



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

"He must increase, I must decrease" (Jn 3:30)



1st June 2025
The Ascension of the Lord

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

MASS TIMES & OTHER WORSHIP

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm

Sundays - 7.30am, 9.15am and 5.00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday - Friday: Morning prayer at 8.15am followed by the Mass at 8.30am

Saturdays & Public holidays - 9.00am

Healing Service

First Friday of the month during Mass at 4.00pm

Nursing Home Masses:

Hillview House—3rd Thurs of the month 10.30am

Peninsula Village—4th Thurs of the month 10.00am

BlueWave—2nd Fri of the month 9.30am

Reconciliation/Confession

Fridays—9.00am

First Friday of the month - 3.30pm

Saturdays - 9.30am and 4.30pm

Sundays - 7.00am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday evenings from 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Mon—Fri - 8.30am—3.00pm

Christian Meditation

Monday evenings - 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Marian Bowyer - 0432 882 776

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest

Fr Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.

Assisting Priest (resident in Wyoming)

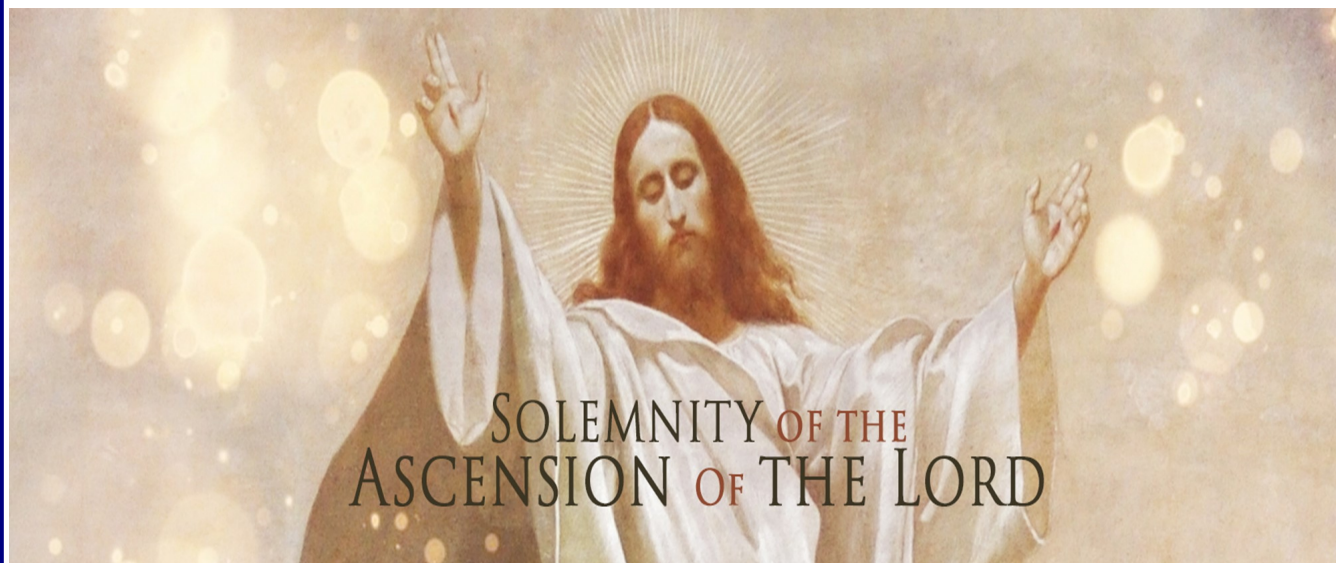
Fr Vincent Lourduswamy M.S.F.S.

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

P: 02 4341 1073

Emergency contact No. 02 4398 9076



Today's Gospel reading is the final verses of Luke's Gospel. When Jesus appeared to his disciples after his resurrection, he taught them clearly about what he had accomplished, and how this fulfills God's plan foretold in the Hebrew scriptures. Then Jesus commissioned his disciples to be his witnesses to the Gospel of salvation.

Luke's Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles together form a two-part work. Our first reading is the opening verses of the Acts of the Apostles. These verses form a transition from the events of Luke's gospel: "In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up." It is possible that "Theophilus" refers to a specific person. Or "Theophilus" could be understood more literally: "beloved of God." In the second case, Acts of the Apostles would be addressed to friends of God. Luke's Gospel is likewise addressed to "Theophilus."

