

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C —21 SEPTEMBER 2025

First Reading *Amos 8:4-7*
A reading from the prophet Amos
The Lord God spoke against those who buy the poor for money.

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country, you who say, ‘When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat? Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.’ The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, ‘Never will I forget a single thing you have done.’

Responsorial Psalm *Ps 112:1-2, 4-8. R. see vv.1, 7*
(R.) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

- 1. Praise, O servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord! May the name of the Lord be blessed both now and for evermore! **(R.)**
- 2. High above all nations is the Lord, above the heavens his glory. Who is like the Lord, our God, who has risen on high to his throne yet stoops from the heights to look down, to look down upon heaven and earth? **(R.)**
- 3. 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.)**

Second Reading *1 Timothy 2:1-8*
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy
Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all people to be saved.

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and mankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

Gospel Acclamation *2 Corinthians 8:9*
Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.
Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke 16:1-13*
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There was a rich man and he had a steward who was denounced to him for being wasteful with his property. He called for the man and said, “What is this I hear about you? Draw me up an account of your stewardship because you are not to be my steward any longer.” Then the steward said to himself, “Now that my master is taking the stewardship from me, what am I to do? Dig? I am not strong enough. Go begging? I should be too ashamed. Ah, I know what I will do to make sure that when I am dismissed from office there will be some to welcome me into their homes.” ‘Then he called his master’s debtors one by one. To the first he said, “How much do you owe my master?” “One hundred measures of oil,” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond; sit down straight away and write fifty.” To another he said, “And you, sir, how much do you owe?” “One hundred measures of wheat,” was the reply. The steward said, “Here, take your bond and write eighty.” ‘The master praised the dishonest steward for his astuteness. For the children of this world are more astute in dealing with their own kind than are the children of light.

‘And so I tell you this: use money, tainted as it is, to win you friends, and thus make sure that when it fails you, they will welcome you into the tents of eternity. The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things will be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? ‘No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.’

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CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG

Welcome to the Parishes of

St Mary’s Berkeley

and

St Francis of Assisi, Warrawong



Pastor: Fr Mark De Battista	PH: 0434 157 987	Parishes Office: Ph: 4276 3565
Deacon: Deacon Lawrie Burns		Office Hours: Tues, Wed 9:00am-1:00pm; Thurs 9:00am-1:30pm
Parishes Secretary: Mrs Magdalene Duarte (Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri)		Fri 10:00am to 11.30am
Hospital Chaplains: WOLLONGONG—4222 5000		Email: berkeleywarrawong@dow.org.au
SHELLHARBOUR—4296 3939		Address: 211 Northcliffe Drive, Berkeley NSW 2506
St Francis of Assisi Church, Warrawong: Corner of Bruce & Flagstaff Road, Warrawong NSW 2502		
St Mary’s Church, Berkeley: 211 Northcliffe Drive, Berkeley NSW 2506		
Postal address for all correspondence: PO Box 37, Berkeley NSW 2506		
Daughters of Our Lady of the Visitation Sisters: Warrawong Convent Ph: 4276 3565		
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmaryoftherosarystfrancisofassisi		
Parish School: St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School		

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C —21 SEPTEMBER 2025

MASS TIMES:	BERKELEY: THURS 5:00pm Holy Hour, 6:00pm Mass	SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00pm
	WARRAWONG: FRI 9:00am followed by Holy Hour	SUNDAY: 10:30am
	PORT KEMBLA: TUES 5:00 pm Holy Hour, 6:00 pm Mass	SUNDAY: 9:00 am
	WINDANG: SAT 5:30 pm Vigil Mass	
RECONCILIATION:	BERKELEY: THURS 5:00pm-5:45pm during Holy Hour	WARRAWONG: FRI 9:45am-10:45am during Holy Hour
	PORT KEMBLA: TUES 5:00pm-5:45pm during Holy Hour	SAT 10:00am

BAPTISMS: Celebrated at Warrawong on 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12pm and Berkeley by appointment only. Baptism bookings require at least 2 months notice through the Parish Office. Baptism preparation session must be completed for the first child only. The Baptism preparation session is held on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6pm at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Warrawong.

WEDDINGS: By appointment only with at least six months notice. *A pre-nuptial program MUST be attended.*

ORDER OF SECULAR FRANCISCANS: 4th Sunday of the month after 10:30am Mass in Meeting Room. Contact Paul: M: 0418 113 947.

DEVOTION OF DIVINE MERCY: Warrawong, 4:00pm every Monday.

ST MARY’S RETIREMENT VILLAGE MASS AND ANOINTING: 10:30am, 2nd Friday of the month.

LEGION OF MARY: 4pm every Friday in the Warrawong Church meeting room.

ROSARY: Prayed daily 30 minutes before Mass.

DEVOTION TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY: Warrawong, every Saturday at 8:00am.

CFC-HANDMAIDS OF THE LORD: 1st Sunday and 3rd Sunday of the month after 10:30am Mass in Warrawong Meeting Room.

OUR VISION

To be Christ centred, led by the Holy Spirit, caring for all people with the compassion and love of the Father.

OUR MISSION

To share the love of Jesus Christ with all people.

PRAYER FOR OUR PARISHES

We pray at St Mary’s and St Francis of Assisi to be Christ centred, led by the Holy Spirit, caring for all people with the compassion and love of the Father, so that we can fulfil the mission you want of us, to share your love with all people. Amen.



