



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



6th October 2024

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

7 October — Our Lady of the Rosary

9 October — St Denis & Companions

11 October — St John XXIII

12 October — Blessed Carlo Acutis

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

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Therefore what
God has joined together,
let no one separate.
Mark 10:9

On this twenty-seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time, we are invited to reflect on the significance and importance of marriage and family institutions. Both are essential institutions founded on a genuine love for the sustenance of humanity. Unfortunately, in our time, these essential institutions are under serious threat. So, it is important to note that whatever threatens marriage and family life threatens love, unity, and the entire human existence.

Today, both our first reading and the Gospel strongly call us to uphold the sanctity of marriage and family life. They both remind us that marriage is instituted by God. So, it must be cherished and protected. However, it is important to note that it has its challenges, and these can be overcome through God's grace and good Christian virtues. Marital problems should be resolved mutually, and with godly intent to make amends. Often, we think that the best way to resolve the issues associated with marriage is divorce. This might seem a right and fast solution. However, it is not always the case.

Today's readings remind us that it is not the will of God for any sacramental marriage to be broken: "This is why a man must leave his father and mother, and join himself to his wife, and they become one body. So what God has united, man must not divide." One of the major causes of divorce is the inability to compromise and understand how best to live the marital life together. This simply translates to a lack of mercy, compassion, forgiveness, tolerance, and mutual respect.

Also, selfishness and greed often come with the sole intent to exploit the other. When the foundation of marriage is not built on honesty, truthfulness, mutual love, and prayer, there is little chance that it will survive the great storm.

There is also a lack of maturity on the part of the intending couples. By maturity, one means spiritual, physical, social, and psychological maturity required to enter this sacred union. It is important to realise that a marriage relationship is quite different from a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship.

So, it is important to note that today's increasing divorce rate is due to the little value attached to marriage. When we treat marriage as a commodity or an article, instead of as a Sacrament and sacred institution, it is bound to fall apart. Of course, this consequently affects both the family and society at large.

Finally, I sincerely sympathise with all those going through difficult times in their marriages. I pray that God will give them the grace, strength, and wisdom to move forward and find peace in their homes. Also, I pray that those intending to be united in this Holy Sacrament, through the grace of God, may find fulfillment in love.

<https://frcanicenjoku.com/2021/09/28/homily-for-the-27th-sunday-of-ordinary-time-year-b/>

Parish News:

Reconciliation Programme 2024: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is open to Baptised Catholic children who have reached the age of discretion (normally about 8 years of age) and have been Confirmed. A child who wishes to make their First Communion must first be prepared for and have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There will be a Reconciliation information night for parents and carers on Monday, 21st October at 7.00pm in the Walter Baker Hall, 100 Blackwall Road. Lessons will begin in the week starting from Monday, 28th October. Children will be welcomed into the Parish community during any of the Masses held the weekend of 26th and 27th October. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Friday, 15th November at 4.00pm at St John the Baptist Church.

Morning Tea: There will be a morning tea after 9.15am Mass this Sunday, 6th October hosted by the Filipino community. All welcome.

Sit n Chat: A group of seniors meet every 3rd Monday of the month from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. October's meeting is out of sequence and scheduled for the 14th. Please contact Jane for further information on 0419 233 284. Transport can be provided if necessary.

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.

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 will be this Monday. For further info contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

Children's Liturgy: Children's liturgy is on a break now for school holidays and will resume 20th October.

Building Refreshment and Maintenance Programme: The building refreshment and maintenance work is ongoing.

Cleaners for 11th October: Rano Spiteri, Jo Salter, Lana Berg, Christine French.

Readers for 12th & 13th October:

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

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

Sunday 9.15am—Maryrose Barlow, Wendy Whiteman, Emma Baker

Sunday 5.00pm—Kris Aitken, Pio Savea, Marian Bowyer

Servers for 12th & 13th October:

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

El Shaddai Prayer Group: Next meeting is scheduled for Sat, 26th Oct from 12pm-4pm in the Walter Baker Hall.

