

OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL EMERGENCY
0438 631 327

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Fr. Timothy Raj. M.S.F.S.
Administrator

Fr. Philip Thottam. M.S.F.S.
Assistant Priest

Office Staff
Helen Cameron & Raelene Spithill

SUNDAY MASS TIMES
Vigil Saturday 5pm;
Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES
Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday &
Tuesday with Lauds)
Saturday and Public Holidays 9am

ANOINTING OF THE SICK
First Friday 4pm Mass

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE
Friday after morning Mass;
First Friday 3.30pm;
Saturday 11.30am & 4.30pm;
Sunday 7.00am.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM
Baptism Preparation - 9.30am second
and fourth Sunday of the month
Sacrament of Baptism - 11.00am first
and third Sunday of the month . Please
contact the parish office for more
information.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED
SACRAMENT**
Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am
Monday until 9am (Public Holidays
10.15am)
Thursday 7.30pm-8.30pm for the
needs of the Parish.

PARISH CHOIR
Enquiries: 4341 3367
Practice Wednesday nights in the
church @ 7pm

St John the Baptist Church
Cnr Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy
Ethel Cox Parish Centre
100 Blackwall Road Woy Woy
Parish Office: Open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.00pm
54 Victoria Road / P.O. Box 264 WOY WOY N.S.W. 2256
Phone: (02) 4341 1073 Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au
Website: www.woywoycatholic.org.au
St John the Baptist Primary School:
Principal: Nicole Cumming, 21a Dulkara Rd, South Woy Woy
2256. P 024341 0884 www.sjbwoywoy.dbb.org.au

Psalm Response



Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. *Alleluia!*

Readings can be found at www.usccb.org/bible/

Keep Us In Your Prayers OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

Recently deceased: Rosemary Anderson & John Leslie.

Anniversaries: Joy Ryan, Lisa Rutherford, David Steele, Tori James & Alan Player.

Sick: Val Simpson, Patricia Dwyer, Donna Vella, Donna Briemer, Oscar James Morreti, Joy Ball, Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Louis Aloisio, Olive Brittliff, Frank McLenaghan, Leon de Pradines, Margaret Davin, Helen Taylor, Amanda Sheridan, Karen Pearson, Margrate Sofie, Thambu George, Marta Panczyna, Sue James, Margaret Woollam, Hannah El Khatib, Mary Wood, Vicki Pirie, Therese Horner, Betty Cavanagh, Jack Dummett, Jo Farrelle, Yvonne Beattie, Nellie Brown, John Buatava.

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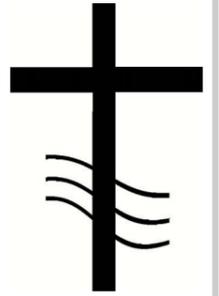


WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH

St John the Baptist Catholic Church

Mission and Vision

Bringing Jesus Christ to ALL, through:
Worship and Liturgy
Outreach
Our Parish School
Hospitality
Adult & Child Faith Formation



11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

17th June, 2018, Year B (Psalter Week 3)

Gospel Reflection © Fr Michael Tate



The Sowing of the Seed

In Australia, so far as I know, a farmer ploughs the land and *then* plants the seed. In Galilee, the farmer scattered the seed on the old field and therefore on tracks which people made walking across it after cropping, on thorny areas, and also on what he hoped was good soil. He *then* ploughed in the seed.

It is a wonder that anything grew, and generally the return was about 7:1. In a previous parable Jesus had spoken of the Kingdom he was inaugurating as if it would turn out to be like a bumper harvest of up to a hundredfold.

What would such a harvest mean for a peasant tilling the rocky soil of Galilee? It would mean release from the endless servitude to a landlord, generation after generation. It would mean liberation, not only from hunger, but from the power structure which was quite content with a permanent underclass of subsistence farmers. In other words, Jesus was telling his listeners that God's Kingdom would turn the world as they knew it 'upside down'. As Mary sang in the Magnificat: 'The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty away.' Power structures would be shattered by the impulses of the Gospel to create a society where there was a just distribution of the world's resources. Naturally, the peasant farmers of Galilee wanted to know 'when' and 'how'. We want to know the 'when' and the 'how' of the fulfilment of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus' answer to them, and to us, is basically: 'It is not for you to know. Just get on with the sowing of the Gospel seed. Something will happen with the seed you sow, something out of all proportion to your part in the process.'

Our Lord pictured this by contrasting the tiny mustard seed and the mustard bush which he even exaggerates into a tree in which birds could find shelter!

In this parable Jesus says: 'Be patient, allow the creative power of God to work in the earth and the small seed will be "raised up".'

When did God's creative power work in the depths of the stony ground so that the Gospel Seed was raised up? The answer is, of course, in the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

And what effect did this have? We read in the Acts of the Apostles concerning the early Christian community that 'The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.' (Acts 2:44)

In other words, the social system was being subverted by the power of the Gospel. A more just distribution of resources was taking place in the immediate aftermath of the proclamation of the Resurrection by Peter on the Feast of Pentecost.

