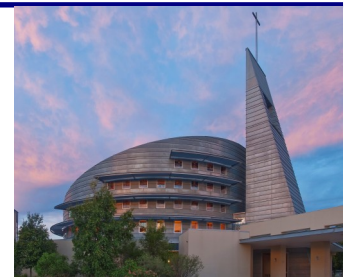




WOY WOY PENINSULA PARISH St John the Baptist Catholic Church

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



28th September 2025
26th 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 MSFS

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Fr John Prince VC

Parish Secretary

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**'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.'**

—LUKE 16:25

Today's readings, like those of last Sunday, invite us to continue our reflection on the dangers of riches. In our first reading, the prophet Amos vividly describes and roundly condemns the self-indulgent life-style of the wealthy. They do not care about the afflictions of the poor or about the imminent attack on the land of Israel by a foreign power [Assyria] as long as they can live in the lap of luxury. The prophet reminds them that their wealth will not save them from impending disaster. Diplomacy was not Amos's strong point!

In the gospel reading from Luke, Jesus recounts a familiar rich man/poor man folk tale, adding fresh and telling differences. In the story as told by Jesus, the poor man has a name, Lazarus, which means 'God will help', whereas the rich man has no name. Usually, it is the poor who are nameless, while the rich have names, glamour, fame and fortune. Furthermore, the fortunes of Lazarus and the rich man are reversed. The final destiny of Lazarus is to be 'carried away by the angels to the bosom of Abraham', whereas the rich man ends up 'in torment in Hades.' Like Amos, Jesus pinpoints indifference as the basic sin of the rich man. Cushioned by his lavish life-style, he is utterly oblivious to the presence of the poor man at his gate, starving and 'covered with sores.' He fails to see Lazarus as a fellow human, a brother, in dire need. The worlds of the rich and poor can exist side by side but never meet.

Indifference is the cardinal sin of those whose wealth blinds them to the sufferings and deprivations of the poor. It should be counted among the capital sins as it lies at the root of so many other sins of neglect. As Elie Wiesel, a Jewish prisoner in the Auschwitz and Buchenwald concentration camps, wrote: 'The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference.' Indifference is truly a deadly sin – a sin from which it is almost impossible to recover. And yet, recovery is possible, as Shakespeare's King Lear illustrates. As an old man, Lear is driven from his comfortable palace by his ungrateful daughters, and finds himself on an exposed and barren heath in the midst of a frightful storm. At the mercy of the elements, he comes to identify with the sufferings of the poor, whom he had never noticed before. For the first time, he begins to feel compassion for them and wishes to share his wealth with them.

The parable of the rich man and Lazarus is particularly relevant to our time, when the gap between the rich and the poor continues to grow. We are all aware that the recent dramatic increase in the price of gas and basic foodstuffs is having dire consequences for everyone, especially the poor. Many will be unable to make ends meet. We may say that this is a problem for the Government to solve but it must be our concern, too. We cannot be indifferent to the poverty around us. We are our sisters' and brothers' keepers. So, let us ask the Lord today to make us more aware of his presence in the poor and to open our hearts in response to their needs.

Michael McCabe SMA

<https://sma.ie/26th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-2022-year-c/>

Parish News:

Feast of St Vincent de Paul, 27th September: We wish Fr John and all Vincentians a happy Feast Day.

Birthday Wishes: Congratulations to Josie Weate who will celebrate her 100th birthday on 30th September. May God's endless love and infinite joy be with Josie today and always.

Thanks: Thanks to Bakers Delight for donating all the bread and baked goods for the Soup Night last weekend.

Daylight Savings: Daylight Savings starts Sunday, 5th October at 2.00am. Monday 6th October is a public holiday and the parish office will be closed. Mass is scheduled for 9.00am that day.

Cleaners for 3rd October: Renelyn Keighran, Tom French, Linda Potestas, Laila Dawe.

Readers for 4th & 5th October:

Saturday 5.00pm—Marie Andrews, Leonie King, Kate Bravo

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

Sunday 9.15am—Christine French, Emma Baker, Jacqui Scholte

Sunday 5.00pm—Lorena Lalor, Peter Smith, Marian Bowyer

Servers for 4th & 5th October:

Saturday 5.00pm—Paul Cavanagh, Vincent Cavanagh

Sunday 7.30am—Jose Torres, Paul Nolan

Sunday 9.15am—Hanaa El-Khatib, Jenny Fitzgerald

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Children's Liturgy of the Word is on a break and will resume on 19th October during 9.15am Mass.

Morning Tea: There will be a Children's Liturgy morning tea after 9.15am Mass next Sunday, 5th October.

