

**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: 4341 3367  
Practice Wednesday nights in the  
church @ 7pm.

**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 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



**Gospel Acclamation**

*Alleluia, alleluia!* My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Is 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 13:22-30.

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

**Recently Deceased:** Francis Brian Morrison, William Tavares, Robert Mozitello, Norma Jarvis, Beverly Taylor, Fr John Thornill, Robert Mozitello.

**Anniversaries:** Jannette Moroney, Sally King, Edna Tighe, Irma Carberry, Brian Murphy, Thomas Fell, Carlos Baroquillo, Sally King, Milagros Farthing, Floreina Potestas, Laurie Floor, Damiana Bulual, Pedro Bulual, Brian Murphy, Thomas Fell, Carlos Baroquillo, Mary Gatt, David Tullipan.

**Remembrances:** Lynne Rud, Umiliano Menezes.

**Thanksgiving:** Melissa Walters.

**Sick:** Brian Smith, Jason Simon, Vicki Pirie, Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morreti, Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Pam Player, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis Aloisio, Olive Brittliff, Amanda Sheridan, Audey Barsenbach, 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, 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, Josie Weate, Andrew Muggs, Sheila Houghton, Chryssine Toms, Frank Levy, Dorothy Fulton, Roger Mitchell.

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

*The tensions created by an overly individualistic culture,  
caught up with possessions and pleasures, leads to intolerance  
and hostility in families*



# 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**



**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**18<sup>th</sup> August, 2019, Year C (Psalter Week 4) ©**

**Gospel Reflection - © Fr Michael Tate**



Up the back of the university colleges, or on a trip up the East Coast, we see the blackened scars across the hills – reminders of the fires which raged through those areas last year – casting an unnerving pall of smoke over Hobart and the little towns of the East Coast.

But, as Australians living on the edges of heavily timbered country we all know that a fierce fire is one of the best things which can happen to a eucalyptus forest. The seed pods burst open in the intense heat. The fire cleanses the soil of smothering undergrowth and returns nutrients to the soil in the ashes. The seeds have a chance to

germinate in that soil. It is that sort of fire which Jesus had in mind when he says "I have come to bring fire to the earth and I wish it were blazing already!" What is the fire he is speaking of?

It turned out the "what" was not a "what" but a "who"! The Holy Spirit was unleashed on the first Pentecost Sunday just like a lightning bolt in the South West Wilderness. Recall that scene at Pentecost – the frightened and dispirited disciples huddled in a room like seeds in a pod putting a hard outer casing between themselves and a hostile world. This might have given them some sense of security, but, so long as they stayed in that protective shell of a room, they were quite unable to realise their true destiny. Then, what happened?

"Something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire ...They were all filled with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:2-3)

That fire – that divine fire – burst them out of the room and they began to preach the Resurrection and they realised their destiny as fearless disciples of our Risen Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

But this can have divisive consequences. At the extreme, following Our Lord, being baptised can mean total repudiation by members of one's family, and persecution by the society concerned. Especially in Muslim countries, like Malaysia, to become a Christian is to lose property and inheritance rights – the family is dismembered as one becomes a member of the Body of Christ. We should pray often for those who suffer this ostracising by their families and communities. But, for us, what does it mean to be ignited by the divine flame? What does this mean for the undergrowth of our lives?

You and I know, if we have had a few years on the planet, what are the actions or attitudes which stifle or smother our lives as fearless Christians.

Family expectations and stereotyped roles can be one. Our Lord himself experienced that so strongly at Nazareth – his home village – that he had to break away, never to return. He knew he had to be immersed (baptised) in the chaos of the outside world in order to conduct his ministry with power.

That is why he warns that for some disciples, following him with vigour and creativity may well mean breaking out of the little boxes which families can construct for their members – and that will cause division.

My dear friends, I love roses and dahlias and holly hocks and lupins and English country gardens. But, if we see ourselves as plants in such a garden, particularly if we see ourselves as plants in a walled garden, of course in that situation fire is a real threat and our natural inclination is to look to the hose to douse it.

But, we are Catholics, not roses or dahlias. We are little eucalyptus seeds. We need fire. We need the blazing fire of the Holy Spirit to allow who we truly are to burst forth. Then, and only then, we have a chance to be – not seeds which never break out of the pod of security or complacency - not seedlings weakly dying in the bracken - but we are meant to be glorious young trees reaching for the sun in all its glory.

Until at the end of history we together become a great stand of tall trees reaching for the risen Son in all his glory!