Cash Housie at Peninsula Community Centre, Saturdays 7.00pm, 93 McMasters Road, Woy Woy. Proceeds benefit the Parish.



Mary Mac's Fundraiser:

For further information please contact Casey Williams casey@wiseberrypeninsula.com.au.



Vigil of Prayer for Peace: From Rome, Bishop Anthony has asked that we gather as a Diocese and pray for peace. He urges us to invoke the intercession of Mary, Mother of God, by praying the Rosary individually, in families, groups and communities. To this end, on behalf of Bishop Anthony, Fr David Ranson will lead a Vigil of Prayer for Peace at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara on the evening of Monday, 7th October at 8.00pm. It is the feast day of Our Lady of the Rosary. The Vigil will include the Rosary.

First Class Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis: The Parish of Our Lady of Dolours Chatswood has been honoured by the reception of a First Class relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis, who will be canonised in the Jubilee Year 2025. Bishop Anthony has designated our Church as a Shrine of Hope for young people through the coming Jubilee. There is a warm welcome to everyone to join us on the evening of Friday 11th October, the Vigil of the Feast day of Blessed Carlo, and in the novena anticipating this event, as our Parish formally receives his relic and assumes its new task as a shrine of Hope. In the lead-up to our celebration of the vigil of Blessed Carlo Acutis' Feast Day, we invite you to join us in an online novena, reflecting on, and giving thanks for the life of Carlo. The novena will be from 3rd to 10th October with the final day of the Novena being prayed in person at the vigil celebration on 11th October. Please join us when you are available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84776329194> Meeting ID: 847 7632 9194, no password. The Feast Day Vigil Mass, Veneration of Relic, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 7pm on Fri 11th October. After Mass everyone will have an opportunity to venerate the relic of Blessed Carlo. Once Adoration has finished, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will occur all night, finishing at 9am on Saturday 12th October—Fr David Ranson.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Gen 2:18-24

The LORD God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him." So the LORD God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each of them would be its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all wild animals; but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man. So the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The LORD God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman, ' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken." That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one flesh.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

R. May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive gathered around your table.

R. May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.

Indeed thus shall be blessed those who fear the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life.

R. May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.

May the Lord be gracious to you all the days of your life. May you see your children's children, and may peace be on Israel.

R. May the Lord bless us, all the days of our lives.

Reading 2: Heb 2:9-11

Brothers and sisters: He "for a little while" was made "lower than the angels, " that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting that he, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the leader to their salvation perfect through suffering. He who consecrates and those who are being consecrated all have one origin. Therefore, he is not ashamed to call them "brothers."

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mk 10:2-16

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, *God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." And people were bringing children to him that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he became indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 7th October: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 110:1-2, 7-10/Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday, 8th October: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 138:1-3, 13-15/Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday, 9th October: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 116/Lk 11:1-4

Thursday, 10th October: Gal 3:1-5/Ps Lk 1:69-75/Lk 11:5-13

Friday, 11th October: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 110:1-6/Lk 11:15-26

Saturday, 12th October: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 104:2-7/Lk 11:27-28

Sunday, 13th October: Wis 7:7-11/Ps 89:12-17/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-27



Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently deceased: Deacon Peter Harrison, Vassula Ryden

Anniversary: Charles Dreis, Dora Vera

Remembrance: Elizabeth Carr, Bruno de Souza, Alfred & Lydia Dreis

Sick: Margaret Ayres, Alan Ball, Lorraine Blandford, Anne-Marie Dixon, Ken Dixon, Marie Dixon, Aline Fauvette, Dymrna Fitzpatrick, Bill Hunt, Joseph King, Kay McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, Oscar James Moretti, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Kenneth John Reddacliff, Charlotte Stenson, Donna Vella, Pauline White, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October

For a shared mission

We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.



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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