



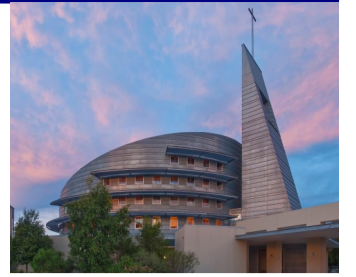
WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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

19th January 2025

2nd 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 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.

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Even though we have left the Christmas season behind us, and taken down the decorations, today we have heard of a third moment of Epiphany, when, by turning the water into wine, Jesus revealed himself to his own friends: '[He] revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him'. It doesn't say that the disciples were merely impressed with or intrigued by Jesus. It says that they 'believed in him'. Believed what, I wonder? Believed in him as the 'Word made flesh'? Believed in him as the revelation of God's glory 'as of a father's only son'? Believed in him as the one from whose 'fullness we have all received'? That is how the Gospel speaks of Jesus just a few verses earlier, so there's a good chance that this is what the author is speaking about when he says the disciples 'believed in him'. I find it really striking, then, that despite this moment of epiphany, the disciples' belief in Jesus was not perfect or tidy – not even remotely. This story is from Chapter 2 of St John's Gospel and the remaining nineteen chapters recount numerous instances where the disciples seem to have lost that belief, misunderstood it, or forgotten it. The miracle at Cana was the first of his signs. There were many more, and the Gospel of John speaks of several. Yet, despite their belief in him, and witnessing these signs, and hearing his teaching, most of the disciples fled when Jesus was arrested on the eve of his Crucifixion; and of the two who remained, Peter denied him three times.

Looking at the Gospel as a whole, it would be easy to caricature the disciples as stupid or fickle – as cartoon characters, who, despite blindingly obvious evidence, just don't 'get' it. But the Gospel says clearly that when Jesus revealed his glory in Cana, they really did 'believe' in him. This reminds us that faith – belief – is something that needs to be nourished and fed. It needs to be worked at. We all have moments when we struggle to believe. Faced with famines and natural disasters, our confidence in the loving kindness – or even the existence – of God can be shaken. Also, just like the disciples, fear or temptation can cause us to ignore him. Or less dramatically, we can simply get careless and forget about God – clinging to the badge of belonging to the Church, or the parish – or even the religious community – without considering the implications of what we profess to believe.

The miraculous transformation of water into wine was the first of many signs given by the Lord Jesus. But signs don't exist in a vacuum. A sign can only function as a sign if someone sees it. The many signs and wonders that characterised the ministry of the Lord and which we encounter in the scriptures are for us – to show us who he is – to, as the Gospel says, 'reveal his glory'. We need those signs, because believing in God's goodness, and in the astonishing news that 'the Word became flesh and lived among us' is not something we do just once. It is something we need to do afresh every single day and his signs help point us in the right direction.

When told about the wine shortage, Jesus, answered his mother somewhat sharply, declaring that his hour had not yet come. His hour came not in Cana, but some years later, outside Jerusalem – at Calvary. That was the reality to which the sign in Cana was pointing: when he would transform not water into wine, but death into life. That was the true and ultimate revelation of his glory – the true Epiphany. It is that mystery which is made present every time we gather around the altar.

'From his fullness we have all received...'

<https://glenstal.com/homily-2nd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-c/>

Parish News:

The Feast of St Francis de Sales is celebrated on the 24th of January. We are praying a Novena in his honour at every Mass. On the Feast Day, Mass will be celebrated at 8.30am and 5.00pm. After 5.00pm Mass there will be a supper served in the Walter Baker Hall. All welcome. Please register your name on the list in the Gathering Area for catering purposes.

Cleaners for 24th January: Jo Salter, Amanda Gray, Andrew Hopkins, Maria Wickens.

Readers for 25th & 26th January:

Saturday 5.00pm—Marie Andrews, Maryrose Barlow, Jane Rutherford

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

Sunday 9.15am—Christine French, Emma Baker, Michael Dixon

Sunday 5.00pm—Lorena Lalor, Kris Aitken, Marian Bowyer

Servers for 25th & 26th January:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French, Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson, Bernie French, Joseph French

Sunday 5.00pm—Charles Kivunja

Readers' Roster: Copies of the latest readers' roster are available in the sacristy.

Sit n Chat: The next Sit n Chat is scheduled for Monday 20th January. Please contact Jane for further information 0419 233 284.

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 20th January. For further information contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

Youth and Young Adults Formation Day Pymble Saturday

15 February 2025: A Formation day for Youth and Young Adult Ministry Leaders in the Diocese, led by Mission Broken Bay and hosted by Pymble Parish will be held on Saturday 15 February 2025. The day's programme is a repeat of the recent Formation Day held in Gosford and is an opportunity to engage with those who were unable to attend. Please email mission@bbcatholic.org.au.