These transition verses end with "but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit." Thus, these verses recall Jesus' teaching, his suffering and death, his resurrection, his "appearing to them during forty days," his ascension, and his command that they should remain in Jerusalem until they are "baptised with the Holy Spirit." This promise will be realised in Acts 2:1-13 during the Jewish feast of Pentecost – in which the Holy Spirit is poured out upon Jesus' followers.

Continuing: "When they had gathered together they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Jesus' followers anticipate the arrival of the "kingdom of God" – about which Jesus had taught frequently, and which the Messiah was expected to bring into being.

In Jesus' response to their question, he does not promise them the immediate arrival of the kingdom of God. Instead, Jesus promises them that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, which will enable them to "be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

After this, Jesus "was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight" – this is Jesus' "Ascension." "Two men dressed in white garments" speak to Jesus' disciples. These are angels of God, who promise that Jesus will return "in the same way" as he had departed. The second reading, from the Letter to the Hebrews, compares Jesus Christ to the high priest of the Jerusalem Temple. Today's reading shows how Jesus' actions are superior – he has entered heaven itself (instead of the Temple sanctuary), and he has offered his own blood as atonement for our sins. Further, Jesus' one-time offering of his blood (on the Cross) is sufficient for all time.

Jesus "will appear a second time." This refers to Jesus' second coming at the end of this age – so as "to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him." It is not necessary for Jesus to take away sin a second time when he returns – because he has already accomplished this for all time in his crucifixion.

"Therefore, brothers and sisters" – this introduces two exhortations. First: "let us approach with a sincere heart and in absolute trust." Our situation is being compared to the high priest who entered the sanctuary of the Temple. We are more fortunate because "through the blood of Jesus we have confidence of entrance into the sanctuary." Jesus, our great high priest, has reconciled us to God. Thus, a second exhortation: "Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession" of faith in Christ.

<https://evdiomessage.org/solemnity-of-the-ascension-of-the-lord-year-c-2/>

Parish News:

Urgent Call for Volunteers: We are in urgent need of the following volunteers: Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, Piety Stall, Readers, Senior Servers, Sacristans. If you would like to volunteer please register your details on the list in the Gathering Area. Full training will be provided.

Sacrament of Confirmation: The Sacrament of Confirmation is open to Baptised Catholic children who are in Year 3 at school or above and have reached the age of discretion (normally 8 years of age). There will be an information night this Monday, 2nd June at 7.00pm in the Walter Baker Hall, 100 Blackwall Road to enrol children in the Sacramental programme for Confirmation. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at St John the Baptist Church at 6.00pm on Thursday, 7th August.

Morning Tea: There will be a morning tea after 9.15am Mass on Sunday, 8th June organised by St John the Baptist School. All welcome.

Missionaries of St Francis de Sales Appeal: Fr Timothy is having an appeal for the Missionaries of St Francis de Sales to support their outreach and evangelisation work in Zambia. The appeal will be held this weekend and next weekend.

Cleaners for 6th June: Gay Tiansay, Christine French, Carmen T Hernandez, Laila Dawe.

Readers for 7th & 8th June:

Saturday 5.00pm—Dawn Torrens, Jane Rutherford, Paul Rutherford

Sunday 7.30am—Dorothy Fulton, Veronica Jordan, Joel Bajo

Sunday 9.15am—St John the Baptist School

Sunday 5.00pm—Marian Bowyer, Kris Aitken, Armella Dogillo

Servers for 7th & 8th June:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Jose Torres, Jenny Fitzgerald

Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French, Joesie Cameron

Sunday 5.00pm—Laurie Jarvis

Project Compassion and Holy Land Collection: Many thanks for your generosity. We raised the sum of \$4,593 for Project Compassion and \$3,153 for the Holy Land Collection.

Taize Evening: There will be a Taize Evening of prayer, song and silence at Holy Spirit Church Kincumber on Saturday, 7th June at 6:30pm. All welcome.

Spirituality in the Pub: The next meeting of Spirituality in the Pub is 7.30pm-9.00pm on Tuesday 3rd June at the Grange Hotel, Wyoming. Guest speakers are Ken Grice who always believed but as a boy two massive family traumas challenged his spiritual identity; and Glenn Solway who is a retired firefighter and former business owner that now volunteers in pastoral ministries and is a Facilitator in a 12 Step Self Help recovery programme. Hotel bistro opens at 5.30pm. SIP enquiries: 0415 129 250 or 0439 678 608.

National Reconciliation Week 27 May to 3 June: National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2025 theme, Bridging Now to Next, reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future.

Bridging Now to Next calls on all Australians to step forward together, to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us.

Craft Group: The craft group meets each Thursday in the Walter Baker Hall from 9.00am to 12.00pm. All welcome.

