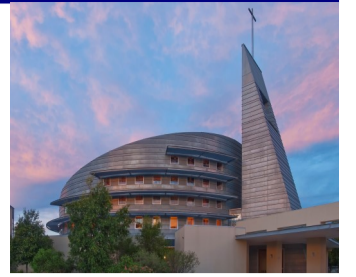




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church



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

1st September 2024

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time & Father’s Day

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

1 September—Father’s Day

3 September—St Gregory the Great

14 September—The Exaltation of the
Holy Cross

15 September—Our Lady of Sorrows

MASS TIMES & OTHER WORSHIP

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5.00pm

Sunday - 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 Mass

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

Friday—9.00am

First Friday of the month - 3.30pm

Saturday - 9.30am and 4.30pm

Sunday - 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



The subject of discussion between the Pharisees and Jesus, the notion of clean and unclean, is unfamiliar. It has nothing to do with hygiene. It has to do with an understanding of God’s holiness, where everything is ordered and in its place. Dirt on food utensils is out of place, but dirt in a field forms part of the fertile soil. Everything has its place. The people who follow God’s Law live within this system which orders all of life. Only those who are clean may participate in public worship. This system served Israel well maintaining the people’s identity in the face of external pressures from the dominant pagan culture of the first century Roman Empire. Jesus by challenging the purity laws, threatens the protection and security provided by these Laws to Israel. The hostile reaction of the Pharisees is not unexpected.

Many might be tempted to see in this Gospel a simple criticism by Jesus of external observances of the Law, or of external observances of the faith, attendance at Mass, praying the Angelus or the rosary, attending novenas. Jesus’ challenge is much wider than this – it speaks to all who try to manage their relationship with God. A common example of such management are the oft quoted remarks, “I live a good life”; “I don’t need to pray, because I help others”; and “Avoiding offending others is enough.” The measure of goodness is not always clear. Jesus warns of what comes when we put ourselves front and centre – our hearts ultimately become sources of vice.

Jesus points to another way, a way already indicated by the Law. Moses speaks of how other nations will admire Israel – the greatest source of admiration is Israel’s closeness of God. This closeness is not a fixed possession but only becomes apparent when the people call to him. This potential closeness noted by Moses, comes to a new intensity with the arrival of Jesus, God made flesh, God among us. The letter of James speaks of this relationship in perhaps one of the most intimate ways in the whole Bible – the Word is planted in us. When we call to God, we discover that he is not merely close, but within us, speaking to us his Word which leads to salvation and life.

This Word invites us into a living relationship. The Word is not a possession to be hoarded and ignored. As we call out to God, the Word responds and invites a response from us in turn. Jesus wants us to walk the road to salvation with him. If we acknowledge our failings, he will speak words of consolation. If we lose our way, he will cry out to us and call us back. If we stumble, he will raise us up. In short, Jesus wants us to be close to him, so that he can be close to us. It is through prayer, that he comes close and invites us into an ever deeper living relationship with him.

<https://glenstal.com/homily-22nd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-b>

Parish News:



Funeral Announcement: Fr Brian Rowland's life will be celebrated at St John the Baptist Church on Monday, 2nd September at 10.00am. Fr Brian will be a big loss to the Parish and we offer our sincere condolences to Fr Brian's family and friends.

Novena to Our Lady of Sorrows: We will begin our Novena to Our Lady of Sorrows on 6th September.

Fr Timothy's Annual Leave: Fr Timothy will be away from 10th September until 18th October and we wish him a safe and enjoyable trip.

Father's Day: We wish all our fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers and father figures a very happy Father's Day. Be assured of our prayers as you and your family celebrate the wonderful gift you are to them.



Morning Tea: St John the Baptist School will be hosting a morning tea after 9.15am Mass next Sunday, 8th September. All welcome.

Sicklist: We are updating our newsletter sicklist. If you would like your name or a loved one's name to continue to be included, please either put a note in the collection bag or contact the Parish office on 4341 1073 or woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au. Thanks.

Children's Liturgy: The term 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' (CLOW) refers to the practice of children leaving the Sunday assembly during the Liturgy of the Word and gathering elsewhere to celebrate a separate Liturgy of the Word that is more appropriate to their level of understanding. Children reflect on the Sunday Gospel, are led through prayers, songs and readings that are adapted to their level of understanding. Children respond joyfully in this celebration of God's Word, pray to God in their hearts and share their simple faith. In our parish, CLOW occurs during the Sunday 9.15am Mass throughout the school term excluding the 1st Sunday of the month. It is for children between the ages of 4 and 12. Children younger than this are welcome however they would need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Further enquiries contact Christine French 0431 765 401 or Frances Giunta 0414 274 402.

