



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



16th November 2025
33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 DETAILS:

Address: 54 Victoria Road, Woy Woy, NSW 2256

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Phone: 02 4341 1073

Office Hours: 8.30am to 3.00pm M-F

Email:

woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest — Fr Timothy Raj MSFS

Assistant Priest — Fr John Prince VC

Parish Secretary — Triona Meagher

For emergencies requiring a Priest,
please call 02 4398 9076



This Sunday, we celebrate a truly blessed moment in the life of our parish community. We mark the **Year of Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope**, the 18th anniversary of the dedication of our new church building, and the 79th anniversary of our parish foundation. These are not simply dates on a calendar. They are milestones that tell the story of faith, sacrifice, and the grace of God at work among us.

The Word of God teaches: "This year shall be a jubilee for you; you shall return to your heritage and rejoice in the Lord" (Leviticus 25:13). Jubilee is a holy time. It is a time to remember that everything begins with God, is sustained by God, and returns to God. It invites us to look back with gratitude, to live the present moment with faith, and to look forward with hope.

We remember with deep appreciation all those who came before us: the first families who gathered with simple means and strong devotion, the priests and religious who shepherded this community, the parish leaders and volunteers who laboured to strengthen our ministries, and the many unseen, quiet workers who offered their prayers, time, generosity, and love to help build up the Body of Christ here. Their legacy is the foundation on which we now stand. We give thanks to God for every one of them.

Pope Francis reminds us that a parish is not only a place of worship but "**a home among homes**" where people encounter Jesus, walk together, and support one another in faith. Our parish is blessed with a long history of welcome, service, compassion, and love of the Gospel. That spirit is something we are called not only to remember but to continue. The mission is not finished. The work of the Kingdom goes on in us.

As we celebrate these anniversaries, I invite each of us to renew our commitment to being a living sign of Christ in our community. Let us continue to listen to the Word of God, celebrate the sacraments with devotion, reach out to those in need, support our families, encourage our young, and care for one another with kindness. Let us build not only walls and programs, but relationships rooted in the Gospel.

Saint Paul reminds us: "He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion" (Philippians 1:6). In this Jubilee Year, we are called to renew our mission as **Pilgrims of Hope** — to walk together, strengthen our unity, and build a parish that reflects Christ's compassion and joy. Let us continue to be a welcoming community where faith is lived, hope is shared, and love is put into action.

With gratitude to God and to all of you,
Fr Timothy msfs

Parish News:

WANTED URGENTLY

The Parish is seeking volunteers to take on the role of SACRISTAN.

We are looking for 5 men or women to share this very important role.

The Sacristan ensures that everything required for the celebration of Mass or any Sacrament is set out and ready to use.

FULL TRAINING WILL BE PROVIDED.

Diocesan Count of Mass Attendance:

The second Diocesan Count of Mass Attendance for 2025 continues this weekend and will conclude next weekend.

November Mass Offering:

The November giving envelopes are available for families to offer Mass for their loved ones. All proceeds will be sent to the Missions in Zambia.

Cleaners for 21st November:

Rosalind Stewart, Anthony Kearns, Pam Hickey, Mabel Torres.

Readers for 22nd & 23rd November:

Saturday 5.00pm Kate Bravo, Jane Rutherford, Maryrose Barlow

Sunday 7.30am Phoebe Glacken, Joel Bajo, Theresa Gibson

Sunday 9.15am Therese Carroll, Joesie Cameron, Dawn Torrens

Sunday 5.00pm Pio Savea, Armella Dogillo Lorena Lalor

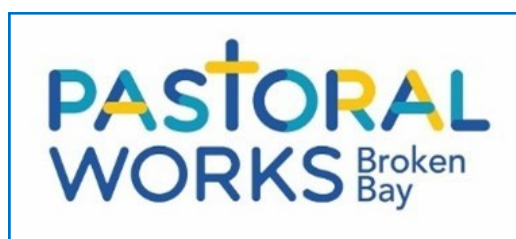
Servers for 22nd & 23rd November:

Saturday 5.00pm Jeff Freeman, Darrin Patterson

Sunday 7.30am Peter French, Pio Savea

Sunday 9.15am Hanaa El-Khatib, Bernie French

Pastoral Works Broken Bay November Appeal: Pastoral Works Broken Bay envelopes are still available in the Church and gathering area. Together, we bring hope and healing across our Diocese. Our quota for this year is \$32,973. All donations over \$2 are 100% tax-deductible. You can donate at any time using the QR code below.



Congratulations: Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Jim and Anne-Marie Dixon. May God the Eternal Father continue keep you, so that the peace of Christ may dwell in your home.

Sit n Chat: A group of seniors meet every 3rd Monday of the month in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. November's meeting is scheduled for this Monday. Please contact Jane for further information 0419 233 284. Transport can be provided if necessary.

Catholic Weekly: We are looking for a volunteer who would

be available to collect our copies of Catholic Weekly every Thursday from the newsagent at Ettalong and deliver them to the Church. Terry Murphy has very kindly been doing the collection for the last number of years and will take a break from duty. We are most grateful for Terry's time and effort.