Parish Census Form: Welcome to all new parishioners. You can now collect a blank Parish Census Form from the Gathering Area of the Church. Please place completed forms in the Census Forms box or email to woywoyparish@bbccatholic.org.au. If you have submitted a form in recent times and your details haven't changed there is no need to complete another one.

Jubilee Year 2025 bbjubilee.com.au — “We must seek together how to be a missionary Church, a Church that builds bridges, dialogue, always open to welcoming... everyone with open arms—everyone who needs our charity, our presence, dialogue, and love.” Pope Leo XIV 8th May 2025

Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

Enrol Now

St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School is enrolling now for Kindergarten 2026. Other grades can apply at any time.

Book a tour and enrol today
www.sjbwwdbb.catholic.edu.au

Kinder 2026







LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them by many proofs after he had suffered, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While meeting with them, he enjoined them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for “the promise of the Father about which you have heard me speak; for John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.” When they had gathered together they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” He answered them, “It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.”

Responsorial Psalm:

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, Most High, we must fear, Great King over all the earth.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with a trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over all the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

R. God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Reading 2: Heb 9:24-28, 10:19-23

Christ did not enter into a sanctuary made by hands, a copy of the true one, but heaven itself, that he might now appear before God on our behalf. Not that he might offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters each year into the sanctuary with blood that is not his own; if that were so, he would have had to suffer repeatedly from the foundation of the world. But now once for all he has appeared at the end of the ages to take away sin by his sacrifice. Just as it is appointed that men and women die once, and after this the judgment, so also Christ, offered once to take away the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to take away sin but to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him. Therefore, brothers and sisters, since through the blood of Jesus we have confidence of entrance into the sanctuary by the new and living way he opened for us through the veil, that is, his flesh, and since we have "a great priest over the house of God," let us approach with a sincere heart and in absolute trust, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. Let us hold unwaveringly to our confession that gives us hope, for he who made the promise is trustworthy.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Go and teach all people my Gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Lk 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: “Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins, would be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” Then he led them out as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven. They did him homage and then returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God.

Readings for the Week:

Monday, 2nd June:

Sts Marcellinus & Peter - Acts 19:1-8/Ps 67:2-7/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday, 3rd June:

Charles Lwanga & companions - Acts 20:17-27/Ps 67:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11

Wednesday, 4th June:

Acts 20:28-38/Ps 67:29-30, 33-36/Jn 17:11-19

Thursday, 5th June:

St Boniface - Acts 22:30, 23:6-11/Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday, 6th June:

Sts Norbert & Marcellin Champagnat - Acts 25:13-21/Ps 102:1-2, 11-12, 19-20/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday, 7th June:

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 10:4-5, 7/Jn 21:20-25

Sunday, 8th June:

Pentecost Sunday - Gen 11:1-9/Ps 103:1-2, 24, 27-30, 35/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently deceased: Richard Brandham, Ken Dixon, Maurice Carr, Crispina M Mapula, Margaret Mowle

Anniversary: Louis & Rose Aloisio, Allan Roferos, Natalia Soler

Sick: Pat Anson, Jackie Ascic, Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Roberto Bocor, Fr Michael Brady, Rae Busby, Bill de Rooy, Anne-Marie Dixon, Marie Dixon, Iris Drewett, Marie Drewett, Aline Fauvette, Dymrna Fitzpatrick, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, David Hopkins, Bill Hunt, Marge Lawrence, Kay McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, Una Maloney, Tresa Mary, Ronald Matthews, Theresa Mitchell, Oscar James Moretti, Maureen Mullane, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Kenneth John Reddacliff, Fr Reggo, Anthony Salis, Brooke Simmons, Susie Simmons, Charlotte Stenson, Barry Tierney, Patricia Toohey, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Josie Weate, Pauline White, Janelle Whiteland, Melissa Wong, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

Be at peace.

Do not look forward in fear to the changes of life; rather look to them with full hope as they arise. God, whose very own you are, will deliver you from out of them. He has kept you hitherto, and He will lead you safely through all things; and when you cannot stand it, God will bury you in his arms. Do not fear what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you then and every day. He will either shield you from suffering, or give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, and put aside all anxious thoughts and imagination. St Francis de Sales

PARISH COLLECTIONS

1st collection: Goes to the Clergy Remuneration Fund for the financial support of the priests

2nd Collection: Funds the operational management of the Parish

You can also donate via Bpoint, which will take you to our Website for secure online payments. <https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/woywoyparish>

Name: St John the Baptist Parish Woy Woy

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