

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



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

Readings: 3rd March 2019
Sirach 27:4-7; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45.
Readings can be found at www.usccb.org/bible/

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

Recently Deceased: Val McLenaghan, Patrick Mayne,
Cancio Fernandes.

Anniversaries: Marie Meyer, Bill Finlayson, Sid Flakelar,
Paul Hogan, Christina de Rooy.

Remembrances: Reg Hogan, Mary Drinan.

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, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig,
Sheila Rogan, Karen Chorazyczewska,Carolynn Jupp, Ed Hyland,
Carmel Diorio, Maureen Frost, Paul Smith, Ian Wilks,
Daphne McNab, Shirley Crotty, Mary Dolan, John Corrigan,
Anne Gan, Hanna El Khatib.

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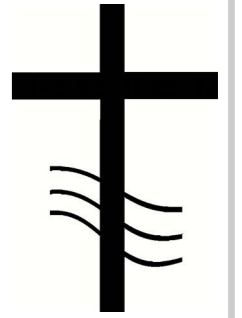
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WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

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



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

24 February 2019, Year C (Psalter Week 3)

Gospel Reflection © Fr Michael Tate



Imagine going to a foreign land and finding yourself amongst a people whose language you don't know, and whose customs you don't understand. You don't even know how to greet them, to eat with them politely, and so on.

And let us suppose that you had been born with a good ear for other languages, but had resolutely refused to cultivate it. You had spent your life in such a way that you never learned to speak that language.

Now, how unhappy you would be, how unfulfilled, how empty. Where you are might be a paradise, you might be surrounded by the most wonderful people, but there is no way you could share their life.

Some people say: 'Everyone will get to Heaven.' But I say: 'What would be the point for someone who could not speak the language, who couldn't live the life, who couldn't share the companionship of the other inhabitants?' He or she might be there, but would be reduced to muttering to themselves, which would be hellishly miserable. So, the task of life is to learn the language of heaven before we get there.

Jesus, in today's Gospel, challenges us to unlearn the language of the world – the everyday clichés and expectations and reactions, and to learn a language which is counter-cultural, paradoxical, perplexing.

'Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.'

'To the man who slaps you on the cheek, present the other one too.'

'Lend without any hope of return.'

'Do not condemn.' Etc, etc.

Are such attitudes and actions possible?

Our Lord is the best model, which is why we keep reading the Gospels.

Jesus is the language of Heaven spoken in a human life. Jesus is the Word of God in human history.

When men prepared to stone to death a woman taken in adultery, he refused to condemn her, and saved her life.

When others kept prostitutes and collaborators at a distance, he shared a meal with them.

When he was tortured and crucified, he cried out: 'Father forgive them for they know not what they do.'

That is embodying the language of Heaven.

That is the person with whom we have to be able to talk at the moment of death.

When we become aware of language malpractice, i.e., sinning, and if we become really tongue-tied, i.e., seriously sinning, we can come to the Sacrament of Confession and emerge articulate and conversant with Christ again.

We can talk with Our Lord again. We are singing the same tune.

Then, when at the moment of death we are on the borders of Heaven we won't be filled with trepidation as though we are entering a foreign land whose dialects and customs are so peculiar that we are utterly alone in the crowd – which is Hell.

Our intended destiny is not incommunicado, but comunicado, holy comunicado, holy conversation with God and with every creature.

If you want to be a conversation partner with God after death, practise the language of Heaven and 'walk the talk' every day.

Parish News...

Catechist Sunday: 3 March 2019

Catechist Sunday acknowledges the importance of the Church's teaching ministry. All catechists, including SRE catechists, Sacramental catechists, RCIA & RCIC catechists & Children's Liturgy of the Word catechists are invited to a special Mass on Sunday, 3 March at 9:15am. There will be a blessing ceremony & Mass will be followed by morning tea.

First Communion 2019. Information night for parents enrolling candidates, Monday, 4 March, 7.30pm in the Walter Baker Hall.

Palms for Burning: Please bring in old palms for burning and place them in the box provided.

Lent Begins: Ash Wednesday, 6th March. Masses 7.45am and 7.00pm. A School Mass at 12md will be held at 21a Dulkara Rd. Sth. Woy Woy. All welcome.

Fast and Abstinence: There are two days in which we are obliged to fast and abstain: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

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 8, 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).

Anointing of the Sick will be administered during 4pm Mass, Friday 1 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.

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.

Listening to God: Continues 12noon-2pm, Tuesday 26 February, in the Leo Mahon room. All welcome. "God wants to speak to us more than we desire to hear Him."

World Day of Prayer: Friday, 1 March. This years service will be held at 10.30 am St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 8 Jumbuck Crescent, Woy Woy. Followed by refreshments. Please ring Mary Ford on 0407911904 or our Parish office on or before Monday 25th February if you intend to come.

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 1/3/19: Mary McCumstie, Elena Egan, Linda Potestas, Warren Sparrow.

Bus Trip to San Souci. March 6th, leaving 8:45am. Cost \$20, morning tea provided. Lunch at St George Leagues club. Call Susie Casey 0403 417 639.

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).

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.



Please pray for the children of our Parish Community who commence their year's Scripture lessons this week. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide and encourage our Catechists.

Ask St Brigid to pray for all of us.



Fransalian Quote

"We must never undervalue any person. The workman loves not that his work should be despised in his presence. Now God is present everywhere, and every person is His work."

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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