



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



21st January 2024
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

24 Jan—St Francis de Sales

26 Jan—Sts Timothy and Titus

28 Jan—St Thomas Aquinas

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

Divine Will Cenacle

Thursdays - 9.15am -10.45am

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.

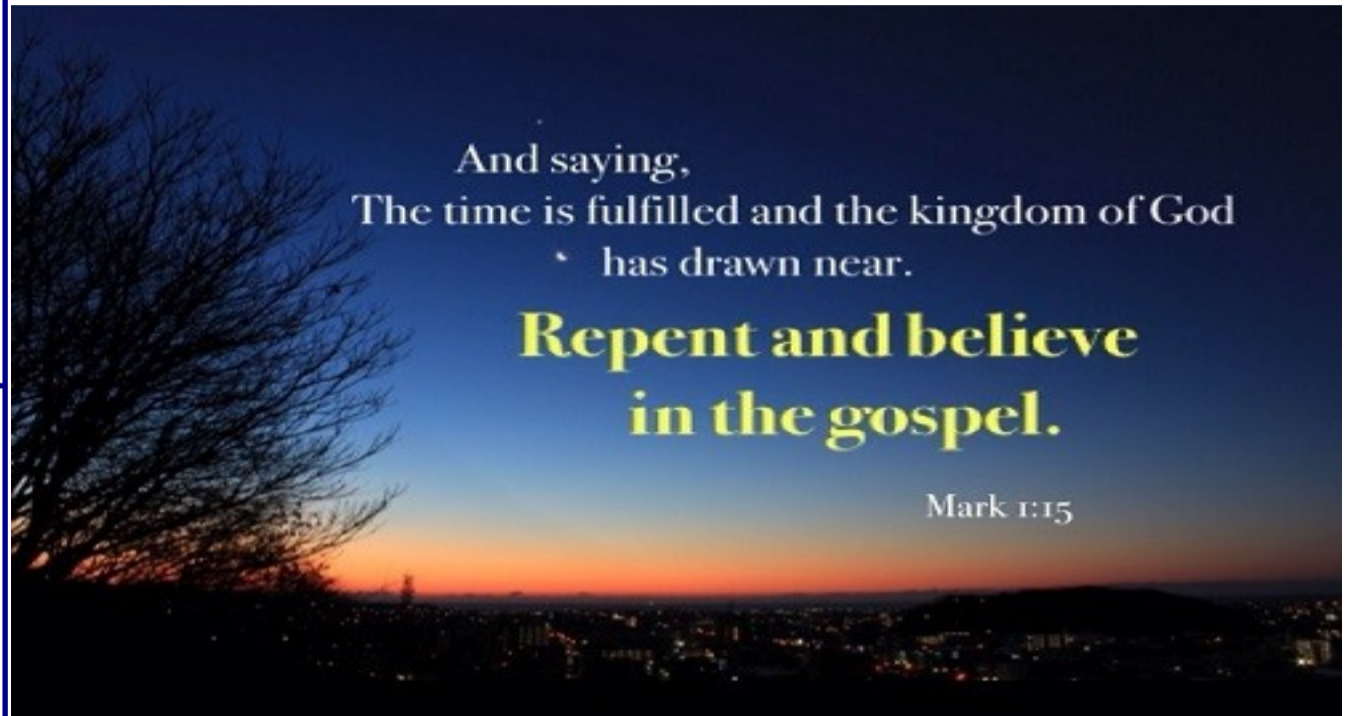
Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

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DIVINE GUIDANCE AMIDST UNCERTAINTIES

The readings for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B invite us to be transformed by the call of Jesus. In the first reading, Jonah hears God's call and sets off for Nineveh. The psalm asks God to show us the path he desires for us. The second reading tells us that the world as we know it is passing away. The Gospel recounts Jesus call for repentance and the call of Simon Peter and Andrew.

