



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



15th September 2024

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

15 September—Our Lady of Sorrows

16 September—St Cornelius & St Cyprian

21 September—St Matthew

21 September—St Pius of Pietrelcina

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

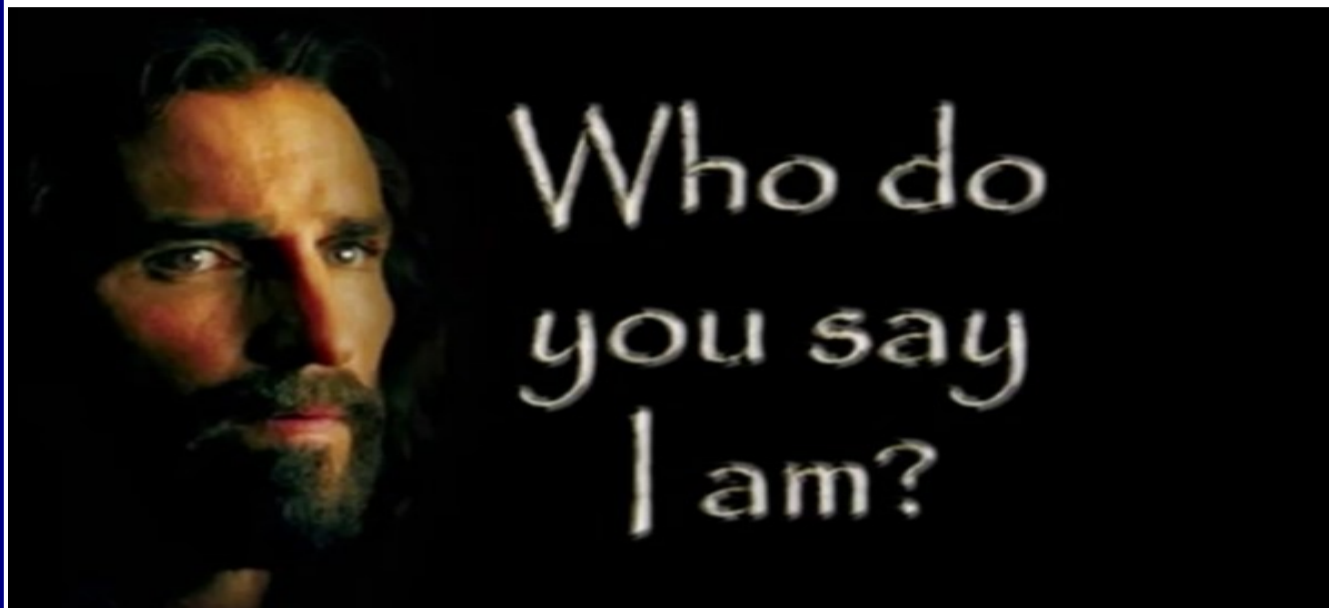
Fr Vincent Lourduswamy M.S.F.S.

Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

P: 02 4341 1073

Emergency contact No. 0438 631 327



Discerning God's will is central to Christian life, and though it's intended to birth clarity, it seems just as often to be a stumbling block: "Do I follow in the family business or go off on my own?" "If serving the poor in the city is such a good thing, then why am I so restless?"

You would figure Peter, of all people, would have a solid grasp of God's will. The rock of the Church, chosen to witness the transfiguration, Peter was as intimate with Jesus as anyone. For all this, or maybe because of it, he was full of self-will and quick to assert it. That tension between self-will and God's will is displayed in today's gospel reading from Mark.

On the road, Jesus questions the disciples: "Who do people say that I am?" Peter seems to perceive the truth: "You are the Christ." Jesus then explains how he must suffer to fulfill his mission as the Son of Man. As we might imagine a caring, if somewhat overzealous, friend doing, Peter takes Jesus aside and tries to dissuade him. "Get behind me, Satan!" Jesus answers. "You are not thinking as God does, but as human beings do."

The problem with self-will is its tendency to blur the presence of God here and now. Peter recognised the importance of Jesus but wanted things to coincide with his desires, his vision of how things should stand. By force of will, he tries to steer Jesus away from suffering.

Do we recognise elements of ourselves in this interaction? When things are going well and according to plan, we are content to pray, "Thy will be done." But are we as serene and trusting when our ambitions and life-trajectories get shot to hell? When relationships fall apart, when sickness or injury strike out of nowhere, when war or violence encroach? What is the will of God in these moments of terrifying powerlessness?

As a kid, I remember doing mazes to pass the time, making my way to the centre, trying to avoid the dead-ends. It seems many of us continue to view God's will for us as a maze which has one right path and a lot of dead-ends. If we take a wrong turn or make the wrong choice, we get stuck, which would explain the vocational anxiety nowadays; we think there's only one right way, and we need to get it perfect.

But what if instead we envisioned God's will for us as a labyrinth full of twists and turns that nevertheless lead to the centre? St Augustine famously preached, "Love, and do what you will." If love is our spiritual centre, then there are ultimately no wrong turns, no dead-ends. Even when we come up against what Sister Constance Fitzgerald terms "impasses," those times in our lives of faith when we feel trapped with neither a way forward nor a way back, Jesus continues to call: Let go of the life you thought you should be living. Love, then do what you will.

