



# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



**15<sup>th</sup> December 2024**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

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.

### **Parish Secretary**

Triona Meagher

**P: 02 4341 1073**

**Emergency contact No. 0438 631 327**

**E: woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au**



Whoohoo! It is the Third Sunday of Advent! I guess the more correct way to say it is Gaudete Sunday – Latin translation to English.....REJOICE! We light the rose-coloured candle in the Advent wreath and rose-coloured vestments are an option for the priest to wear. Last year a parishioner sent me a text with an amusing cartoon about the rose-coloured vestments. The priest is at the altar celebrating Mass wearing rose-coloured vestments. The girl altar server says to the boy altar server: "I like Father's pink robe." The boy altar server responds: "It's not pink!" The girl altar server says: "How do you know?" The boy altar server says: "Because Jesus rose from the dead. He didn't pink from it!"

As the Scripture readings for the Third Sunday of Advent moves us closer to the Christmas celebration of the First Coming of Jesus, we do have reason to REJOICE!! In our first reading, the prophet Isaiah announces that God is approaching to deliver the people and to advance the plan of salvation. The first half of the reading contrasts the lifeless conditions of a desert with a lush garden teeming with life. The latter half of the reading brings this lovely imagery to bear on the human condition. Sin and ignorance have rendered the people spiritually weak and feeble. Their eyes are unable to see by the light of heaven; their ears are deaf to God's word; they are unable to make progress along the way of life. But now, they sing and dance as they return to God. That was then. We have reason to REJOICE NOW! For in the Gospel, when John the Baptist, in prison, asks whether Jesus is the one to come, Jesus tells John's disciples to go back and tell John what they see and hear. The blind regain their sight! The lame walk! Lepers are cleansed! The deaf hear! The dead are raised! As Christians, we know and experience these very things in our life today because of the suffering, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. So indeed, we have two reasons to REJOICE today. First, Jesus came which we celebrate at Christmas, and second, Jesus will come again!!

<https://olmercy.com/from-the-pastors-desk/december-3rd-third-sunday-of-advent/>

**Parish News:**



**St John the Baptist School:**

Fr Johnson, Fr Timothy, Fr Vincent and Fr Alex were delighted to attend a morning tea at St John the Baptist School on Monday.

**Parish Christmas Dinner:** There will be a Parish Christmas Dinner on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm in the Walter Baker Hall. Please register your name on the list in the gathering area for catering purposes. All welcome.

**Piety Stall:** Copies of 'Joy of the Gospel, Daily Reflections', priced at \$15 are now available at the piety stall. Columban and Josephite calendars also available. Vinnies Christmas cards and envelopes in packs of #10 priced at \$2 per pack.

**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.

**Cleaners for 20<sup>th</sup> December:** Reg Harrington, Andrew Hopkins, Linda Potestas, Maria Wickens.

**Readers for 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jane Somerville, Maryrose Barlow, Leonie King

Sunday 7.30am—Dorothy Fulton, Isaak Giunta, Joel Bajo

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

Sunday 5.00pm—Pio Savea, Kris Aitken, Lorena Lalor

**Servers for 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Peter French, Jose Torres

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

Sunday 5.00pm—Charles Kivunja

**2nd Rite of Reconciliation:** The 2nd Rite of Reconciliation is available at three Central Coast Parishes:

Holy Cross Kincumber, Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm

St Patrick's Gosford, Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm

St John the Baptist Woy Woy, Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm



**St John the Baptist Christmas Mass Times 2024**

Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>:

Christmas Eve

5.30 pm - SJB School Oval  
21a Dulkara Rd, Woy Woy

7.00 pm - Church  
9.00 pm - Church

Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>:

Christmas Day

7.30 am  
9.15 am  
5.00 pm

Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>:

Boxing Day

9.00 am

Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>:

New Years Eve

4.00 pm - Adoration  
5.00 pm - Mass

Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>:

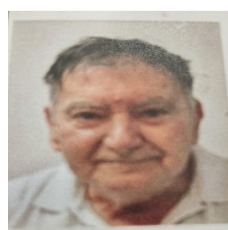
New Years Day

9.00 am

**Christmas Offering:** Christmas Offering envelopes are now available.

**Baptism:** We warmly welcome Archie H, Poppy H & Max T who will be Baptised this weekend.

**Parish census:** Welcome to all new parishioners. 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 them to woywoyparish@bbcatholic.org.au.



**Funeral Announcement:** The life of Arthur Gapps will be celebrated at St John the Baptist Church on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am. We offer Arthur's family and friends our sincere condolences.

**Feast of the Holy Family and Opening of the 2025 Holy Jubilee:** Bishop Anthony prayerfully welcomes clergy and the People of God in Broken Bay to join him on the Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December for 9.30am Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara and to officially mark the beginning of the 2025 Holy Jubilee.

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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## **Reading 1: Zeph 3:14-18**

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has removed the judgment against you he has turned away your enemies; the King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear. On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem: Fear not, O Zion, be not discouraged! The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty saviour; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.

## **Responsorial Psalm:**

**R. Truly God is my salvation; I trust, I shall not fear.**

The Lord is my strength, my song. He became my Saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**R. Truly God is my salvation; I trust, I shall not fear.**

Give thanks to the Lord. Give praise to His name! Make His mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of His name.

**R. Truly God is my salvation; I trust, I shall not fear.**

Sing a psalm to the Lord for His mighty deeds. Make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**R. Truly God is my salvation; I trust, I shall not fear.**

## **Reading 2: Phil 4:4-7**

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all. The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

## **Alleluia:**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

**R. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Lk 3:10-18**

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptised and they said to him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He answered them, "Stop collecting more than what is prescribed." Soldiers also asked him, "And what is it that we should do?" He told them, "Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse anyone, and be satisfied with your wages." Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptising you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Exhorting them in many other ways, he preached good news to the people.



## **Readings for the Week:**

**Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December:**

Num 24:2-7, 15-17/Ps 24:4-9/Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December:**

Gen 49:2, 8-10/Ps 71:1-4, 7-8, 17/Mt 1-17

**Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December:**

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 71:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-24

**Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December:**

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25/Ps 70:3-6, 6-17/Lk 1:5-25

**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December:**

Is 7:10-14/Ps 23:1-6/Lk 1:26-38

**Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> December:**

Song 2:8-14/Ps 32:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

**Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December:**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Micah 5:1-4/Ps 79:2-3, 15-16, 8-19/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-44

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**Let us keep in our prayers:**

**Recently deceased:** Arthur Gapps

**Anniversary:** Colin Burgess, Ann Culmer, Patricia Hogan

**Remembrance:**

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

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for December**

**For pilgrims of hope**

**We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.**



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

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