

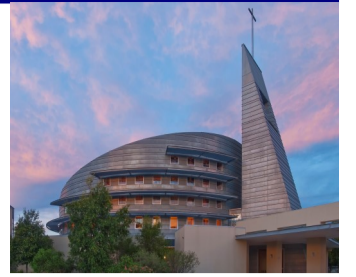


# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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

9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

5th 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.

### Parish Secretary

Triona Meagher

**P: 02 4341 1073**

**Emergency contact No. 0438 631 327**

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



Today we take light for granted. Hard as it to believe, there was a time when there was no electricity and immediate light at the touch of a button was unheard of. This made dispelling the darkness difficult, if not impossible. The poor could not afford candles or oil lamps or even wood for the fire. They went to bed with sundown and darkness. Even for those who could afford candles or an oil lamp, the light they gave off was poor and limited. This was the world in which Jesus lived. In the Gospel this Sunday, Jesus uses light, a very common thing to describe the quality needed to be his follower and disciple. The words he uses are as equally challenging as they are encouraging. In the Gospel of John there is a constant battle between light and darkness. Nicodemus, the Pharisee, visits Jesus at night, Jesus heals a man born into a world of darkness because he is blind, and when Judas leaves the table during the last supper, we are told that it was night. Yet it is into this darkness that Jesus comes with the good news. Also in John's gospel, Jesus proclaims these words of hope and encouragement, 'I am the light of the world; anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

Yet strangely, in our Gospel this Sunday, Jesus also says, 'You are the light of the world.' What can he mean by these words? Through our baptism we all share in the mission and ministry of Jesus. Today we are his disciples. Today in our families, our schools and our communities, we are the ones who are called to stand up, speak out and shine as followers of Jesus. We are called and invited not to hide our light, to hide in the shadows or be embarrassed that we are followers of Jesus. When we see the news on our televisions or read about it in our newspapers, we may feel powerless or even hopeless. But we are called to be people of light. We live in a time when there seems to be an atmosphere of fear and doubt spreading around our world. But we are asked by Jesus to let the light of our faith and hope shine even more brightly than ever.

It is said, that for evil to triumph, all that is needed is that good people do and say nothing. My one light may not make a huge difference, but when it shines brightly with others, the light is immense and powerful. When we let our light shine, darkness is dispelled and defeated.

This week, don't hide your light; let it shine brightly for all to see!

Michael Moore OMI

<https://oblates.ie/gospel-reflection-5th-sunday-ordinary-time/>

**Parish News:**

**Morning Tea:** Many thanks to the Parish Pastoral Council for hosting a delicious morning tea after 9.15am Mass last Sunday.

**Bus drivers needed:** We are currently looking for volunteer bus drivers for 7.30am Mass on Sundays. If you can help please call Jim Dixon on 0417 021 675 for further details.

**Cleaners for 14<sup>th</sup> February:** Andrew Hopkins, Mabel Kan, Reg Harrington, Pam Hickey.

**Readers for 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jane Somerville, Wendy Whiteman, Paul Rutherford

Sunday 7.30am—Phoebe Glacken, Isaak Giunta, Dorothy Fulton

Sunday 9.15am—Ingrid Stevens, Maryrose Barlow, Jacqui Scholte

Sunday 5.00pm—Peter Smith, Lorena Lalor, Kris Aitken

**Servers for 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh, Vincent Cavanagh

Sunday 7.30am—Paul Nolan, Jenny Fitzgerald

Sunday 9.15am—Bob Wilson, Hanaa El-Khatib, Joesie Cameron

Sunday 5.00pm—Darrin Patterson

**Word of God Sunday 2025:** The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on February 9<sup>th</sup> 2025. Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination” of the Word of God. Visit [www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday](http://www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodSunday) to access resources to help commemorate the day and for suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

**Children’s Liturgy:** Children’s Liturgy of the Word resumes this weekend during the 9.15am Mass. In our parish, Children’s liturgy is for children aged 4-12 years old. It operates most 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month excluding school holidays. For further enquiries contact Christine French 0431 765 401 or Frances Giunta 0414 274 402.

**First Fruits Offering 2025:** Blessings in this year of Jubilee! As members of the Parish of St John the Baptist Woy Woy, we are blessed to come together in faith to experience God’s love in the celebration of the Mass, and through one another as a community of faith. I am deeply grateful for your meaningful participation, contributions and support in the life of our Parish. As we continue to journey together as the People of God, I invite you to prayerfully consider becoming a Planned Giver as part of our first Fruits Offering, taking place over the coming weeks. Planned Giving is a prayerful commitment to dedicate a portion of your financial income to God and His Church in gratitude for His many blessings. It helps ensure the mission and ministries of our Parish continue to thrive for both our present community and future generations. Your contributions remain within our local parish and support: Liturgical needs, ongoing ministries, special ministries, the cost of equipment, resources, utilities, insurance, repairs and staff wages. To assist you in prayerfully reflecting on this important decision, we have prepared materials and resources that are available for you to take

