



WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



25th September 2022 26th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME C

FEASTS & MEMORIALS

26 September —Sts Comas & Damian
27 September—St Vincent de Paul
28 September—Sts Wenceslaus & Lawrence Ruiz
29 September—Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael
30 September - St Jerome
1 October—St Therese of the Child Jesus

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

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 7pm - 8pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Mon, Tues, Thurs—8.30am—3.00pm
 Wed and Friday 8.30am - 4.00pm

Divine Will Cenacle

Thursdays 9.15am -10.30am

Christian Meditation

Monday evenings from 6pm - 7pm
Marian Bowyer - 0432 882 776

PARISH CONTACTS

Administrator

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

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Reflection

Dogs even came and licked his sores... There can hardly be a sadder or more miserable picture painted than the one painted by Luke in today's Gospel. Jesus, in response to the Pharisees who are described as loving money, tells the parable we hear today. First there is the rich man who used to 'feast magnificently every day.' And we know that the man in this parable truly is rich for purple and fine linen could only be afforded by the very, very wealthy. And then there is Lazarus. The poor man, covered with sores, who could have feasted on the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. And then finally the poor man died and was taken to the 'bosom of Abraham' - the symbolic name for the Paradise all good Jewish people longed for. After his life of poverty and suffering, Lazarus goes to his eternal reward. And the rich man ends up in torment in Hades. The rich man's sin was not so much that he was wealthy. His sin was not really even that he failed to use his resources wisely - although instead of spending all of his money on fine food and rich clothes, he could have spent some on Lazarus starving at his gate. His sin was that even though he had the teaching of Moses and the prophets to guide him, he failed to take these to heart. He had become complacent, and his riches had blinded him to hearing and living the Word of God. The same situation is being addressed in today's First Reading. The prophet Amos is castigating the Northern Kingdom of Israel. The sin of the Israelites was not that they were wealthy, but that their wealth hindered them from hearing and living the Word of God. And just like the people of Israel to whom Amos was speaking, we can lie on our beds and eat and drink, and not care about our exile. Too easily, we can believe that our judgement will only happen at the end of time, and that what we do here and now is of little consequence. But, if we are judged at the end of time, surely, we are also judged by our actions while we are still here. Today's readings tell us just that. In the Gospel, the rich man, after a life of plenty, died and ended in torment. And, after seeing Lazarus in heaven with Abraham, the rich man begged Abraham to send Lazarus back to warn his brothers. Abraham refused - telling the rich man that his brothers have the two great pillars of Jewish faith - Moses and the prophets - as warning enough of what could befall them. The rich man bargained with Abraham: 'But if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent.' 'No', says Abraham, 'if Moses and the prophets made no impression, neither will someone rising from the dead.' And just as this was the message that Jesus gave the Pharisees, this is also what Jesus is telling us. We have the one who has risen from the dead - Jesus Christ himself. And, too often, we fail to hear his message. We become too complacent, we become too comfortable. And this is the great sin. Because by the time we get to the judgement seat of God, it will be too late - the gulf is too wide and there is no crossing over. The challenge for us, as Christians in today's world, is not only to hear the Word of God, but to act on it, before it is too late. The words which St Paul addresses to the young bishop Timothy, which we heard in the second reading, could well be addressed to us. It is not enough to simply hear the Word of God. We must be people not only filled with faith and love, but we must also act on that faith and love. And when we act as faith-filled and love-filled people, the Lazaruses of our world, who are sitting at our gates, are fed and there is no danger that we will be eating and drinking and forgetting about exile. And this is what the Kingdom of God is all about. One of the great themes of Luke's Gospel is the in-break of the Kingdom into this world. And in the Kingdom, the rich are sent away empty while the poor are fed. The mighty are cast from their thrones, while the lowly are raised up. Lazarus is in the bosom of Abraham, the rich man in torment in Hades. We cannot wait until the final judgement. We must put into practice now the faith which we profess today.



<https://researchonline.nd.edu.au/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1128&context=pastoral-liturg>

MISSION and VISION

*Bringing Jesus Christ
to ALL through:*

*Worship and Liturgy; Outreach;
Our Parish School; Hospitality;
Adult and Child Faith Formation*

*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.*

COMMUNITY NEWS



Children's Liturgy will break for the school holidays and resume on the 16th October. For more information contact Christine French on 0431 765 401.

Upcoming Sit N Chats



October cancelled
 November scheduled for 21 November 2022
 December not scheduled
 January not scheduled
 February will resume (subject to attendees and volunteers)

Cash Housie !!!

Saturday nights 7.30pm
 50 games at Peninsula Community Centre
 93 Mc Masters Rd Woy Woy.



Proceeds benefit our parish.

For more information, please contact Robert Graham on 0427 990 818



This Sunday is the 108th World Day of Migrants and Refugees and Bishop Anthony Randazzo invites you to join him for Mass at 9:30 am at the Cathedral, to mark this significant occasion. All are invited to attend.



Next meeting of Spirituality in the Pub is 7.30-9.00pm on Tuesday 4th October at the Grange Hotel, Wyoming. Guest speakers are Elizabeth Lee, a former chaplain at Long Bay Gaol and John Lee with a background in education. Hotel bistro opens at 5.30pm. SIP enquiries: 0415 129 250 or 0439 678 608.

Attention! Attention! Attention!

All Souls Day—2 November.



Masses will be held at 8.30am and at 7pm. Volunteers are needed. Please consider how you can help. Further details to come.

Dedication of our Church - 13th November 2022.



Plans are already underway to make this year's celebration extra special for our parish community. More details and excitement to come!!!

