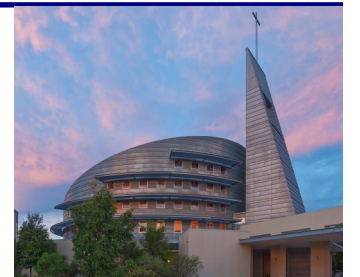




# WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



**21<sup>st</sup> September 2025**  
**25<sup>th</sup> 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—3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs of the month 10.30am

Peninsula Village—4<sup>th</sup> 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 MSFS

### **Assistant Priest**

Fr John Prince VC

### **Parish Secretary**

Triona Meagher

**P: 02 4341 1073**

**Emergency contact No. 02 4398 9076**

**NO ONE CAN SERVE TWO MASTERS. EITHER YOU WILL  
HATE THE ONE AND LOVE THE OTHER. OR YOU WILL BE  
DEVOTED TO THE ONE AND DESPISE THE OTHER**

Luke 16: 13



Our world teaches us that "bigger is better," so many believe that we need bigger homes with huge closets, luxurious cars, enormous bank accounts, and large, lavish lives. The world is fixated on making money and focusing on one's income rather than things of God. In Luke's gospel for this Sunday, Jesus reminds us that small things matter and that faithfulness in small things is the foundation of a faithful life. Before we are trusted with true riches, we are asked to be faithful with what may seem ordinary or small. Luke's passage makes it clear that "no one can serve two masters . . . You cannot serve God and wealth." Money is a terrible master as it distorts our worldview, so we stop seeing people as neighbours and begin seeing them as resources or threats. To serve God means orienting every part of our lives around love, grace, and justice. We cannot claim to serve God while our hearts are captive to consumerism, power, status, or self-interest.

Every day, we make choices that declare who our true master is. Will we follow God, or will we serve the idol of accumulation and wealth? We must choose. In a world that urges us to "go big or go home," Jesus teaches the power of small, consistent acts of love, honesty, generosity, and justice. One's character is revealed in everyday decisions with how we handle small things, such as our words, our time, our money, and our relationships. True wealth is not gold or bank accounts; it is grace, justice, compassion, generosity, and peace, which are the gifts of the Spirit. We cannot pursue those things while worshipping wealth, as we need to see care of our neighbours, the environment, and the vulnerable as a holy responsibility.

We need to become faithful to God and not to money. Our faith must be embodied not just in Church, but in how we spend money, treat people, respond to injustice, and care for creation. Being faithful in the little things is a revolutionary act in a world that often ignores the quiet, humble, and everyday acts of love and justice. Faithfulness is doing the right thing when no one is watching and giving a little when you don't have a lot.

The small gifts we bring to God can change the world for good. Consider Mother Teresa, who left Albania when she was 18 years old and joined the Sisters of Loreto to serve as a teacher. She went to India, and after 20 years, decided to leave to serve the poorest of the poor in the slums of Calcutta. She didn't have anything but her trust in God. She began the Missionaries of Charity with just 12 members in Calcutta. In 2023, there are now 5,750 members serving in 139 countries. The order has 760 homes, with 244 in India. Mother Teresa brought her small gifts to God, and God multiplied them to further God's kin-dom here on Earth.

God is searching our hearts and asking us to be trustworthy. When we trust God, things grow and multiply. So give your heart to God and commit to live justly and humbly, even when the world calls us to live otherwise. The small acts of faith and trust in God shape our character and our communities.

<https://uscatholic.org/articles/202509/a-reflection-for-the-twenty-fifth-sunday-in-ordinary-time-5/>

**Parish News:**

**Soup Night:** There will be a soup night after 5.00pm Mass this Sunday. All welcome.

**Suggestion Box:** Fr Timothy would like parishioners to share their thoughts and ideas regarding the Jubilee Year of Hope. There is a suggestion box in the gathering area.

**Cleaners for 26<sup>th</sup> September:** Maria Wickens, Andrew Hopkins, Renelyn Keighran, Anthony Kearns.

**Readers for 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Leonie King, Marie Andrews, Jane Somerville

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

Sunday 9.15am—Emma Baker, Therese Carroll, Don Matheson

Sunday 5.00pm—Lorena Lalor, Doris Kidger

**Servers for 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September:**

Saturday 5.00pm—Jeff Freeman, Joel Bajo

Sunday 7.30am—Pio Savea

Sunday 9.15am—Bernie French, Jenny Fitzgerald

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** Anne Bailey, Marian Bowyer, Mabel Kan & Gemma Williams will be welcomed as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at 9.15am Mass this Sunday. We thank the ladies for offering the gift of their time to serve in this vital ministry.

**Baptisms:** We warmly welcome Banks, Ocean, Eloise, Cairo, Olivia & Sienna who will be Baptised this weekend.

**Jubilee of Catechists:** From Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, the Church will celebrate the Jubilee of Catechists, as part of the Holy Jubilee 2025. Catechists play an important role within the life of the Church, but its one that can sometimes be hidden away. Through the work of The Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) Broken Bay, catechists are sent into public schools to provide Catholic Special Religious Education to young people.

CCD catechists undertake a vital evangelising role, educating children and young people and forming them in the Catholic faith. For more and more people within our public school system, they have not heard of Jesus Christ or the Gospel, and so catechists can often represent their first encounter with the Good News. The Jubilee also celebrates those who run Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) within their parishes, helping to introduce adults to the life of the Church and the fullness of the Christian faith.

