



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



21st April 2024
Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016**

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

21 April—Fr Timothy's Installation Mass

23 April—St George

25 April—Anzac Day

26 April—St Mark

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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For some, Jesus did not live up to expectations. This was particularly true of the leaders of the Jewish faith at that time, the shepherds of the flock. Jesus was not the Messiah they had in mind. Jesus did not play by their rules and there were so many of them! He reached out to the poor and the outcaste, he ate with those considered unclean, unacceptable, impure, even sinners and, in doing so, Jesus presented another view of what a shepherd of the flock is like, another image of a Good Shepherd.

Jesus is the good shepherd. In daily life, the shepherd's job was tough, unforgiving, severe, tiring, and hazardous. Mostly shepherds worked in the hills and valleys, away from home, wandering with their flocks in search of grass, water and, at night, safety and shelter. Many of them worked in the Judean wilderness where Jesus spent forty days and nights in preparation for his ministry. It is an extraordinary place. By day it is very, very hot. By night it is very cold. Goat tracks criss-cross its steep hills and ravines. There is little or no vegetation and precious little shade. The rocky and unstable soil means that a sure foot is needed. Like any other desert, it is very, very dry. Surprisingly, it is in this very desolate part of Israel that Psalm 23 was written. Even in this harsh country, "The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want!" As you sit in that wilderness even today, shepherds lead their flocks along the steep paths to places where grass is growing. In the desperate heat in the middle of the day, shepherds lead their flocks to shady spots, sometimes to the bottom of the ravines and to pools of 'still waters'. "He leads along safe or right paths" takes on added meaning here - choosing the right path is very important in this country. Goat tracks peter out or are so narrow and steep, they are dangerous. In the midst of all these tracks, there are the safe paths. The shepherd knows which ones are safe, which ones are not. And the sheep know him, they know his voice. They trust him and follow him.

So it is any wonder that Jesus, the Good Shepherd spoke about God in the ways he cared for people, as one who fed them when they were hungry, who healed them and encouraged them in their efforts to find meaning, truth and happiness. Jesus, the Good Shepherd celebrated with people, he mourned with them, he spent time with them and visited them in their homes. He taught them how to pray, how to speak to their loving 'Abba'. He forgave people, even those who would do him wrong. This Good Shepherd is not judgemental but one who welcomes people, especially those who come seeking to be cured, lepers, outcasts, the so-called unclean.

In the words of Pope Francis: "He is truly the Good Shepherd. And the most beautiful image of the Good Shepherd? The Word that becomes flesh to share in our life. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who comes to seek us right where we are: in our problems, in our suffering. ... He comes there."

<https://www.cdsale.org.au/news/fourth-sunday-of-easter-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:



Fr Timothy's Installation Mass:

Congratulations to Fr Timothy Raj who will be installed as Parish Priest of Woy Woy Parish at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Anthony on Sunday, 21st April at 9.15am. There will be morning tea afterwards. Please join us for this wonderful occasion.

Anzac Day: Please note that Mass is scheduled for 9.00am on Anzac day. The Parish Office will be closed.

Sacramental Programme 2024:

Confirmation:

- 13/05—Information Night
- 18/05 & 19/05—Presentation of candidates
- 20/05—Week 1 lessons
- 27/05—Week 2 lessons
- 03/06—Week 3 lessons
- 10/06—Break for a week
- 17/06—Week 4 lessons
- 30/06—Celebration of Sacrament at 11.00am.

First Reconciliation: Friday, 15th November at 4.00pm.

Cleaners for 26th April: Rano Spiteri, Pam Hickey, Rose Kissing, Brian Nairn.