- **Call to Repentance and Conversion:** Both Jonah's message to Nineveh and Jesus' proclamation in the Gospel emphasise the need for repentance. This theme invites the faithful to reflect on their own lives and the need for ongoing conversion.
- **Divine Mercy and Forgiveness:** The story of Nineveh's redemption highlights God's mercy and readiness to forgive when people turn away from their wrongdoings and seek His forgiveness.
- **Guidance and Trust in God:** Psalm 25 speaks to seeking and trusting in God's guidance, emphasising the importance of humility and faith in God's paths and truths.
- **The Urgency of the Gospel Call:** The immediacy with which the disciples respond to Jesus' call in the Gospel of Mark reflects the urgent nature of embracing the Gospel and following Christ.
- **Transience of Worldly Life:** In the second reading from 1 Corinthians, there is an emphasis on the fleeting nature of earthly experiences and the importance of focusing on eternal truths.
- **Vocation and Discipleship:** The call of the first disciples illustrates the concept of vocation and the transformative journey of following Jesus, changing one's life direction to align with His mission.
- **God's Kingdom is at Hand:** Jesus' proclamation that the kingdom of God is near invites reflection on the presence and reality of God's kingdom in our lives and world.

<https://young-catholics.com/3119/3rd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-b/>

We, The Woy Woy Catholic Parish acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

Parish News: A very Happy Birthday to Fr Timothy who celebrates his birthday on 24th January. May God bless him today and forever.

Australia Day: Friday, 26th January is a Public Holiday. Morning Mass will be at 9.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Parish Office will be closed for the day.



Pastoral Works Broken Bay: This weekend we are having a collection for the Pastoral Works Broken Bay Fund. The collection was postponed last month. The shortfall for the current financial year stands at \$28,759. Please give generously.

The Feast of St Francis de Sales is celebrated on the 24th of January. We are currently having a Novena in his honour during every Mass. On his Feast Day, Mass will be celebrated at 8.30am and 6.00pm. After the 6.00pm Mass, there will be a light supper in the Walter Baker Hall. All welcome. Feel free to bring a plate. Please register your name on the list in the Gathering Area for catering purposes.

Volunteer Readers and Acolytes: We are looking for Readers and Acolytes for Sunday Masses. If you are interested, please register your name and contact details on the list on the table in the Gathering Area.

Cleaners for 26th January: Jo Salter, Brian Nairn, Andrew Hopkins, Maria Wickens.

Readers for 27th & 28th January:

Saturday 5.00pm—Kate Bravo & Mabel Torres

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken & Dorothy Fulton

Sunday 9.15am—Don Matheson & Michael Dixon

Sunday 5.00pm—Peter Smith & Lorena Lalor

Servers for 27th & 28th January:

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman & Darrin Patterson

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French & Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French & Jenny Fitzgerald

Sunday 5.00pm—Laurie Jarvis

Safeguarding Team: Should a parishioner have any safeguarding concerns please contact our Safeguarding Team Members: Jenny Dempsey 0438 423 293 or Margaret Dixon 0422 277 548.



Baptism: We warmly welcome Karla Fish, Emma Gaston and Vincent Porter who will be Baptised this weekend.



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

El Shaddai: The next El Shaddai meeting will be held Sat, 27th January from 12.00pm-4.00pm in the Walter Baker Hall.

Parish Census: We are in the process of updating our records. You can now collect a blank Parish Census Form from the Gathering Area of the Church. Please place

completed forms in the Census Forms box or email to woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au. If you have submitted a form in recent times, and your details haven't changed, there is no need to complete another one. Thanks.

Know your Parish Priest Fr Timothy Raj: Maria Timothy Raj Irdhya Swamy (Fr Timothy) was born on 24th January 1966 in Coimbatore, India. He is from a family of 7 boys and was ordained a Fransalian priest on 9th May, 1996 in Coimbatore. His first appointment in 1996 was as Assistant Priest at the Holy Redeemer Church in Mumbai. He became the Priest in Charge there in 1997 and spent a correspondence year in Snehalaya Pune from 2000-2001. From Pune he moved to St Peter's Church, Rajasthan where he was the Assistant Priest for a year. He took up the position of Parish Priest and Manager at St Francis de Sales Church in Mumbai in June 2002 and served there for four years. The next position was as Priest in Charge at St Francis de Sales Church, Mumbai and he spent eight years there. Fr Timothy joined the Diocese of Broken Bay and arrived in Australia in August 2014. He spent a little time in Our Lady of the Rosary Waitara before joining the Parish of Woy Woy as Assistant Priest in April 2015. He became the Administrator in the Parish in January 2017 and is now Parish Priest for a term of six years beginning 1st January 2024. We give thanks for all that Fr Timothy does in our Parish and may God continue to bless him for his faithful Ministry.

