest in Peace Fr Barry Nobbs

On behalf of Bishop Anthony Randazzo, it is with sadness that I share with you that Fr Barry Nobbs passed away early in the morning on Saturday 23 November at Yallambee Aged Care, Revesby.

We commend Fr Barry to Almighty God knowing that he will be embraced with love and light eternal. I ask that you remember Fr Barry and his family in your prayer and that our priests offer Mass for his departed soul.

A Vigil Mass will take place at Our Lady of Dolours Church, 94 Archer Street, Chatswood on Monday 2 December 2019 at 7.30pm. Supper will follow at Our Lady of Dolours Parish, Chatswood. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at St Felix de Valois Church, 550 Chapel Rd, Bankstown on Tuesday 3 December 2019 at 11.00am. The cortege will then proceed to Rookwood Cemetery. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

Fr David Ranson, *Vicar General*

### Christmas and New Year Mass Times

<u>December 18<sup>th</sup></u> : 7 pm	<u>December 26<sup>th</sup></u>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation	<u>Boxing Day</u>
	9:00 am
<u>December 24<sup>th</sup></u>	
<u>Christmas Eve</u>	<u>December 31<sup>st</sup></u>
5:30 pm (school oval)	<u>New Years Eve</u>
8:00 pm (church)	6:00 pm (Adoration)
10:00 pm (church)	7:00 pm
<u>December 25<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>January 1<sup>st</sup></u>
<u>Christmas Day</u>	<u>New Years Day</u>
7:30 am	9:00 am
9:15 am	
(No evening Mass)	

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December The Very Young

That every country resolutely commits to taking the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

### Our Pope's call to all Catholics

**"Every Christian is challenged, here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization"**  
(Apostolic Exhortation : *Evangelii Gaudium*)

There is no better way to be actively engaged in evangelization than to be a catechist teaching the catholic students of our parish who attend the state schools. If you are interested in finding out more about this ministry, ring the Parish Office on 4341 1073.

### Tap & Go

**Cashless society** - we will be installing #2 tap & go machines shortly to facilitate those who would like to donate to the Church via card. One machine will operate in denominations of \$2 and the other will be in denominations of \$5. More details to follow.



## Donation Point Tap

### Immaculate Conception

**Sunday 8 December:** Rosary 11.30 am, followed by Hour of Grace 12 noon - 1 pm, St John the Baptist Church. We will keep in those prayers the young people going to the 3 day Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Perth which starts 8

### Fransalian Quote

"God always chooses us and seizes us before we choose him and take hold of him."

**St. Francis de Sales**



**Plenary Council 2020**  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

### How is God calling us to be a Christ-centred Church?

As the Catholic Church in Australia prepares for the first gathering of the Plenary Council in October 2020, we are all invited to discern how we are being called to be a Christ-centred Church. To learn about the process of discernment, visit [plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au](http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au) or speak with your parish priest. The November National Theme for Discernment is Inclusive, Participatory and Synodal. Further information in the Gathering Area.

**St Vincent de Paul Society Cash Appeal:** The St Vincent de Paul Appeal will take place on the weekend 7/8 December 2019. Envelopes will be on seats this weekend. Your generosity is appreciated. All monies are used to support local families on the Peninsula.

### Rosters

**Volunteer Church Cleaning 06/12/19:** Pam Hickey, Veronica Jordan, Mary McCumstie.

**Children's Liturgy 08/12/19:** Marian Bowyer, Sue McKay, Hanna El Khatib.

**Cash Housie** every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30pm and finish 10.20pm, cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6pm. Proceeds benefit the Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990 818.

**St Vincent de Paul Society** on the Peninsula assist and give a hand up to people in need. We have two Conferences with volunteers sharing the visiting or office work. New Volunteers are always welcome. Please ring Pat 0403 672 077 or Peter 0425 358 376.  
**"Mary Mac's Place" Hospitality:** volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact 4341 0584.

**CALVARY FUNERALS**  
LOW COST FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Tel: 1300 663 753  
1/77 Rawson Rd Woy Woy

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**Hardwick's on Blackwall**  
(Opposite corner to our church)  
4/115 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy  
**Café and catering services**  
Ph 0422 561 439