

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

"He must increase, I must decrease"

**Fr. Timothy Raj. M.S.F.S.**  
Administrator

**Fr. Philip Thottam. M.S.F.S.**  
Assistant Priest

**Office Staff**  
Helen Cameron & Raelene Spithill

**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 11.30am & 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: 4341 3367  
Practice Wednesday nights in the church @ 7pm

**St John the Baptist Church**  
Cnr Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy  
**Ethel Cox Parish Centre**  
100 Blackwall Road Woy Woy  
**Parish Office:** Open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.00pm  
54 Victoria Road / P.O. Box 264 WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256  
Phone: (02) 4341 1073 Fax: (02) 4341 0214  
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

Be with me Lord, when I am in trou - ble.

**Gospel Acclamation**  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*  
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

Readings: 17th March 2019 Gen 15:5-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36. Readings can be found at [www.usccb.org/bible/](http://www.usccb.org/bible/)

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

**Recently Deceased:** Paul Smith, Olive O'Brien, Mary Vaga, Val McLenaghan, Marta Popic, Doris Magro.

**Anniversaries:** Marie Lisa Goetz, Daniel Hennessy, Lucy de Souza.

**Remembrances:** Mary & George Hilliard, Hilliard Brothers, Kevin Mills, the Mills family, Bernie Hanna, Leslie Denning, Valerie Price.

**Sick:** 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 Aloisio, Olive Brittliff, Leon de Pradines, Margaret Davin, Helen Taylor, Amanda Sheridan, Marta Panczyna, Sue James, Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Jo Farrelle, Paul Hennessy, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Sheila Rogan, Karen Chorazyczewska,Carolynn Jupp, Ed Hyland, Carmel Diorio, Maureen Frost, Ian Wilks, Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty, Mary Dolan, John Corrigan, Anne Gan, Hanna El Khatib, Tim Parker, Lorraine Smith, Alison Richmond, June Townsend.

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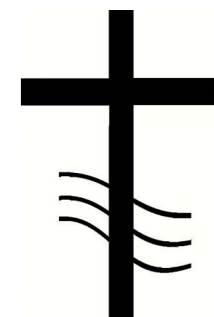
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## WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

### St John the Baptist Catholic Church

#### Mission and Vision

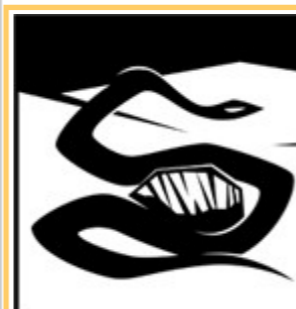
Bringing Jesus Christ to ALL, through:  
Worship and Liturgy  
Outreach  
Our Parish School  
Hospitality  
Adult & Child Faith Formation



#### 1st Sunday of Lent

10 March 2019, Year C (Psalter Week 1)

Gospel Reflection © Richard Leonard SJ.



In the second year of the Jesuit novitiate, the Jesuit novices are dropped around 140km from their first house in Australia at Sevenhill in South Australia. He has eight days to walk the distance and beg for food and accommodation. He cannot tell anyone who he is or what he is doing.

One Jesuit writes, 'It's the only time in my life I've been remotely in what we could call a wilderness and I have known hunger.

'There were many knockbacks, but there were a few occasions when people were extraordinarily generous.

'We are told that we cannot trade off being a Jesuit, but if we are invited into someone's home we can tell them who we are, so that they will not be frightened that they have welcomed Jack the Ripper to stay the night. If the person has offered the garage and a sandwich, however, we cannot use our being a Jesuit to get an upgrade from economy to first class!

'One woman who welcomed me into her home questioned me at length about where was I from, where was I going and how I got here. Then she declared, "I think I can trust ya". So she ushered me into her home, offered a meal that night, breakfast the next day and her guest room.

'I told this woman who I was and complimented her on her extraordinary generosity.

"Well listen sunshine", she said, "let's face it, I knew you were OK, 'cause you're the most beautifully spoken, articulate beggar I've ever met."

In today's Gospel we are told that Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. Numbers are never randomly used in the Bible. 1, 3, 7, 12 and 40 all have specific meanings. 40 indicates a time of formation. Luke tells us that Jesus confronts evil head-on and is tempted in every way that we are.

We often feel alone when faced with difficult choices and temptations, but, especially at these moments, there are four things we need to remember:

Temptation is not sin. Only when we freely and knowingly choose to act on temptation is sin involved. Though one may like to talk about the temptations one has in Reconciliation, we never have to 'confess' them as though they are sinful actions.

When we look at our temptations they often appear as good things, but often they have a sting in the tail which is destructive. We need to be very alert to all the consequences of what we do and say, and learn from our experiences.

The more we give into temptation, the more immune we become to seeing that there's anything wrong with what we are doing. We can develop whole habits in our living, deceiving ourselves that what we are doing is 'not that bad'.

St Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits, tells us in *The Spiritual Exercises* that the worst temptations are greed, pride and riches. This comes as a surprise to Catholics who have been told for too long that sex is number one. Ignatius says that we should be wise in how we deal with temptations: name what's going on, and attend to the pattern of the temptation quickly and consistently.

As John B. Metz, says, 'We can say that the three temptations in the desert are three assaults on the poverty of Jesus ... What Satan fears most is the powerlessness of God in the humanity he assumed ... so he appeals to Jesus' divinity, he wants God to remain God ...but Jesus subjected himself to our plight and opted for us as we are.'

We should take great comfort from this: there is no path of temptation along which Jesus has not gone ahead of us to show us we can choose life ahead of death.

That's what Lent is always about – a yearly season where we are encouraged to keep embracing life and live it to the full.

## Parish News...

**First Communion 2019.** Candidates will be presented at all Masses this weekend. Please keep them in your prayers as they commence instruction from 18 March.

**R.C.I.A. The Rite of Election** will be celebrated this Sunday at the Waitara Cathedral. Please keep our candidate and catechumen in your prayers.

### The Light is On for you.

All churches in the Diocese will be open during Lent for quiet time and prayer with the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday evenings, 7pm-8pm. March 15, 22, 29 & April 5 & 12. There will also be Stations of the Cross from 6.30pm & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our church on these nights.

### Mass on Wednesday nights during Lent:

From 13 March at 6.30pm there will be Stations of the Cross followed by Mass (approx. 6.50pm).

**Praying the Scriptures in Lent:** Copies of "Discerning the Way of Jesus" are available in the gathering area.

**Listening to God:** Continues 12noon-2pm, Tuesday 12 March, in the Leo Mahon Room. All welcome. 'God knows how to speak to us because He knows us so deeply—He created us.'

**Parish Retreat:** Saturday, 23rd March to Wednesday, 27th March. More information on the following page. Please note there will be **no morning Mass** on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday (25th March-27th March).

### Lenten Discussion Groups:

During Lent our Parish encourages parishioners to come together in groups to pray and reflect on the significance of the season and deepen our understanding and journey spiritually towards Easter. Thank you to the following people who have offered to lead a group for interested parishioners.

- Kiliti Naati (mob 0412 731 979): in our church's Leo Mahon room on Monday nights from 6.30pm.
- Wendy Whiteman: at her home in Daleys Point on Wednesday afternoons at 2pm.
- Katherine & Mike McCulloch: at their home in Umina on Wednesday nights at 7pm.
- Joe & Mabel Torres: at their home in Woy Woy on Friday nights at 7pm.

Please call the Parish Office for more details.

**Project Compassion:** Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season, which is themed "Give Lent 100%". You are empowering communities with hope and helping those in great need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Lives change when we all give 100%. You can also donate by phoning 1800 024 413 or [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion).

**Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 15/3/19:** Kathleen Cullen, Anisha Burns, Jo Salter & Christina Thorson.

**Children's Liturgy 17/3/19:** Ingrid Stevens, Rebecca Beisler & Roselle Bravo.

**Cuppa and a Chat:** A group of seniors meet every third Monday in the Leo Mahon room, due 18th March, 1.00pm-2.30pm. If you would like to join us phone Pat on 0403 672 077. Transport provided.

### Retreat on Eucharist, The Word of God & The Passion of our Lord For Healing. Saturday, 23 March to Wednesday, 27 March.

Fr. Gilbert Carlo svd (Divine Word Missionary), will be conducting a retreat in our Parish church during Lent.

The Retreat is focused on Prayer, Meditation, Contemplation, Eucharist & the Word of God, which deepens our relationship with God & one another...

**Saturday/Sunday, March 23/ 24 :** Homily at weekend Masses.

**Monday, March 25:** 7.00pm Mass, followed by talk & reflection; 7.30pm – 8.30pm.

Healing through God's Love and Forgiveness: Reflection Isaiah 53.5; 'By his wounds, we are healed'.

**Tuesday, March 26:** 7.00pm Mass followed by talk & reflection; 7.30pm – 8.30pm.

Healing through the Word of God & Eucharistic Adoration: Reflection Matthew 8.8; 'By our faith on the Word of God, we are healed'.

**Wednesday, March 27:** 7.00pm Concluding Mass with Reflection on Eternal life. 'By His Body and Blood we are healed'.

**Confession:** Monday - Wednesday: 6pm -6.45pm.

Please call the Parish office if you need transport to attend the retreat.

**Wishing everyone a blessed Lenten Season ahead!**

**'Tis the season to be praying, fasting and almsgiving...**

**... and remember to spend more time with Jesus!**



### Fransalian Quote

"There are no galley-slaves in the royal vessel of divine love - every man works his oar voluntarily!"

**St. Francis de Sales**

**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 John the Baptist Youth Group:** Held once a fortnight during school terms for high school students (Years 7-12), in the Leo Mahon Room. For more information, contact Matthew French on 0411 792 587.

**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. We always welcome new Volunteers to our Conference. Please ring Ken 0400 335 351 or Joan 0422 272 339.

**"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.

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