Prayer to St Francis de Sales: Dear St Francis de Sales, by



your life and in your writings, you teach us to follow Christ by loving God, our Father, and all other persons, our brothers and sisters. Obtain for us the grace to be led by the Holy Spirit, so that we show our love for God by fidelity to prayer, by diligence in our work

and by our cheerful service to others. Teach us to be patient and forgiving, kind and helpful to all. Help us to face the difficulties and sufferings of life with hearts full of trust in God, our ever loving Father.

Dear St Francis, while on earth you were always ready to help those in need. Come to our aid and obtain for us from God, through the intercession of Our Lady, the special grace for which we now pray. *(Pause)* O gentle St Francis, bless our home with your presence. May our hearts glow with love for God and a sincere concern for others, so that our lives may show in word and deed the blessings of your patronage. Amen.

Let us pray: O God, who for the salvation of souls, was pleased that blessed Francis, your confessor and Bishop, became all to all men. Mercifully grant that being plentifully enriched with the sweetness of your charity, by the help of his merits, we may obtain life everlasting. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

 **LITURGY OF THE WORD**

Reading 1: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah, saying: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to it the message that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Now Nineveh was an enormously large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed, " when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on sackcloth. When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

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

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Remember your mercy, O Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray. In the right path he guides the humble; he teaches his way to the poor.

R. Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Reading 2: 1 Cor 7:29-31

I tell you, brothers and sisters, the time is running out. From now on, let those having wives act as not having them, those weeping as not weeping, those rejoicing as not rejoicing, those buying as not owning, those using the world as not using it fully. For the world in its present form is passing away.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The kingdom of God is near: believe the Good News!

R. Alleluia.

Gospel: Mk 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.



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

Recently deceased: Fr Bill Aliprandi, Sr Assunta Marigliano, Hailey Tomkins, Josateki Tuilekutu

Anniversary:

Remembrance: Maria Linda Cabatingan, Dr John Connolly, Kevin Easterbrook, Charlie Grima

Sick: Melissa Bezzina, Lisa Ryan, Marie Head, Lisa Yeo, Marta Panczyna, Oscar James Moretti, Linda Italiano, Eneio Wolfgram, Emma Matthews, Eileen Jones, Kathleen Bezzina, Moya Jones, Chris Mitchell, Trish Stuart, Colleen Garland, Robert Baker, Josephine Weate, Ed Hyland, Sheila Rogan, Pat Savage, John Mitchell, Donna Vella, Jo Farrelle, Donna Briemer, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Rose Aloisio, Tina Cohen, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Robert Parker, Maureen Wardrop, Ros Harbig, Georgie Brigdale, Sue Campbell, Bobby Brame, Kerrie Roberts, Lauren Alchin, Bruce Yip, Ada Primrose Murphy, Cathy Eades, James Matthews, Doreen Arahill, Theresa Mitchell, Anita Servi, Jean Pierre, Michael Tannous, Marsha Burzynski, Emma Mitchell, Lola De Souza, Bev Purser, Joseph King, Christine Semark, Vicki Leach, Willy Woods, John Zdilar, Alison Richmond, Saxon Smith, John Farnham, Chris Parker, Alana Rose, Joy Burt, Stan Page, Roger Lambert, Ron Manning, Ken Dixon, Maria Lourenco, Doris Coleman, Alice Lynn, Dianne Smyth, Gail Smith, Roy Cutrone, Wendy Cohen, Bill Hunt, Alan Ball, Betty McDermott, Marie Sourini, David Pragasam, Vicki Pirie, Beau Burt, Joel Lloyd, Belinda Cochrane, Ken Stewart, Tom Shepherd, Lorraine Blandford, Michael Searle, Mary Lucas, Maxine Tinkler, Lindsay Clark, Jack Rogan-Clark, Helen Tiltins, Shirley Brinkworth, Iris Drewett



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January

For the gift of diversity in the Church

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church.

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.

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LUNCH TUESDAY TO SATURDAY (11.00am to 2.30pm)
DINNER TUESDAY TO THURSDAY & SUNDAY (4.30pm to 9.30pm)
FRIDAY & SATURDAY (4.30pm TILL LATE)

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