Reinstitution of the Chalice at Communion:

The reinstitution of the Chalice at Communion will happen at the beginning of December. If anyone who served pre-Covid with the distribution of Communion would be willing to do so again, please contact the Parish Office.

Christmas Hampers: The PPC are bringing back Christmas Hampers. Over the coming weeks we will be calling for festive items to be donated for those who need a hand to make this time of the year very special. Please keep this in mind when shopping and watch out for further information.

CCD Annual Mass: Catechists, their family and friends, and Parishioners are invited to attend the CCD Annual Mass to celebrate our wonderful ministry and acknowledge the many years of service of our dedicated SRE catechists. Join us for Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara on **Saturday 22 November at 11.30am**. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to ccdadmin@bbcatholic.org.au.

St John the Baptist Men's Group: Meetings to be held the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month from 7pm-8pm in the Leo Mahon Room. Next meeting 17th November. For further information contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

Red Wednesday: You are warmly invited to Mass on **RED** Wednesday at Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Church, 94 Archer Street, Chatswood at 7.00pm to remember and pray for persecuted Christians around the world. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. **RED** November is a global movement led by the Catholic charity *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN), uniting people to shine a light on Christian persecution. One in seven Christians live in countries where they suffer persecution for their faith including intimidation, kidnapping, attacks on their churches, violence and even death. Cathedrals and churches around the world, including Our Lady of Dolours, will be lit in red, to symbolise the blood of martyrs, and also remind us that our prayers, support, and advocacy matter more than ever.

CC Philharmonia Choir Performance: Saturday, 29th November at 7.30pm at St John the Baptist Church. Vivaldi Gloria and other choral masterpieces. Tickets available on trybooking.com/DDXPX.

Carols in the Stadium: Our local Churches and Christian schools are coming together this year to create an exciting Christmas carols event. This will be a very special time for families and friends to celebrate the joy of Christmas under the stars in Gosford on Saturday, 20th December from 5.30pm – 9.00pm at Polytec Stadium, 14 Dane Drive, Gosford. Gates open at 4.30pm. For tickets visit carolsinthestadium.com.au or **Ticketek**. Adult tickets are \$10. Family tickets are \$25.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Nehemiah 8:2-4, 5-6, 8-10

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people—since he stood higher than all the people—Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered ‘Amen! Amen!’; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read. Then Nehemiah—His Excellency—and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, ‘This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.’ For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law. He then said, ‘Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.’

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple.

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes.

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding forever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock!

R. Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

Reading 2: Peter 2:4-9

Jesus Christ is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I have chosen and sanctified this house, says the Lord, that my name may remain in it for all time.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 2:13-22

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, ‘Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.’ Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, ‘What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?’ Jesus answered, ‘Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up’ The Jews replied, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the script and the words he had said.

Readings for the Week:

Monday, 17th Nov:

St Elizabeth of Hungary - 1 Macc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-64/Ps 118:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/
Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday, 18th Nov:

2 Macc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-7/**Lk 19:1-10**

Wednesday, 19th Nov:

2 Macc 7:1-1, 20-31/Ps 16:1, 5-6, 8, 15/**Lk 19:11-28**

Thursday, 20th Nov:

1 Macc 2:15-29/Ps 49:1-2, 5-6, 14-15/**Lk 19:41-44**

Friday, 21st Nov:

The Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary - 1 Macc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chron 29:10-12/**Lk 19:45-48**

Saturday, 22nd Nov:

St Cecilia - 1 Macc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19/**Lk 20:27-40**

Sunday, 23rd Nov:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - 2 Sam 5:1-3/Ps 121:1-5/Col 1:12-20/**Lk 23:35-43**

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently Deceased: Rolando B Cruz, Jane Filewood, Peter McCormack, Isla Metcalfe, Deacon Petelo Vaomua Savea

Anniversary: Pat Hennessy

Remembrance: Timothy Thurlow

Sick: Vincent Aarts, Jacki Asic, Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Roberto Bocor, Luke Bohun, Fr Michael Brady, Matthew Cooper, Bill de Rooy, Anne-Marie Dixon, Marie Dixon, Iris Drewett, Aline Fauvette, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Maureen Fotheringham, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Bill Hunt, Thomas J, Marge Lawrence, Peter McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, Ronald Matthews, Theresa Mitchell, Oscar James Moretti, Maureen Mullane, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Bill & Colleen O'Farrell, Marta Panczyna, Fr Reggo, Anthony Salis, Susie Simmons, Barry Tierney, Patricia Toohey, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Nigel Watts, Josie Weate, Janelle Whiteland, Melissa Wong, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

Pope Leo's November Intention:
For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts will find the support, care and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

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

BSB: 062 784 Account no: 10000 1742

Thank you for your generous contribution.

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DINNER TUESDAY TO THURSDAY & SUNDAY (4.30pm to 9.30pm)
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