For many Saints, being a catechist has been an important part of their life and their sanctification. Saint Carlo Acutis, who was canonised earlier this month, served his parish as a catechist, helping to teach people about the faith. Blessed Peter To Rot, who will be canonised in October, was also a catechist in his village and helped to lead his parish during World War II when the Catholic

missionaries were imprisoned by Imperial Japanese forces. If you haven't considered being a catechist, now may be the time to start thinking about it. Maybe you feel called to help bring adult converts into the Church? Maybe you feel called to introduce the Gospel and Jesus Christ to children who have never heard of the Good News before? We pray for all our catechists and teachers, who help instruct people in the faith and bring them into a more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Dementia Action Week 15–21 September 2025: Nobody**

**Can Do It Alone:** This week is Dementia Action Week, an annual, Australia-wide campaign led by Dementia Australia, promoting awareness, acceptance, and action to create a dementia-friendly future. The week highlights how early intervention, connection, and community support are vital, not only for adults living with dementia, but also for the families and carers who support them. The 2025 theme, **“Nobody Can Do It Alone,”** recognises the physical, mental, emotional, and economic demands of caring for someone with dementia or other chronic conditions. The week challenges everyone to reach out and reconnect with someone impacted by dementia, showing that support and connection truly make a difference.

**TAIZE Music and Prayer:** Relax in meditation and silence. Join us for 1 hour of TAIZE Music and Prayer on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 6.30pm for 7.00pm start at Our Lady Star of the Sea Terrigal, 165 Serpentine Road, Terrigal.

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: Amos 8:4-7**

Hear this, you who trample upon the needy and destroy the poor of the land! "When will the new moon be over," you ask, "that we may sell our grain, and the sabbath, that we may display the wheat? We will diminish the ephah, add to the shekel, and fix our scales for cheating! We will buy the lowly for silver, and the poor for a pair of sandals; even the refuse of the wheat we will sell!" The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Never will I forget a thing they have done!

## **Responsorial Psalm:**

### **R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.**

Praise, O people of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord! May the name of the Lord be blessed both now and forever. Amen.

### **R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.**

Who is like the Lord, our God, above the heavens is his glory. Yet he stops from the heights to look down, to look down upon heaven and earth?

### **R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.**

From the dust he lifts up the lowly, from the dungheap he raises the poor to set him in the company of princes, yes, with the princes of his people.

### **R. Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.**

## **Reading 2: 1 Tim 2:1-8**

Beloved: First of all, I ask that supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone, for kings and for all in authority, that we may lead a quiet and tranquil life in all devotion and dignity. This is good and pleasing to God our saviour, who wills everyone to be saved and to come to knowledge of the truth. For there is one God. There is also one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as ransom for all. This was the testimony at the proper time. For this I was appointed preacher and apostle — I am speaking the truth, I am not lying —, teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. It is my wish, then, that in every place the men should pray, lifting up holy hands, without anger or argument.

## **Alleluia:**

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

Though our Lord Jesus Christ was rich, he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich.

### **R. Alleluia!**

## **Gospel: Lk 16:1-13**

Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another the steward said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred kors of wheat.' The steward said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. "For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. I tell you, make friends for yourselves with dishonest wealth, so that when it fails, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones. If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with dishonest wealth, who will trust you with true wealth? If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours? No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and mammon."

## **Readings for the Week:**

### **Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September:**

Ezra 1:1-6/Ps 125/Lk 8:16-18

### **Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September:**

**St Pius of Pietrelcina** - Ezra 6:7-8, 12, 14-20/Ps 121:1-5/Lk 8:19-21

### **Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September:**

Ezra 9:5-9/Ps Tobit 13:2, 4, 6-8/Lk 9:1-6

### **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> September:**

Haggai 1:1-8/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Lk 9:7-9

### **Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> September:**

**Sts Cosmas & Damian** - Haggai 1:15-2:9/Ps 42:1-4/Lk 9:18-22

### **Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> September:**

**St Vincent de Paul** - Zech 2:5-9, 14-15/Ps Jer 31:10-13/Lk 9:43-45

### **Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> September:**

Amos 6:1, 4-7/Ps 145:6-10/1 Tim 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

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Let us keep in our prayers:

**Recently Deceased:** Amanda Trotter, Andrew Wills

**Anniversary:** Karen Chorazyczewska, Seilala Na'ati, Ken Nomchong, Thomas Ochea, Sara Selim

**Remembrance:** Roy Cutrone, Charlie Grima, Timothy Thurlow

**Sick:** Vincent Aarts, Alan Ball, Kathleen Bezzina, Lorraine Blandford, Roberto Bocor, Fr Michael Brady, Rae Busby, Matthew Cooper, Bill de Rooy, Anne-Marie Dixon, Marie Dixon, Iris Drewett, Aline Fauvette, Dympna Fitzpatrick, Maureen Fotheringham, Frances Glanz, Jason Harwood, Bill Hunt, Thomas J, Marge Lawrence, Betty & Sean McDermott, Ronald Matthews, Theresa Mitchell, Oscar James Moretti, Maureen Mullane, Ada-Primrose Murphy, Sharyn Newcombe, Marta Panczyna, Fr Reggo, Anthony Salis, Susie Simmons, Joseph Svanberg, Barry Tierney, Patricia Toohey, Donna Vella, Minda Valoba, Nigel Watts, Josie Weate, Janelle Whiteland, Melissa Wong, Willy Woods, Jonathon Zdilar

**Pope Leo's September Intention:**

**For our relationship with all of creation**

**Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.**

**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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