



# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



**1<sup>st</sup> December 2024**  
**1st Sunday of Advent**

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.

### Assistant Priest

Fr Alex Peter M.S.F.S.

### Priest in Residence

Fr Vincent Lourduswamy M.S.F.S.

### Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

**P: 02 4341 1073**

**Emergency contact No. 0438 631 327**

**E: woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au**



## THE ADVENT JOURNEY

Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year, a time of joyful anticipation as Catholics prepare for the coming of Christ. The word "Advent" (in latin ad+venire) means "coming" or "arrival," and during this season, the Church invites us to reflect on three distinct aspects of Christ's coming: His Incarnation at Christmas, His presence in our daily lives, and His glorious return at the end of time. To guide us in this spiritual journey, the Church uses symbols that are rich in meaning, helping to deepen our understanding and experience of this sacred season.

### Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath, as we know it today, originated in 16th-century in Germany, but it became more widely used in Catholic tradition in the 19th century. Its use has since become an integral part of Advent liturgies and family devotions, symbolising the anticipation of Christ's coming and the light He brings into the world.

**Circle:** The circular shape of the wreath, with no beginning or end, represents the eternity of God and the everlasting life promised through Christ.

**Evergreens:** The greenery in the wreath symbolises eternal life, a reminder of God's unchanging nature and the hope of resurrection.

**Candlelight:** In Scripture, light symbolises the presence of God and His guidance. Jesus is often referred to as the "Light of the World" (John 8:12).

**Four Candles:** The four candles symbolise the four weeks of Advent, each representing a growing light as Christmas approaches.

**First Candle (Hope):** Often called the "Prophet's Candle," it reminds us of the hope foretold by the prophets, particularly Isaiah, who spoke of the coming Messiah (Isaiah 9:6-7).

**Second Candle (Faith):** Known as the "Bethlehem Candle," this candle symbolizes the faith of Mary and Joseph as they journey to Bethlehem, trusting in God's plan.

**Third Candle (Joy):** This is the "Shepherd's Candle" and is pink (or rose) in colour, symbolising joy. It is lit on Gaudete Sunday (the third Sunday of Advent), which reflects the joy of the nearing birth of Christ.

**Fourth Candle (Peace):** Called the "Angel's Candle," this candle represents the peace that Christ brings to the world.

### 2. Advent Calendar

The Advent calendar originated in the 19th century in Germany, where children would mark the days of Advent by chalking lines on a door or lighting a candle daily. It became a tool for teaching the faithful about the journey toward Christmas.

### Meaning and Symbolism:

Each day of Advent is marked with a small window or door on the calendar that can be opened to reveal a Scripture verse, an image, or even a small gift. The calendar emphasises the passage of time, the anticipation of Christ's coming, and a focus on daily reflection during this holy season.

**Parish News:**

**Morning Tea:** There will be a morning tea after 9.15am Mass next Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December to welcome Fr Johnson Gonsalves, the Provincial of the Missionaries of St Francis de Sales.

**Parish Christmas Dinner:** There will be a Parish Christmas Dinner on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm in the Walter Baker Hall. Please register your name on the list in the gathering area for catering purposes. All welcome.

**Sit n chat:** A group of seniors meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. December's meeting is out of sequence and is scheduled for the 9<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Jane for further information 0419 233 284. Transport can be provided if necessary.

**Mary Macs Place Hamper Wishlist:** Many thanks to all who contributed to the Mary Macs Place Hamper Wishlist. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



**Safeguarding:** If young children need to use the bathroom during Mass or events in the Church, please ensure that a parent or guardian accompanies the child. Should a parishioner have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Safeguarding Team Members: Jenny Dempsey 0438 423 293 or Margaret Dixon 0422 277 548.

**Cleaners for 6<sup>th</sup> December:** Gay Tiansay, Veronica Jordan, Rano Spiteri, Mimi Lambert.

**Readers for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> December:**

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

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken, Veronica Jordan, Joel Bajo

Sunday 9.15am—Don Matheson, Michael Dixon, Emma Baker

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

**Servers for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> December:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French, Jose Torres

Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French, Joesie Cameron, Joseph French

Sunday 5.00pm—Allan Moore

**Hour of Grace:** An hour of quiet prayer from 12 noon until 1pm on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December at St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy.

**Blessing:** There will be a blessing of the Jesse Tree after 9.15am Mass this Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**Funeral Announcement:** The life of Ester Aguilar will be celebrated at St John the Baptist Church on Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 10.15am with a viewing at 9.45am. We offer our sincere condolences to Ester's family and friends.



**Christmas Mass Times 2024:**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Eve**

5.30 pm - St John the Baptist School Oval

21a Dulkara Rd, Woy Woy

7.00 pm - Church

9.00 pm - Church

**December 25<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Day**

7.30 am

9.15 am

5.00 pm

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**MOZART'S REQUIEM**

With its origins cloaked in mystery and intrigue, Mozart's Requiem is a moving and dramatic choral masterpiece, an homage to life and death.