Readers' Roster: Copies of the new Readers' Roster for Oct, Nov & Dec are now available in the Servers' Sacristy.

Fr Peter Marie Mermier 1790-1862 (Servant of God):

Mermier was born during the French Revolution and experienced the bitter effect and aftermath of it.

Studied and became a Priest in the arch-diocese of Chambery, France.

Founded the Congregations of Missionaries of St Francis de Sales (MSFS) and Sisters of the Holy Cross of Chavanod (SCC) in 1838.

Clarion and charismatic call was 'I WANT MISSIONS' to undertake and teach

Catechism, Parish Missions and send groups of Missionaries to Vizag, India in 1845 and later. In his honour, his death anniversary, 30th September, is remembered as FOUNDER'S DAY. Members of both the Congregations work in many countries, mostly in India and African countries as missionaries.



FR MERMIER WAS A:

Missionary par excellence

Educationist of the time

Religious to the core

Missions Preacher

Inborn Catecheist

Enthusiastic visionary

Reader of signs of time.



Jubilee of Catechists
26th - 28th September

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them the wisdom to know what to teach; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son. We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen. (From the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn).

Our Lady of the Rosary Wyoming Parish Feast

Celebrations: Our Lady of the Rosary Parish Wyoming invites all parishioners to join them for their Feast celebration on Tuesday, 7th October. Rosary at 6.30pm followed by Mass at 7.00pm. Dinner will be served after Mass. For further details please contact Wyoming Parish Office on 4324 3962.



Funeral Announcement: The life of Malcolm Sequeira will be celebrated at St John the Baptist Church on Friday, 3rd October at 2.00pm. We offer our sincere condolences to Malcolm's family and friends.

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.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Reading 1: Amos 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:

R. Praise the Lord my soul, O praise the Lord.

It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

R. Praise the Lord my soul, O praise the Lord.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger.

R. Praise the Lord my soul, O praise the Lord.

He upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

R. Praise the Lord my soul, O praise the Lord.

Reading 2: 1 Tim 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 honour and eternal power. Amen.

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 16:19-31

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.'"

Readings for the Week:

Monday, 29th September:

Tuesday, 30th September:

Wednesday, 1st October:

Thursday, 2nd October:

Friday, 3rd October:

Saturday, 4th October:

Sunday, 5th October:

Sts Michael, Gabriel & Raphael - Dan 7:9-10, 31-14/Ps 137:1-5/Jn 1:47-51

St Jerome - Zech 8:20-23/Ps 86/Lk 9:51-56

St Thérèse of the Child Jesus - Neh 2:1-8/Ps 136:1-6/Lk 9:57-62

The Holy Guardian Angels - Ex 23:20-23/Ps 90:1-6, 10-11/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Baruch 1:15-22/Ps 78:1-5, 8-9/Lk 10:13-16

St Francis of Assisi - Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 68:33-37/Lk 10:17-24

Hab 1:2-3, 2:2-4/Ps 94:1-2, 6-9/2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-9

Let us keep in our prayers:

Recently Deceased: Gilberte Berti, Rae Busby, Micheal Dowd, Maureen Fahy, Charles Kirk, Bishop Pat Power, Malcolm Sequeira

Anniversary: Hugo John Cutrone, Ron Dixon, Jack Dunne, Kathleen & Ted Ellison, Patricia Ellphinston, Mary Gormly, Mary Lucas

Remembrance: 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>

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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<div><p>not just notes</p><p>Would you like to play the piano? Would you like to play the pipe organ? Do you want to improve your skills?</p><p> Learn to play and love your music! Recently moved from Sydney to Umina Beach With over 20 years of teaching experience I aim to inspire whilst teaching good technique and improving skills.</p><p>godelieve@notjustnotes.com.au 0404 837 363</p></div>	<div><div></div><p>Bryan J. Reid Funeral Services</p><p>1/39 Victoria Road, Woy Woy.</p><p>1800 032 225</p><p>100% Australian Owned Family Operated Company.</p></div>	<div><p>Spices29 GOAN INDIAN RESTAURANT</p><p>Come and enjoy delicious culinary delights that will take you on a journey into the magical world of Indian Cuisine. Our chefs capture the aromatic flavours and present to you the tastiest dishes from the country with great heritage and flamboyant culture.</p><p>LUNCH TUESDAY TO SATURDAY (11.00am to 2.30pm) DINNER TUESDAY TO THURSDAY & SUNDAY (4.30pm to 9.30pm) FRIDAY & SATURDAY (4.30pm TILL LATE)</p><p>34 Blackwall Road, Woy Woy-NSW 2256, Tel: 02 43398225, www.spices29.com.au</p></div>
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