You'll want to bring the WHOLE family!!!

CLEANERS for 7 October 2022:

Pam Hickey Tom French
 Amanda Gray Laila Dawe
 *** if unable to work on your appointed day, please swap or arrange a replacement***

READERS for 1-2 October 2022:

Sat 5pm — Marie Andrews & Jane Somerville
 Sun 7.30am — Joel Bajo & Dorothy Fulton
 Sun 9.15am — Michael Dixon & Olga Mhilli
 Sun 5pm — Kristina Aitken & Lorena Lalor

SERVERS for 1-2 October 2022:

Sat 5pm—Paul Cavanagh & Vincent Cavanagh
 Sun 7.30am—Jose Torres & Paul Nolan
 Sun 9.15am—Bob Wilson & Hanaa El-Khatib
 Sun 5pm – Laurie Jarvis/Pio Savea

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

- ♦ We appreciate more Readers, particularly for 5pm Saturday and Sunday.
- ♦ Welcomers are sought to greet parishioners and visitors for each weekend mass.
- ♦ Volunteers are required to assist with monthly 'Sit N Chat' events.

How can YOU support OUR parish???
 Please let us know—4341 1073



Dear Parishioners of St John the Baptist Catholic Parish,

Catechists participate in the ministry bringing the message of God's kingdom to Catholic students who attend public schools. Catechists provide Catholic Special Religious Education, also known as Scripture, to children attending Ettalong P.S., Umina P S, Woy Woy P.S- and Woy Woy South P.S. in 30-minute weekly lessons.

There are over 300 Catholic children who receive Special Religious Education from the Catechists. At the moment, these children are not always able to receive their religious education due to the low numbers of catechists in the parish. The numbers of volunteers have dropped in the past few years with catechists retiring to care for their spouses, to look after their own health or have moved to another parish.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to attract new catechists due to the restrictions of Covid. Now that many of us are vaccinated, the Special Religious Education (Scripture) classes are returning to normal and once again the catechists are looking for some generous volunteers to swell their ranks once more.

The programme we use, *Walking With Jesus*, has been approved by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. The Teacher's Manuals contain easy to follow lesson plans with specially designed PowerPoints to support each lesson. These PowerPoints contain songs and videos of the Scripture passages plus more, used in the lessons. Each child is provided with a colourful *Walking With Jesus* student workbook.

The necessary training to obtain full authorisation to teach the *Walking With Jesus* programme is provided free of charge. This training is provided via Zoom which means you can complete the training without leaving home.

The Catechists in our Diocese undertake a vital evangelising role, educating children and young people and forming them in the Catholic faith.

If you have ever thought about becoming a catechist, now is a good time to respond and make an enquiry. Contact either

Father Timothy Raj M.S.F.S.4341 1073
 Or

Michael Tebbutt CCD Regional Co-ordinator 0437 440 169

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Am 6:1, 4-7

Thus says the LORD the God of hosts: Woe to the complacent in Zion! Lying upon beds of ivory, stretched comfortably on their couches, they eat lambs taken from the flock, and calves from the stall! Improvising to the music of the harp, like David, they devise their own accompaniment. They drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the best oils; yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph! Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 145 (146):6-10

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

Reading 2: 1 Tm 6:11-16

But you, man of God, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

Alleluia: Cf. 2 Cor 8:9

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel: Lk 16:19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"



Listen to the
Voice of Creation
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

The theme for 2022 is "Listen to the Voice of Creation." In his message for World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, Pope Francis said, "If we learn how to listen, we can hear in the voice of creation a kind of dissonance.

On the one hand, we can hear a sweet song in praise of our beloved Creator; on the other, an anguished plea, lamenting our mistreatment of this our common home."

[Message of Pope Francis for World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation](#)

The 'Season of Creation' continues through to 4 October, the Feast of St Francis, and is an ecumenical season calling all Christians around the world to pray and take action for our com-

mon home.

Young adults 18-35yrs! It is now time to register for the Broken Bay WYD23 Pilgrimage

There is still time to register your interest in joining the DBB WYD23 pilgrimage to Portugal. There are two pilgrimage options for young adults:

- 1: **Full pilgrimage** or the
- 2: **Direct pilgrimage** option.

Watch this video for details and some footage of our Lisbon destinations: [Young adult WYD Lisbon update](#)

The 18+ pilgrims will be on their own dedicated buses and will share the experience with both the broader pilgrimage where there will be opportunities to deepen the WYD experience, form stronger friendships and share the spiritual journey. Bookings for young adults are filling up fast, so don't wait too long: ask yourself today whether God might be calling you to World Youth Day Lisbon in 2023!

Visit <https://bbwyd.org.au/register-for-wyd/> to register.



Keep Us In Your Prayers of your charity pray for the souls of:

Recently deceased:

Anniversary: Sara Salim, Hugo John Cutrone, Ron Dixon

Remembrance: Peter John Grima, Adam Meany

Sick: Melissa Bezzina, Lisa Ryan, Hanaa El Khatib, Sheila Houghton, 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, Ken Joyce, Jo Farrelle, Donna Briemer Malin Tugaga, Pamela Power, Rose Aloisio, Tina Cohen, Amanda Sheridan, Audrey Barsenbach, Mary Wood, Therese Horner, Jack Dummett, Janice Green, 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, Charles Lawson, Marsha Burzynski, Emma Mitchell, Vince Weigold, Lola DeSouza, Cathy Hennessy, Bev Purser, Joseph King, Christine Semark, Vicki Leach, Willy Woods



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September:

Abolition of the Death Penalty

We that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

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.

Thank you

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