<https://uscatholic.org/articles/202409/a-reflection-for-the-twenty-fourth-sunday-in-ordinary-time-4>

Parish News:

Fr Timothy's Annual Leave: Fr Timothy will be away from 10th September until 18th October. Fr Vincent is looking after the Parish in his absence and will be joined shortly by Fr Alex when he returns from Warnervale Parish.

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.

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. This month's meeting is scheduled for Monday, 16th September. Please contact Jane for further information 0419 233 284. Transport can be provided if necessary.

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 16th September. For further information contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

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: Children's Liturgy 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 20th September: Jo Salter, Pam Hickey, Veronica Jordan, Rano Spiteri.

Readers for 21st & 22nd September:

Saturday 5.00pm—Leonie King, Olga Mhilli, Jane Somerville

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken, Isaak Giunta, Dorothy Fulton

Sunday 9.15am—Therese Carroll, Ingrid Stevens, Joesie Cameron

Sunday 5.00pm—Peter Smith, Lorena Lalor, Mayo Tripolone

Servers for 21st & 22nd September:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Rae Busby, Jose Torres

Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French, Jenny Fitzgerald, Joseph French

Sunday 5.00pm—Charles Kivunja

Planned Giving envelopes: Planned giving envelopes for the coming year are available to collect from the table in the Gathering Area.

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

Become a Catechist



Share the Good News of Jesus and your love of the Catholic faith with the children in the public schools.

Please contact:

Michael Tebbutt 0437 440 169

Email: woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au

or

Father Timothy Raj 02 4341 1073

Memory innovations Centre: Join Catholic Care Broken Bay at the Walter Baker Hall, 100 Blackwall Road on Fridays from 2nd August - 4th October 2024 @ 11.45am - 12.45pm. Let's Get Moving is a fun and engaging exercise group catering to all fitness and mobility levels. The exercises are designed to improve your cardiovascular fitness, strength and balance in a relaxed and social atmosphere. You will be using a variety of exercise equipment including dumbbells, resistance bands and balance equipment.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 50:5-9

The Lord GOD opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help, therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame. He is near who upholds my right; if anyone wishes to oppose me, let us appear together. Who disputes my right? Let that man confront me. See, the Lord GOD is my help; who will prove me wrong?

Responsorial Psalm:

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him.

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

They surrounded me, the snares of death, with the anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God deliver me.

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me.

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Reading 2: James 2:14-18

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, "You have faith and I have works." Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk 8:27-35

Jesus and his disciples set out for the villages of Caesarea Philippi. Along the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" They said in reply, "John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others one of the prophets." And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter said to him in reply, "You are the Christ." Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him. He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and rise after three days. He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it."

PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF SORROWS:

Compassionate Mother, Immaculate Virgin, look upon us with mercy. Help us in our daily trials and sorrows. For you are the comforter of those in pain and sorrow, you are the refuge of the abandoned and the shelterless. You are the hope of the depressed and the despairing. Have compassion on us and come to our help. You have known anguish and the bitterness of suffering and pain. Standing at the foot of the cross, you witnessed the agony and death of your beloved Son Jesus Christ. In deep sorrow, you held his dead body in your arms. As you had compassion for the sufferings of Jesus and suffered with Him and for Him, remember dearest Mother, these our particular trials and sufferings...

(Silently pray for our intentions)

Strengthen us, comfort us, intercede for us, and free us from every evil. Jesus died for us in torment and thus redeemed us through His death. Compassionate Mother, you had a great share in the mystery of the Incarnation. By the anguish of your heart and by suffering with Jesus for the salvation of mankind, you are the Holy Mother and Redeemer of the human race. Intercede for us that your Divine Son may grant us pardon, grace, purity of body and soul, and all the spiritual and temporal blessings, we now stand in need of. Amen.

Holy Mother pierce me through,
In my heart, each wound renew,
Of my Saviour crucified.

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently deceased: Ray Robinson, Fr Brian Rowland

Anniversary: Karen Chorazyczewska, Muara Demetria, Marie Moore, Seilala Na'ati, Ken Nomchong, Ruperto Potestas Sr

Remembrance: Bugega, Calleja, Catania, Edgecombe & Grima families

Sick: Lorraine Blandford, Anne-Marie Dixon, Ken Dixon, Marie Dixon, Aline Fauvette, Bill Hunt, Joseph King, Betty & Sean McDermott, Oscar James Moretti, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Kenneth John Reddacliff, Donna Vella, Paulene White, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar



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 climatic 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>

Name: St John the Baptist Parish Woy Woy

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

Thank you for your generous contribution.

Thank
You

READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Monday, 16th September: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 39:7-10, 17/Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday, 17th September: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31/Ps 99/Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday, 18th September: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13/Ps 32:2-5, 12, 22/Lk 7:31-35

Thursday, 19th September: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 117:1-2, 15-17, 28/Lk 7:36-50

Friday, 20th September: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 16:1, 6-8, 15/Lk 8:1-3

Saturday, 21st September: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 18:2-5/Mt 9:9-13

Sunday, 22nd September: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 53:3-6, 8/James 3:16-4:3/Mk 9:30-37



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DINNER TUESDAY TO THURSDAY & SUNDAY (4.30pm to 9.30pm)
FRIDAY & SATURDAY (4.30pm TILL LATE)

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