

OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL EMERGENCY

0438 631 327

"He must increase, I must decrease"**Fr. Timothy Raj. M.S.F.S.**

Administrator

Office Staff

Helen Cameron & Raelene Spithill

SUNDAY MASS TIMESVigil 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 PENANCEFriday 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

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.auWebsite: 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**

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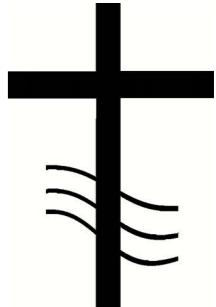
Gospel Acclamation *Alleluia, alleluia!* I will give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. *Alleluia!*

Readings: 26th May 2019

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29.

Keep Us In Your Prayers *OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF***Recently Deceased:** Bradley Simon, Conceicao Oliveira, Maria Gerada, Catalina Villacillo, Joan Giffney, Deacon Jim Caulfield.**Anniversaries:** Shane Bartley, Trevor Spear, Greg Glanz, Kevin Bemrose, Emanuel Grima, Luke Goodacre, Judy Goodacre.**Remembrances:** Mary, Katerina & Frank Justic, Anna Kim, Margaret Sullivan, Mary & George Hilliard, Hilliard Brothers, Kevin Mills, the Mills family, Bernie Hanna, Leslie Denning, Valerie Price & All souls in Purgatory.**Sick:** Vicki Pirie, Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morretti, Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis Aloisio, Olive Brittliif, 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 Chorazczevska, Ian Wilks, Carolyn Jupp, Ed Hyland, Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty, Mary Dolan, John Corrigan, Hanna El Khatib, Tim Parker, Lorraine Smith, Alison Richmond, June Townsend, Kathy Ward, Audey Barsenbach, Ken Joyce, Josie Weate, Ernie Mullins, Guy-Denis Farla, John Cregan, Francis Flanagan, Brooke Simmons, Dawn Torrens.**MAX'S CARPENTRY SERVICE****MAX ANNELL****qualified carpenter and joiner****0401 556 429**

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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****Fifth Sunday of Easter****19 May 2019, Year C (Psalter Week 1)****Gospel Reflection © Richard Leonard SJ.**

The word *love* has to be the most misused word in our language. We often say we love our house, our car, our holiday or even ice cream. Then we use exactly the same word to describe our feelings for our spouse, family, friends or children. If language is a window into meaning, then we are in strife at the loose way we transfer the same word for vastly different feelings and realities. At least I hope we feel differently about people over possessions. The way some people go on about their car, pets or money we begin to wonder.

The love Jesus encourages us to have in today's Gospel is a very particular love. He tells us not just to love one another, but to 'love as I have loved you'. The core of Jesus' love for us is sacrificial love, where he laid down his life that we might live. While love is a popular word, and even more popular notion, in our music, film, art and literature, sacrificial love is not something we hear much about these days or that we embrace very easily. Loving someone in the popular imagination has come to mean hanging in there until someone

better comes along, or we grow bored of each other sexually or personally. Often it entails keeping the exit door on commitment nice and handy for the quick get away. But this hardly describes a love that involves sacrifice.

Sacrificial love is demonstrated in deeds not words. It states that there is no point in saying we love anyone unless our actions follow the profession we make. Sacrificial love is not just about warm and fuzzy feelings; it is an intensely practical affair where our love is judged by our gentleness, kindness and patience with each other. Christian love is not arrogant or rude, it does not drag other people down, but rejoices and weeps when others are successful or downhearted. Loving as Jesus has loved means telling the truth with compassion, forgiving, working at trust and holding on to faith in the face of difficult times. Jesus does not promise us that this commandment is easy, just necessary if we are to love as he loves us.

While sacrificial love demands of us that we die unto self, Jesus never asked us to 'kill' ourselves. The distinction matters. All too often the Church has been guilty of giving out this teaching in a way that people thought they should put up with violent, undignified and soul-destroying behaviour from their spouse, children, parents, family or friends. Sacrificial love is never destructive. It is a free gift where we sometimes forego other options, opportunities and even good things for a love and life that is even better. The Lord laid down his life for us and in turn the Father raised him up to a glorified life. What's true for him is true for us. We lay down our lives for each other so we can take up a new and richer life. We are never meant to destroy ourselves or stay in relationships that rip our dignity from us. Sometimes the most Christian thing we can do is to set up boundaries or make decisions that protect ourselves from behaviour which is neither loving nor Christian.

May this Eucharist then grant us the wisdom to love people and not things. May it help us embrace sacrifice in a way that leads to life and may it give courage to sort out the relationships that affirm our dignity and help us grow in faith, hope and love.

Parish News...

First Holy Communion: Please pray for our children making their first Holy Communion at weekend Masses through to Pentecost Sunday.

Fr Philip's farewell gift: For those wishing to contribute, a leaving collection will be taken at all weekend Masses this weekend, 18/19th May.

Charitable Works Fund

An amazing \$7 386 was collected at CWf last week's appeal. We are so grateful for your kindness and generosity in helping our Parish reach our target of \$35 198. The money raised helps provide faith-based services to those in our local community. Donations \$2 and over are tax-deductible. Taxation receipts will be issued after the end of June.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 24/5/19:

Warren Sparrow, Christina Thorson, Tom French, Bev Whackett.

Children's Liturgy 26/5/19: Emma Baker, Anne-Maree Tonkin & Roselle Bravo.

The 2019 St. Vincent de Paul Winter Clothing Appeal will be held next weekend the 25/26th May. Bags for this appeal are available in the gathering area. Please give generously to assist the poor.

Morning Tea Roster 26/5/19: Catechists.

Cuppa and a Chat: A group of seniors meet every third Monday in the Leo Mahon room, due 20th May, 1.00pm-2.30pm. If you would like to join us phone Pat on 0403 672 077. Transport provided.

SVdP Volunteers Mass: Saturday, 25th May, 9am.

Farewell.. it is with mixed feelings that I advise that I will be leaving to commence a full time position with the Tax Office in Gosford on the 27th May. I thank you for the love, support, care & prayers you have given me & my family over the last 8 years. I thank Fr Timothy for agreeing to let me leave with such short notice (training date for my intake had already been set). Helen XX

Prayer for a New Bishop

Heavenly Father and Eternal Shepherd, you watch over and govern your flock with vigilance and concern.

In your immense love, grant to your Church a pastor who will please you by his holiness and aid us with his unfailing care.

In your time, grant us the joy of welcoming a shepherd formed after your own heart.

May he be an example of virtue to your people and, imbued with the power of the Holy spirit, fill their minds with the truth and beauty of the Gospel.

Grant wisdom, O Lord, to those now discerning your holy will in the selection of our new bishop.

We ask this is in the name of Jesus our Lord and through the intercession of our mother, Mary Star of the Sea.
Amen.



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(Opposite corner to our church)
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The World Community for Christian Meditation Australia (NSW)

INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

"Be still and know that I am God" psalm 46, v10

YOU ARE INVITED TO A SIX PART SERIES

LEO MAHON ROOM, ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH
BLACKWALL RD, WOY WOY

This free series provides an opportunity for those interested in finding out about Christian Meditation to experience the practice in a small group, to learn about its origins and the teachings of Fr John Main, and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer for the contemporary world.

Monday Evening: 6 – 7 pm

6 May, 13 May, 20 May, 27 May, 3 June and 17 June

For more information contact Marian: 0432 882 776

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.