home. These include information about First Fruits Offering and pledge envelopes. We encourage you to take some time to review these resources, pray, and discern how you can support our Parish in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Becoming a Planned Giver is a simple yet profound way to demonstrate your faith and commitment to God’s work. If you are not a Planned Giver yet, I encourage you to take this step. If you are already contributing on an ongoing basis, thank you. I invite you to consider increasing your offering as you are able. For more information or assistance with Planned Giving, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you for your generous support. May God bless you abundantly as you continue to live out your faith and share in His mission. In Christ’s peace, Fr Timothy Raj MSFS.

**El Shaddai:** The next El Shaddai meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February from 12pm-4pm in the Walter Baker Hall.

**Sit n Chat:** A group of seniors meet every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. This month’s meeting is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Jane for further information 0419 233 284. Transport can be provided if needed.

**St John the Baptist Mens’ group:** Meetings to be held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month from 7pm-8pm in the Leo Mahon Room. Next meeting 17<sup>th</sup> February. For further information contact Allan Moore 0492 988 168.

**Congratulations:** Congratulations to Jose and Mabel Torres who celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on 7<sup>th</sup> February. May God Bless you with many more years together, full of love and happiness.

**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

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# LITURGY OF THE WORD

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## **Reading 1: Is 6:1-8**

In the year King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne, with the train of his garment filling the temple. Seraphim were stationed above. They cried one to the other, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts! All the earth is filled with his glory!" At the sound of that cry, the frame of the door shook and the house was filled with smoke. Then I said, "Woe is me, I am doomed! For I am a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, holding an ember that he had taken with tongs from the altar. He touched my mouth with it, and said, "See, now that this has touched your lips, your wickedness is removed, your sin purged." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?" "Here I am," I said; "send me!"

## **Responsorial Psalm:**

### **R. In the sight of angels, Lord, I will sing your praises.**

I thank you, O Lord, with all my heart. You have heard the words of my mouth. Before the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple.

### **R. In the sight of angels, Lord, I will sing your praises.**

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered me. You increased the strength of my soul.

### **R. In the sight of angels, Lord, I will sing your praises.**

All earth's kings shall give you thanks when they hear the words of your mouth. Of the Lord's ways they shall sing; "How great is the glory of the Lord!"

### **R. In the sight of angels, Lord, I will sing your praises.**

You stretch out your hand and save me. Your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal. Discard not the work of your hands.

### **R. In the sight of angels, Lord, I will sing your praises.**

## **Reading 2: 1 Cor 15:1-11**

I am reminding you, brothers and sisters, of the gospel I preached to you, which you indeed received and in which you also stand. Through it you are also being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; that he was buried; that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; that he appeared to Cephas, then to the Twelve. After that, Christ appeared to more than five hundred brothers at once, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. After that he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one born abnormally, he appeared to me. For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective. Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them; not I, however, but the grace of God that is with me. Therefore, whether it be I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

## **Alleluia:**

### **R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Come follow me, says the Lord, and I will make you fishers of my people.

### **R. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Lk 5:1-11**

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret. He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. They signalled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that the boats were in danger of sinking. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at the knees of Jesus and said, "Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man." For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

## **Readings for the Week:**

### **Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February:**

**St Scholastica** - Gen 1:1-19/Ps 103:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35/Mk 6:53-56

### **Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> February:**

**Our Lady of Lourdes, World Day of Prayer for the Sick** - Gen 1:20-2:4/Ps 8:4-9/Mk 7:1-13

### **Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February:**

Gen 2:4-9, 15-17/Ps 103:1-2, 27-30/Mk 7:14-23

### **Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> February:**

Gen 2:18-25/Ps 127:1-5/Mt 7:24-30

### **Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February:**

**St Cyril, St Methodius** - Gen 3:1-8/Ps 31:1-2, 5-7/Mk 7:31-37

### **Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> February:**

Gen 3:9-24/Ps 89:2-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10

### **Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> February:**

Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-4/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26

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**Let us keep in our prayers:**

**Recently deceased:** Margaret Ayres, Ray McMinn

**Anniversary:** May Adams, Alberto Mieres, Ennio Muratore

**Sick:** John Aarts, Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Rae Busby, Marie Carr, Bill de Rooy, Anne-Marie Dixon, Ken Dixon, Marie Dixon, David Hopkins, Aline Fauvette, Dymna Fitzpatrick, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Janice Hayward, Bill Hunt, Linda Italiano, Marge Lawrence, Kay McCormack, Betty & Sean McDermott, James Matthews, Ronald Matthews, 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 February**

**For vocations to the priesthood and religious life**

**Let us pray that the ecclesiastical community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.**

**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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