I think it is very telling that a little further on in the Acts of the Apostles we read: 'The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no-one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power.' (Acts 4:32-33)

There is a correlation between the commitment of Christians to a just distribution of the world's resources and the proclamation of the Lord's resurrection. Only if the commitment is authentic and real will the proclamation be powerful and effective.

So,

let us lead lives with an authentic dimension of social justice,
let us get on with sowing the seed of the Gospel whenever we get the opportunity,
let God get on with germinating that seed with the power of the Resurrection so that the Tree of Life may grow to such a height that all peoples 'can shelter in its shade.'

Parish News...

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal: The Appeal raised \$4127.50. Thank you for your generous support. Receipts in envelopes are available in the gathering area this weekend.

St Vincent de Paul Winter Clothing Appeal: Will be held on the weekend 23/24 June 2018. Collection bags in the gathering area.

SVdP Volunteers Mass: Saturday, 23 June, 9am.

Cuppa and a Chat: A group of seniors meet every third Monday in the Leo Mahon room, due 18th June, 1.00pm-2.30pm. If you would like to join us phone Bernard 4341 6343. Transport provided.

Children's Mass: Children and their families are invited to be involved in a special Mass at our church on Friday evening, 22nd June at 6pm. This will be part of our preparation and celebration of the Feast Day of St John the Baptist on Sunday 24th June. Children of all ages and their families are welcome to be involved. Please contact Celeste Boonaerts for information 0407 703 759.

Feast Day: The Parish Pastoral Council is organising a parish event to mark the feast day of our patron Saint John the Baptist on Sunday 24 June 2018. If you would like to take part or have ideas please phone Gladys Leger on 0421 312 362 or Bernard French on 0407 214 699.

Children's Liturgy 24/6/18: There will be no children's liturgy due to other Feast day activities.

SJB School: Enrolments for the 2019 school year are closing now. Please contact the school on 4341 0884 for more information.

Catechists' Meeting: Our June meeting will be held on the 28th starting at 9am, as usual. There is quite a bit of business to address, including changes within the Catechist hierarchy, WWC check lists and the on-going need for helpers. And as there will be **no meeting in July**, we really need to get together and attend to all these very important matters. They **need your personal attention**. Thanks everyone - Susie

Volunteer Church Cleaning Roster 22/6/18: Kevin Glacken, Laurie Jarvis, Rano Spiteri & Bev Whackett.

Peter's Pence Appeal, 1 July 2018: We are joining with others across the world by taking up a collection for the charitable works and structures of mercy identified by Pope Francis. The funds, which are sent to the Vatican, are then allocated to projects across the world, which support victims of war, oppression and disasters. Envelopes in the church.

Cash Housie every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre, Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy. Games start at 7.30pm and finish 10.20pm, cash prizes. Ticket sales from 6pm. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990 818.

St Vincent de Paul Society on the Peninsula assist and give a hand up to people in need. We have two Conferences with volunteers sharing the visiting or office work. We always welcome new Volunteers to our Conference. Please ring Peter 0425 358 376 or Joan 0422 272 339.

"Mary Mac's Place" Hospitality: volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact 4341 0584.

Annual Marriage Mass & Renewal of Vows
The Marriage Mass and Renewal of Vows will take place on Sunday, 8th July at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, at 10.30 am. All married couples are welcome. Mass will be celebrated by His Grace, Archbishop Anthony Fisher. Married couples wishing to attend to renew their vows should register with the Life, Marriage and Family Centre at LMEvents@sydneycatholic.org or 9307 8404. Registered couples celebrating 50th, 55th, 60th, or 65th wedding anniversaries will receive a special certificate from Archbishop Fisher. Special recognition will also be given to couples who were married at the Cathedral.

St John the Baptist Youth Group: Held once a fortnight during school terms for high school students (Years 7-12), in the Leo Mahon Room. For more information, contact Matthew French on 0411 792 587.

Catechist Helpers: We're almost halfway through the school year and the children are doing extremely well. While we have temporarily lost two valuable teachers and one helper, we are finding that our class numbers, particularly in composite classes, is putting an extra burden on teachers. In an ideal world every class would have a teacher and a helper, a **valuable member of the ministry** who is there to assist individual children with activities, help the children focus, lead them in prayers and help with reading. It's a lovely role and you can be as involved in the lesson as you want. **We'd love to have more helpers, so if you have an hour a week, please call me and learn more. Susie 0411 566 622.**

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PARISH WOY WOY PRESENTS:

Novena of MASSES

SAT 16 JUN 5PM
SUN 17 JUN 6PM
MON-THU 18-21 JUN 7PM
FRI 22 JUN 6PM
SAT 23 JUN 5PM
SUN 24 JUN 9:15AM

NINE MASSES | DIFFERENT CELEBRANTS
| SHARING ON ST JOHN THE BAPTIST |
LIGHT SUPPER | SJB CHURCH WOY WOY

St John the Baptist

FEAST DAY

SUNDAY 24 JUNE @ 9:15AM
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH, WOY WOY

CELEBRATION MASS
AND BBQ BRUNCH

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