Readers for 27th & 28th April:

- Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Rutherford & Kate Bravo
- Sunday 7.30am—Dorothy Fulton & Ann Hall
- Sunday 9.15am—Colleen McCormack & Don Matheson
- Sunday 5.00pm—Kris Aitken & Lorena Lalor

Servers for 27th & 28th April:

- Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman & Joel Bajo
- Sunday 7.30am—Peter French & Rae Busby
- Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French & Jenny Fitzgerald
- Sunday 5.00pm—Charles Kivunja

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 Xander Adolphe and Thomas Peterson who will be Baptised this weekend.

Pastoral Works Broken Bay:

We will launch our Pastoral Works Broken Bay (PWBB) May Appeal next month. The quota set for our Parish is \$28,759. Our shortfall stands at

\$18,138.10. The May appeal is the last one for the financial year 2023/2024 and all donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Please give generously.

Safeguarding Awareness 2024: Last week the Diocese released a video with Bishop Anthony addressing the serious and increasing issue of domestic family violence. The theme for Safeguarding Awareness 2024 is The Voice of the Vulnerable and Bishop Anthony wanted a particular focus on domestic family violence, which affects women, children and men across our communities. The video is called "A Catholic Response to Violence". It can be viewed on the Diocese website at [A Catholic Response to Domestic Violence - Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay \(bbcatholic.org.au\)](https://www.bbcatholic.org.au) where other resources, including a booklet, are also available.

Children's Liturgy: Children's liturgy is on a break for school holidays and will resume 12th May.

House Blessings: Please contact the Parish Office on 4341 1073 if you would like to have your house blessed.

Bus Trip: Bus trip to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy, Berrima is on Monday, 13th May. The bus will leave the Church carpark at 7.30am. Please register your name on the list in the Gathering Area. Numbers limited.

El Shaddai: The next El Shaddai meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 27th April from 12-4 in the Walter Baker Hall.

Pilgrimage: ON THE TRAIL OF POLISH SAINTS PILGRIMAGE to Poland with Fr Bogdan Skupien (Holy Cross Parish). Date: 4 - 25 September 2024. We will be visiting places of St John Paul II and St Faustina along with other historic places including Warsaw and surrounds, Krakow, Lutz, Auschwitz and many more. For further information please call the Holy Cross Parish Office on 4369 1211 or email kincumber.parish@bbcatholic.org.au. Registrations close 29th April.

Triple S Driving School: Service, safety & success. A competent, caring, driving instructor since 1990 is available for lessons for both manual and automatic. Refresher courses for older drivers also offered. Please contact Rosie on 0421 780 957.

Patience in the words of St. Francis de Sales:

St Francis de Sales, a prominent 16th-century bishop and theologian, wrote extensively on spiritual matters, including the virtue of patience. He viewed patience as a key virtue in the Christian life, essential for enduring trials and tribulations with grace and perseverance.

According to St Francis de Sales, patience is the virtue that enables us to endure difficulties calmly and without complaint. It involves enduring suffering, adversity, and delay without becoming upset or resentful. Patience, in his view, is not merely passive resignation but an active virtue that involves trust in God's providence and a willingness to wait for His timing.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Acts 4:8-12

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said: "Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in people; it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in rulers.

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my Saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

Blessed in the name of the Lord is the one who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end.

R. The stone rejected by the builders has become the corner stone.

Reading 2: 1 Jn 3:1-2

Beloved: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Alleluia:

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

R. Alleluia!

Gospel: Jn 10:11-18

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father."



**THE STONE REJECTED
BY THE BUILDERS HAS
BECOME THE
CORNERSTONE**

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

Recently deceased: Mervyn Francis Atkins, Ann Hoglund, Amelia Ingram, Anne Kew, Giovanna & Bill Molly

Anniversary: Joseph Bugeja

Remembrance: Charlie Grima, Raelene Pitt

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, 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, 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, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Van Mitchell, Chris Burt, Brian Searle, Sean McDermott, Gemma Tracey, Mark Richmond, Jai Kurt, Jodie Fleming, Alana Rose, Michael Juelg



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April

For the role of women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience.

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

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FRIDAY & SATURDAY (4.30pm TILL LATE)

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