Building Refreshment and Maintenance Programme: We have commenced painting and we are starting to identify the extent of the maintenance and rectification required. As part of the process, we will need to identify and fix water leaks which will require roofing repairs and new plumbing works. Once the leaks are fixed, we will need to repair/replace gyprock and finish with painting. The plan includes all parish buildings on both sides of the road including the Church, Mary Macs, Walter Baker Hall and presbytery. Other secondary works we are considering include: Plumbing works – bore water supply for gardens,

Security – CCTV system and camera upgrade, general electrical – lighting (to reduce energy costs), air conditioning service – filters for ducting, tiling – fix repair tiles outside of Church, outside window cleaning, replace auto system for Church windows on level 1, renovation of meditation garden courtyard – timber deck renovation, upholstery for kneelers and seat cushions, kneeler repairs- stop brackets replaced and fixed where needed, general rubbish removal and tree removal. As you can see, we need a variety of talents including handyman skills to refresh our Church and buildings. For those of you who have put your name down (thank you) we will contact you soon to figure out your availability and determine how we can best use your talents. Also, we are happy to receive quality advice from qualified professionals in the parish who can assist with any of these works.

Cleaners for 6th September: Gay Tiansay, Mabel Torres, Maria Wickens, Laila Dawe.

Readers for 7th & 8th September:

Saturday 5.00pm—Leonie King, Marie Andrews, Jane Somerville
Sunday 7.30am—Joel Bajo, Veronica Jordan, Phoebe Glacken
Sunday 9.15am—Emma Baker, Maryrose Barlow, Therese Carroll

Sunday 5.00pm—Mayo Tripolone, Kris Aitken, Marian Bowyer

Servers for 7th & 8th September:

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



National Child Protection Week will run from 1st September to 7th September with the theme being 'Every conversation matters'. Should a parishioner have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Safeguarding Team Members: Jenny Dempsey 0438 423 293 or Margaret Dixon 0422 277 548.

Planned Giving envelopes: Planned giving envelopes for the coming year are available to collect from the table in the Gathering Area. If you would like to contribute to the Parish via planned giving envelopes please contact the Parish Office.

El Shaddai Prayer Group: The next El Shaddai meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 28th September from 12-4 in the Walter Baker Hall.

Support for the Catechists in Our Parish: Each deanery has a full-time co-ordinator who is the resources person for the catechists and is willing to assist you in any area of this ministry. It is these co-ordinators who conduct the training which is presented for you freely. This training can be done from the comfort of your own home, with reflection days and special workshop days where we gather with other catechists to pray, reflect and learn. The programme that is taught in the Diocese of Broken Bay is Walking With Jesus. Each volunteer receives a teacher's manual and a student's workbook. Every lesson is planned for you, and all the resources that you might like to use are listed and available from the resource centre. To find out more about becoming a catechist, phone Michael Tebbutt on 0437 440 169.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Deut 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people: "Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees which I am teaching you to observe, that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. In your observance of the commandments of the LORD, your God, which I enjoin upon you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations, who will hear of all these statutes and say, 'This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.' For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us whenever we call upon him? Or what great nation has statutes and decrees that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?"

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? Those who walk without fault; those who act with justice and speak the truth from their hearts.

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Those who do no wrong to their kindred, who cast no slur on their neighbours, who hold the godless in disdain, but honour those who fear the Lord.

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Those who keep their word, come what may, who take no interest on a loan and accept no bribes against the innocent. Such people will stand firm for ever.

R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Reading 2: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Dearest brothers and sisters: All good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change. He willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls. Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruit of his creation.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands. —For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully washing their hands, keeping the tradition of the elders. And on coming from the marketplace they do not eat without purifying themselves. And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed, the purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds. — So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him, "Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?" He responded, "Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written: *This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts.* You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile. "From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile."

He chose to GIVE US
BIRTH through the WORD
OF TRUTH that we might
be a kind of first fruits of
all he created.

James 1:18

Keep us in your Prayers—pray for the souls of:

Recently deceased: Ray Robinson, Fr Brian Rowland, Helen Tiltins

Anniversary:

Remembrance:

Sick: Lorraine Blandford, Ken Dixon, Marie Dixon, Aline Fauvette, Bill Hunt, Joseph King, Oscar James Moretti, Marta Panczyna, Kenneth John Reddacliff, Paulene White

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.



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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