

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



Lord make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 30th December 2018
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; Col 3:12-21 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52. Readings can be found at www.usccb.org/

Keep Us In Your Prayers OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF
Recently Deceased: Sr Pat Barton, Berri-Ann Jones, Errol Friedman, Frances Borg, Margaret Culmer.
Anniversaries: Therese (Terri) Hall, Josie Nixon, Br. Michael Cowsls, John Langdon, Barry Langdon, Eileen Meyer, Kevin Cowsls, John Bell.
Remembrances: Thomas Fauvette, Noelle Davidovic Martins, Mary, Katerina & Frank Justic, 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, Sue Rose, Anne Singleton, Tina Cohen, Janice Green, Elaine Finlayson, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Sheila Rogan, Leo Fry, Karen Chorazyczewska, Joan Kelleher,Carolynn Jupp, Lynette Durie.

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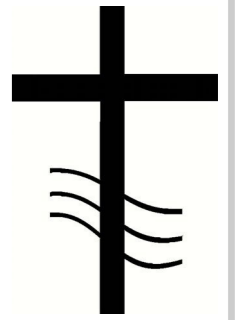


WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

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



4th Sunday of Advent

23rd December, 2018, Year C (Psalter Week 4)



Dear Parishioners,
Warm greetings to all of you. Every Christmas is a reminder to the humanity that God is still at work. The angels' song captures the heart of the Christian message "Glory to God on high and peace to people of goodwill – for God has come into the world". As we gaze on the nativity scene, we find in the figures of the crib the story of the authentic human response to Christmas. In the

shepherds is seen every struggle to survive and encounter God in a harsh and demanding world. The wise men represent affluence and learning, without arrogance or superiority, ready to humble receive rather than condescendingly parade knowledge. Then we see Joseph, the guardian of Jesus and Mary, representing all who act as our guardians, those who maintain order and administer justice. We have Mary, the mother, who nurtures the child entrusted to her, conscious of His every need, and remaining so until she stands at the foot of the cross, collaborating with Him in the work of salvation. The invitation to come to the crib ushers us into an encounter with the great joy of God in our midst. God is with us, always, everywhere. His name is Emmanuel, 'God-with- us'. His lowly birth means that He is within the reach of every person. We need to seek for the truth that dispels the darkness of our ignorance and the saving power of God's love made manifest in the person of Jesus Christ. The reality of Christmas is challenging us to live to the full, dying to the self as the centre of the world. A radical loss of self-centeredness and a transformation of our lives—the real hope of Christmas for a world of genuine Justice, Peace and Love. As we come together as a family of St. John the Baptist to mark this event with all its gaiety, I offer a warm greeting to all of you, dear brothers and sisters. May the birth of Christ the Saviour renew hearts, awaken the desire to build a future of greater unity and solidarity, and bring joy and hope to everyone. Wishing you all a very Happy and peaceful Christmas indeed!

Fr Timothy msfs
Administrator

Parish News...

Christmas and New Year Mass Times

<u>December 24th</u> Christmas Eve 6:00p.m. 8:00p.m. 10:00p.m.	<u>December 26th</u> Boxing Day 9:00 a.m.
<u>December 25th</u> Christmas Day 7:30 a.m. 9:15 a.m. (No evening Mass)	<u>December 31st</u> New Years Eve 6:00pm (Adoration) 7:00pm
	<u>January 1st</u> New Years Day 9:00am



Carols will be sung before each of the Christmas Eve Masses — 6pm, 8pm & 10pm.

Bus for Christmas Masses: The Parish bus will be available for the 6pm Vigil on 24 December and both morning Masses on Christmas Day. Please call the Parish office on 4341 1073 to book a seat.

Readers/Wardens for Christmas Masses: Please write your name on the lists in the servers sacristy if you can assist at any of the Christmas Masses.

Christmas Offering Envelopes: are in the church for those who do not have weekly envelopes.

Parish Office: Will be closed from Christmas day, reopening on Wednesday, 2 January 2019.

