



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



24th March 2024
Palm Sunday

Under the Pastoral Care of
The Fransalians since 2016



WELCOME THE KING WITH JOYFUL HOSANNAS

As we celebrate Palm Sunday, our Lenten Pilgrimage takes a great dramatic turn. Jesus enters Jerusalem with his friends in high spirits and full of hope and the crowd on his side as they welcome with shouts of joy, 'Hosanna in the highest, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.' This entrance is a very political one. At the time of Jesus, victorious generals with their armies returned home and entered the city in similar fashion as the crowds waved branches and shouted out their names.

No other Sunday in our liturgical calendar contains so much drama and tension as today. What begins with shouts of joy and the feeling of victory will quickly change as the same crowd a week later will shout, 'Crucify him, crucify him'. His spectacular entrance into the city is also his entrance into his betrayal, denial, condemnation, suffering and death and ultimately his Resurrection.

We are part of both crowds, and as we witness his suffering, we will also experience his Resurrection. We pray that as we enter into this most sacred of weeks with Jesus, we will be drawn closer to him and each other.

<https://oblates.ie/gospel-reflection-for-palm-sunday/>

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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Emergency contact No. 0438 631 327

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EASTER 2024



Palm Sunday
Sunday, 24th March

2nd Rite of Reconciliation
7.00pm - Wed, 27th March



Holy Thursday
7.00pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday
8.00am - Stations of the Cross
at the Church



10.00am - Stations of the Cross
at SJB Primary School
21a Dulkara Rd, Woy Woy

3.00pm - The Lord's Passion



Easter Saturday
8.00am - Devotion to Mother of Sorrows

6.00pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday
7.30am, 9.15am,
5.00pm

Easter Monday
9.00am



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:

2nd Rite of Reconciliation at St John the Baptist Woy

Woy: Wednesday, 27th March at 7.00pm.

Holy Land collection—Good Friday, 29th March 2024

The annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, 29th March. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, Parishes and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower Church attendance around the world. In 2023 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.4 million [\$1.4 million (2022), \$1,126,098 (2021), \$406,023 (2020) and \$1.3 million (2019)]. The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges financial and spiritual and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.

Chrism Mass: The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on Tuesday 26th March at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. The Parish Bus will depart from the Church at 6.00pm. Please register your name for the bus on the list in the Gathering Area.

Divine Mercy Sunday: Prayers and devotions, Sunday 7th April, 2.30pm - 3.30pm at St John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy.

Sacramental Programme 2024: Please continue to include the children in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of First Communion.

First Communion: Sunday, 7th April at 11.00am and Sunday, 14th April at 11.00am.

Confirmation: Sunday, 30th June at 11.00am.

Sit n Chat: A group of seniors meet every 3rd Monday of the month in the Leo Mahon Room from 1.00pm to 2.30pm. March's meeting is scheduled for 25th March. Please contact Jane on 0419 233 284 for further information. Transport can be provided if necessary.

Cleaners for 27th March: Andrew Hopkins, Pam Hickey, Rano Spiteri, Brian Nairn.

The new readers' roster plus the Easter roster is now available in the servers' sacristy.

Servers for 30th & 31st March: Please see the Easter Roster.

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.

Divine Will Cenacle: The Divine Will Cenacle meetings continue each Thursday in the Leo Mahon Room at 9.15am. All welcome. Any enquiries please contact Michael McCulloch on 0421 019 135.

Easter Offering Envelopes: Easter offering envelopes are available in the Church. The Easter Offering envelopes are for the welfare of retired priests. This is our way of showing our appreciation and gratitude for their loving Ministry.



Easter Mega Marathon: 122 Games from 2pm to 11pm, Sat 30th March at Peninsula Community Centre 93 McMasters Rd Woy Woy. All sessions raise funds for the Parish.

Further details on parish website or the Woy Woy bingo Facebook page.

Project Compassion Boxes: Project Compassion boxes are due for return on Holy Thursday for offering. There will be a basket at the front entrance.

Ways to observe Holy Week according to the principles of St. Francis de Sales:

Prayer: St Francis de Sales emphasised the importance of prayer as a means of deepening one's relationship with God. During Holy Week, devote time to prayer, both individually and as a community. Attend daily Mass, participate in the liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter Sunday Mass, and spend time in silent contemplation, reflecting on the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Meditation: St Francis de Sales encouraged meditation as a way to enter into deeper communion with God. Set aside time each day during Holy Week for meditation on the events of Christ's Passion and the meaning of his sacrifice. Use Scripture passages, such as those from the Gospels, particularly the accounts of the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection, as the basis for your meditation.

Acts of Charity: St Francis de Sales emphasised the importance of practicing charity and love toward others. Use Holy Week as an opportunity to perform acts of charity and service to those in need in your community.

Sacramental Reconciliation: St Francis de Sales placed great emphasis on the Sacrament of reconciliation (confession) as a means of spiritual healing and renewal. Take advantage of the Sacrament of reconciliation during Holy Week to examine your conscience, seek forgiveness for your sins, and experience the grace of God's mercy.

Spiritual Reading: St Francis de Sales recommended spiritual reading as a means of nourishing the soul and growing in faith. Take time during Holy Week to read and reflect on spiritual writings, such as the writings of the saints, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, or other devotional works that deepen your understanding of the Paschal mystery.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Entrance: Mk 11:1-10

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately on entering it, you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone should say to you, 'Why are you doing this?' reply, 'The Master has need of it and will send it back here at once.'" So they went off and found a colt tethered at a gate outside on the street, and they untied it. Some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" They answered them just as Jesus had told them to, and they permitted them to do it. So they brought the colt to Jesus and put their cloaks over it. And he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!"

Reading 1: Is 50:4-7

The Lord GOD has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them. Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear; and I have not rebelled, have not turned back. I gave my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who plucked my beard; my face I did not shield from buffets and spitting. The Lord GOD is my help therefore I am not disgraced; I have set my face like flint, knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me, they curl their lips, toss their heads. He trusted in the Lord, let him save him. Let him release him if he is his friend.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Many dogs have surrounded me. A band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my clothes among them. They cast lots to see who takes my robe. O Lord do not leave me alone. My strength, make haste to save me.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will tell of your name to my people and praise you where they are gathered. You who fear the Lord revere him. Give him glory, O children of Israel.

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Reading 2: Phil 2:6-11

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Verse before the Gospel: Phil 2:8-9

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Christ became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Mk 14:1—15:47 The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ



Palm Sunday
23rd & 24th March



As Project Compassion 2024 comes to an end, we want to thank you for your incredibly generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared with you the story of three inspiring women from across the globe, who overcame challenges to complete their education, access water and find secure employment. With the support of compassionate people like you, they are now forging a path to a better future for their families and their communities.

Please donate to Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *for all future generations*.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

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

Recently deceased: Barrie Chamberlain, Trevor Dunn, Damian Gapps, Marie Leis

Anniversary: Tarciana B Cabatingan, Bruno de Souza, Barry Fregon, Anna Kim Mee-Rahn, John Wahlin

Remembrance: Sergei de Souza, 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, 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 March

For the new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world, inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

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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