# Parish News...

**Fr Timothy:** Fr Timothy will be taking his well earned leave from 10th August - 22nd August.

**Please Note:** There will be no adoration Monday & Saturday mornings and no morning prayer on Mondays and Tuesdays. May God protect, guide, and be with you as you travel. Have a safe trip.

**Meeting:** Acolytes, Senior Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist to be held Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30am in the Leo Mahon Room. All enquiries to Bernie French 0407 214 699.

**LED Lighting:** If you would like to donate, envelopes are on the gathering table. We are thankful for your kind and generous support towards this project.

**Justice of the Peace:** Jeff Freeman is a registered J.P. If you are requiring his service he will be available before 5pm Mass every Saturday.

## NEXT MONTH (SEPTEMBER) IS SAFEGUARDING MONTH IN THE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

This year the Diocese of Broken Bay is celebrating the theme; *A safe community is one in which all experience a sense of belonging.*

All clergy, parishioners and the wider community are invited to the Diocesan **Liturgy** which signifies the start of SAFEGUARDING MONTH.

**LITURGY OF INCLUSION AND CARE, Tuesday 3 September 2019, Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara, 7.00pm.**

*Do not look forward to the changes and chances of this life in fear; rather look to them with full hope that, as they arise, God, whose you are, will deliver you out of them. He is your keeper. He has kept you hitherto. Do you but hold fast to his dear hand, and he will lead you safely through all things; and, when you cannot stand, he will bear you in his arms. Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. Our Father will either shield you from suffering, or he will give you strength to bear it.*

**Saint Francis de Sales**

## Stand for Life Rally against proposed Abortion Laws

The NSW Parliament is about to legislate for abortion on demand till birth, one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. The Bill was pushed through the Legislative Assembly and will be debated in the Legislative Council from Tuesday, 20 August.

Join us in peaceful protest against this radical proposed legislation.

**DATE:** Tuesday 20 August.

**WHERE:** Martin Place (Macquarie Street side)

**TIME:** 6pm until 9pm (including vigil outside NSW Parliament)

Under this Bill:

- Children can be aborted for any reason right up till the final moments of a pregnancy;
- Amendments to protect children who survive botched abortions attempts were defeated;
- There are no safeguards to prevent targeted abortion based on gender or disability;
- Doctors and medical staff are compelled to participate (by referral) in the taking of an innocent life.

This Bill was ambushed on Parliament, with no consultation, in an attempt to curb community backlash. This is our last opportunity to fight against this extremist Bill.

A Facebook event group has also been set up:

<https://business.facebook.com/events/362100514466868/>

The event is being supported by our Archdiocese, a number of Maronite organisations and Right to Life NSW.

## Bus Trip to Parramatta and Pennant Hills:

Wednesday 28 August, leaving 0845. Cost \$20. Please call Susie Casey for all enquiries on 0403 417 639.

## An invitation to SRE Catechists, Sacramental Teams and all those working in Children's Ministries

An opportunity to reflect on your role as a Catechist  
Discerning Discipleship in Ministry with Children

Presented by Sherry Weddell

(Author of *Forming Intentional Disciples*)

### Topics include:

- Exploring Intentional Discipleship
- Thresholds of discipleship, with a focus on ministry to children
- Discerning our own calling as disciples, and identifying our gifts

### Time/Date:

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
10.00am – 2:30pm

### Registrations Essential:

Colleen Smith  
[registrations@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:registrations@bbcatholic.org.au)  
or 8379 1643

This is a free event.

RSVP by 6<sup>th</sup> September

### Venue:

Caroline Chisholm Centre,  
Building 2, 423 Pennant Hills Road Pennant Hills

Limited parking available

Four minutes' walk from Pennant Hills Station

## Rosters

**Volunteer Church Cleaning 23/8/19:** Christina Thorson, Reg Harrington, Anisha Burns, Bev Whackett

**Children's Liturgy 25/8/19:** Brenda Sweet, Michael Dixon, Rebecca Beisler

**Morning Tea Roster 25/08/19:** Youth Group

Our Lady of Mercy College, Parramatta, 1964-1969 Golden Reunion, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019:

Did you attend Year 7 at OLMC in 1964, or thereafter? Did your SC in '67 or your HSC in '69? If you left before your exams, you're still welcome at our 50th Reunion!

Contact Jennifer Newton: email [fiftyyearsonolmc64-69@hotmail.com](mailto:fiftyyearsonolmc64-69@hotmail.com) or Facebook page OLMC Parramatta 1964-1969 50th Reunion (September 2019).

**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 Pat 0403 672 077.

**"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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**Bryan J. Reid Funeral Services**  
1/39 Victoria Road, Woy Woy.  
**Free Call:** 1800 032 225  
100% Australian Owned Family Operated Company.



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