Garden Fundraising: Thank you to all the volunteer helpers & parishioners who raised \$1271 last weekend. Thank you also to Baker's Delight at Umina for their donation.

Volunteer Lunch: All you wonderful volunteers who keep this Parish functioning, are invited to a lunch on Sunday, 20th January, 2019 from 12 noon in the Walter Baker Hall. For catering purposes, please call the Parish office to confirm your attendance.

SVdP Christmas Appeal: Receipts available in the gathering area.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 28/12/18:

Christine French, Kevin Glacken, Laurie Jarvis & Cheryl Sillick.

Church Cleaning Roster 2019: Available for collection in the Leo Mahon Room.

Readers Roster for 2019: Will be available next weekend.

God's Word 2019—Daily Reflections Liturgical Diary: available in Piety stall discounted to \$10. Includes Readings of the day & reflections.

Conspirito Community Flute Ensemble: Thanks to all those who attended the Christmas concert two weeks ago. \$646 was raised for Mary Mac's Place.

Thank you from Joan. Joan would like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts and prayers over the last seven weeks. She is overwhelmed by such kindness, concern & affection.

During 2018, around 475 children from our Parish participated in **Special Religious Education** Classes. All year long, these children prayed for our Church Community. And now, at Christmastime, the children from Ettalong, Umina, Woy Woy and Woy Woy South Primary Schools continue to pray for you, asking God to bless you and your families with the joy, peace and love that is Christmas. The children wish you the happiest Christmas Season and a safe, healthy and hopeful New Year.



Plenary Herald

What do you think God the Holy Spirit is asking of us in Australia?

The Holy Spirit is alive and well in the hearts and minds of thousands of Catholics throughout Australia at the present time as they explore the parameters of a major reform of the church. The above question was addressed by about 25 women and 5 men of our parish recently in three dialogue sessions. I thank all those who gave their time to contribute so fruitfully to these sessions.

During the conversations at the dialogue sessions many disparate ideas about church were raised. We talked about the roots of Australian Catholicism, married priests and women in ministry along with the need to engage the younger generations in the life of the church and the importance of the family in the life of faith of the children.

Three dimensions, however, capture the spirit that would be, in the hearts and minds of the participants, foundational to a reformed church:

A lay ministry dimension. A church with instituted ministry not just an *ad hoc* temporary substitute for ministry; a genuine communion, a fellowship in which each person is empowered to minister to others; an all-inclusive church in which no persons, especially women, are no longer marginalised or excluded.

A gospel dimension. A church in which people are spiritual; contemplative; caught up in the mystery of communion, fellowship.

An outreach dimension. A church that has a clear sense of identity; a church that has an impact, through witness, on the society in which it resides.

A report building on the above three dimensions of the conversations will be made to the plenary council team. I would welcome any feedback from parishioners about the outcomes of the dialogue sessions. Please send me an email at bernie54@optusnet.com.au and I will include your thoughts in my report.

Over the Christmas period, cards will be available at the table in the Gathering Area to complete and forward your own submission to the plenary council team.

May the commemoration of the birth of Jesus bring many blessings to the lives of all people who are longing for the reign of God in their lives.



Salesian Thought

Through devotion, your family cares become more peaceful, mutual love between husband and wife becomes more sincere, the service we owe to the prince more faithful, and our work, no matter what it is, becomes more pleasant and agreeable.

Saint Francis de Sales

Welcome to all for

Membership of Fransalian Associates

Fransalian Associates are men and women who embrace the vision and spirituality of the missionaries of St. Francis De Sales (Fransalians), founded in Annecy, France by Peter Marie Mermier in 1839.

- To know about St. Francis De Sales
- To know about the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales
- To know the Spirituality of St. Francis De Sales

Please register your name with your phone numbers at the gathering table.

The First gathering of Fransalian Associates will be held on 6th January after the evening Mass at 7.00 p.m. Fr Mani Malana msfs will be our resource person for that day.

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.

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