**Saturday 7 December 7.30pm**

St John the Baptist Church,  
125 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy

Adult: \$40  
Concession: \$35  
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[www.trybooking.com/CTYDL](http://www.trybooking.com/CTYDL)

Logos for Central Coast Philharmonia Choir, Evergreen West Gosford, and Central Coast Conservatorium of Music are at the bottom.

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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## **Reading 1: Jer 33:14-16**

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: "The LORD our justice."

## **Responsorial Psalm:**

### **R. To you I lift my soul, O God.**

O Lord, make me know your ways, Lord, teach me your paths, teach me to walk in your truth, for you are my Saviour and God.

### **R. To you I lift my soul, O God.**

The Lord is good and upright. He sows the path to those who go astray. He guides the humble in the right path. He teaches his way to all poor.

### **R. To you I lift my soul, O God.**

His ways are faithfulness and love, for those who keep his will and covenant. The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him, to them he reveals his covenant.

### **R. To you I lift my soul, O God.**

## **Reading 2: 1 Thess 3:12-4:2**

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen. Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God and as you are conducting yourselves you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

## **Alleluia:**

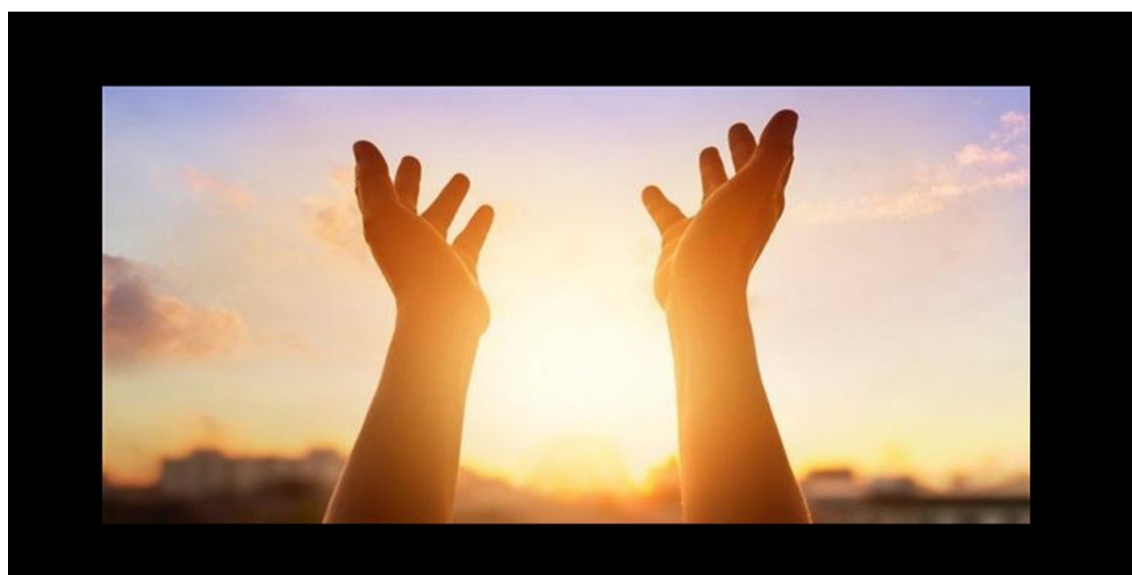
### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

### **R. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Lk 21:25-28, 34-36**

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."



## **Readings for the Week:**

**Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December:** Is 2:1-5/Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9/Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December:** St Francis Xavier - Is 11:1-10/Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> December:** St John Damascene - Is 25:6-10/Ps 22/Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> December:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 117:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27/Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> December:** St Nicholas - Is 29:17-24/Ps 26:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> December:** St Ambrose - Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 146:1-6/Mt 9:35-10:1, 6-8

**Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> December:** 2nd Sunday of Advent - Baruch 5:1-9, Ps 125/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

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**Let us keep in our prayers:**

**Recently deceased:** Ester Aguilar, Robert Baker, Thomas Clarkstone, Robert Shulze

**Anniversary:** Thomas & Annie Peachey, Margaret Wahlin

**Remembrance:**

**Sick:** John Aarts, Margaret Ayres, Alan Ball, Lorraine Blandford, Rae Busby, Marie Carr, Anne-Marie Dixon, Ken Dixon, Marie Dixon, David Hopkins, Hanaa El-Khatib, Aline Fauvette, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Janice Hayward, Bill Hunt, Kay McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, Oscar James Moretti, Robert Morrisset, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Kenneth John Reddacliff, Jacqui Scholte, Charlotte Stenson, Donna Vella, Pauline White, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December**

**For pilgrims of hope**

**We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.**



**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>

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**BSB:** 062 784 **Account no:** 10000 1742

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