Broken Bay Pilgrimage Assisi Rome October 2025: In early February, Mission Broken Bay will launch a ten day Broken Bay pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome with Chaplain, Fr Hien Vu on 1-10 October 2025. Included in this pilgrimage will be Mass with Bishop Anthony in Rome, visits to the Holy Doors and participation in the Vatican celebrations for the Jubilee of Consecrated Life 8-9 October. Enquiries mission@bbcatholic.org.au.

From Pope Francis' Message for the 57th World Day of Social Communications (2023): "A brilliant intellectual, fruitful writer and profound theologian, Francis de Sales was Bishop of Geneva at the beginning of the XVII century

during difficult years marked by heated disputes with Calvinists. His meek attitude, humanity and willingness to dialogue patiently with everyone, especially with those who disagreed with him, made him an extraordinary witness of God's merciful love. One could say about him: "A pleasant voice multiplies friends, and a gracious tongue multiplies courtesies" (Sir 6:5). After all, one of his most famous statements, "heart speaks to heart", inspired generations of faithful, among them Saint John Henry Newman, who chose it as his motto, Cor ad cor loquitur. One of his convictions was, "In order to speak well, it is enough to love well". It shows that for him communication should never be reduced to something artificial, to a marketing strategy, as we might say nowadays, but is rather a reflection of the soul, the visible surface of a nucleus of love that is invisible to the eye. "It is from this "criterion of love" that, through his writings and witness of life, the saintly Bishop of Geneva reminds us that "we are what we communicate". This goes against the grain today, at a time when — as we experience especially on social media — communication is often exploited so that the world may see us as we would like to be and not as we are. "May people who work in communications feel inspired by this saint of tenderness, seeking and telling the truth with courage and freedom and rejecting the temptation to use sensational and combative expressions."

Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Is 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not be silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her vindication shines forth like the dawn and her victory like a burning torch. Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory; you shall be called by a new name pronounced by the mouth of the LORD. You shall be a glorious crown in the hand of the LORD, a royal diadem held by your God. No more shall people call you "Forsaken," or your land "Desolate," but you shall be called "My Delight," and your land "Espoused." For the LORD delights in you and makes your land his spouse. As a young man marries a virgin, your Builder shall marry you; and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride so shall your God rejoice in you.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord, all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name.

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: "Our God is King." He will judge the peoples in fairness.

R. Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

Reading 2: 1 Cor 12:4-11

Brothers and sisters: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. To one is given through the Spirit the expression of wisdom; to another, the expression of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit; to another, mighty deeds; to another, prophecy; to another, discernment of spirits; to another, varieties of tongues; to another, interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them individually to each person as he wishes.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God has called us through the Gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 2:1-11

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus told them, "Fill the jars with water." So they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter." So they took it. And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine, without knowing where it came from — although the servers who had drawn the water knew —, the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one; but you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee and so revealed his glory, and his disciples began to believe in him.



Readings for the Week:

Monday, 20th January:

St Fabian & St Sebastian - Heb 5:1-10/Ps 109:1-4/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday, 21st January:

St Agnes - Heb 6:10-20/Ps 110:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday, 22nd January:

St Vincent - Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 109:1-4/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday, 23rd January:

Heb 7:25-8:6/Ps 39:7-10, 17/Mk 3:7-12

Friday, 24th January:

St Francis de Sales - Heb 8:6-13/Ps 84:8, 10-14/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday, 25th January:

The conversion of St Paul - Acts 2:3-16/Ps 116:1-2/Mk 16:15-18

Sunday, 26th January:

Australia Day - Neh 8:2-6, 8-10/Ps 18:8-10, 15/1 Cor 12:12-30/Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently deceased: Noel Bjorndahl, Benedetto Bortone, Jean Carr, Kerri Lane, Charles Law, Margaret Penfold

Anniversary: Edward Luxford

Remembrance: Charlie Grima, Joseph Kasunic

Sick: John Aarts, Margaret Ayres, Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Rae Busby, Marie Carr, Anne-Marie Dixon, Ken Dixon, Marie Dixon, David Hopkins, Aline Fauvette, Dymna Fitzpatrick, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Janice Hayward, Bill Hunt, Linda Italiano, Josephine Kennedy, Marge Lawrence, Kay McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, Oscar James Moretti, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Marta Panczyna, Kenneth John Reddacliff, Susie Simmons, Charlotte Stenson, Barry Tierney, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Josie Weate, Pauline White, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January

For the right to an education

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.



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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