WE PRAY FOR:

The faithfully departed: Ermelinda Nobrega; Alan Tonkin; Colin Hughes; Manuel Sousa; Jose Ernesto Silva; Filomena Duarte; Nicola, Beneditta, Marzia & Emidio Coppola; Josip Cerneka; Victoria Turla; Enriqueta Munoz.

Please keep those who are sick in your prayers especially especially Maria Mendes; Doris Grech; Pablito Aguilar; Dominic Le; Raffaella La Volpe; Paul Galea; Fr Leonard Testa; Patricia Pearce; Maria Dos Santos; Rosa Colaco; Ofa Vatuvei; Anselmo Madeddu; Sonia Vairinhos.

Jubilee Year 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope
"Hope does not disappoint." Romans 5:5

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Matthew —21st September

St Matthew was originally a tax collector for the Roman Government at Capernaum, before Jesus called him to become an apostle. Jesus’ contemporaries were surprised to see him associating with someone like Matthew, but Jesus explained that he had come “not to call the just, but the sinners”. The first Gospel was believed to have been written by Matthew. His account of Christ’s life was written for his fellow Jews, to convince them that their anticipated Messiah had indeed come in the person of Jesus.

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ROSTER—ST MARY’S		
20 SEPT	READERS:	Colin Boylan & Jan Royan
	ALTAR SOCIETY	Margaret /Polly / Dani
	COUNTERS:	Hieu /Teresa / ROD
	WELCOMERS:	Dona &Sister
	READERS:	Geraldine Tobin / Jenny Thomson
	ALTAR SOCIETY:	
	COUNTERS:	Sharon / Simon / JAN
	WELCOMERS:	Michael & Sharon

ROSTER—ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI		
21 SEPT	READERS:	Patricia Davis & Tina Chicharo
	COMMUNION:	Sister & Magdalene Duarte
	CHILDREN’S LITURGY:	Brett Murphy & Rebecca Dayal
	WELCOMERS:	David Hagerty & Patricia Davis
	CLEANING GROUP:	26 Sept: Group 3
28 SEPT	READERS:	Secular Franciscans
	COMMUNION:	Canning Schurr & Sandra Briscoe
	CHILDREN’S LITURGY:	School Holidays
	WELCOMERS:	Secular Franciscans
	CLEANING GROUP:	3 Oct: Group 4

DATES	PARISHES	First Collection (Loose Change, Tap Point and Electronic Giving)	Second Collection (Loose Change, Planned Giving Envelopes, Tap Point & Electronic Giving)
13/14 September	BERKELEY	\$342.35	\$523.10
	WARRAWONG	\$478.90	\$646.95

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

COMBINED PARISHES

THE BISHOP’S ANNUAL APPEAL-EXTRA COLLECTION

This weekend, 20/21 September, a 3rd collection will take place in both churches for Bishop Brian Mascord’s annual appeal to support the retirement and health of clergy, and the sound and holistic formation of seminarians. To find out more or make a tax deductible donation please visit www.dow.org.au/giving or call (02) 4222 2446 to make a tax deductible donation over the phone. "Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Offering dignified support and care for our retired clergy, who have always cared for us; and a sound and holistic formation of our young seminarians, our future priests, are my responsibilities as your Bishop. I seek your prayers and practical support to help me ensure that I can do this. Your donation to this appeal is very much appreciated." + Bishop Brian Mascord

Darren McDowell, Sinh Le and Joseph Nguyen will be ordained as priests for the Wollongong Diocese at 10:00am Saturday 13th December, All Saints Church, Shellharbour.

BISHOP PATRICK POWER RIP

Bishop Power, Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Canberra and Goulburn Archdiocese passed away this week. He was loved and revered as an outspoken supporter for the poor and marginalised. May be rest in peace.

ALPHA has started but IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!

ALPHA is a series that explores faith. Each week it includes a meal, a video and small-group conversation, in a welcoming, relaxed, and safe space.

WHO CAN YOU THINK TO INVITE??

The next **ALPHA** experience will commence soon.

Date: TUESDAYS

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Venue: Parish Hall at St Patrick’s Catholic Parish, 42 O’Donnell Street, Port Kembla NSW 2505.

To register for this **ALPHA** experience simply scan the QR code or register via the link below:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfD3f8hAdWCTkmfxjf7OrWrtooi9ybf4vETz4L-KHOfvVbd9w/viewform>

We look forward to welcoming you as our guests!

REMEMBER MY FATHER ENVELOPES

Envelopes labelled 'Father’s Day Masses' have been placed on the pews at Warrawong and Berkeley Churches. If you wish to have your father, deceased or living, prayed for during the month of September, please print the name(s) on the envelope and place in the 2nd collection bag.

WHOLE PARISH MEETINGS – COME AND BE HEARD

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend a **Whole Parish Meeting** which is a valuable opportunity for us to:

- Reflect on the **future direction** of our parishes,
- Share our hopes, ideas, and concerns,
- Meet Fr Mark informally**, and allow him to hear our stories and get to know us better.

Meeting Schedule:

- Wednesday 24 September** – 7:00pm to 8:30pm
Parish Hall, Port Kembla.
- Saturday 27 September** – 10:00am to 11:30am
St Francis Parish/School Hall.
- Saturday 27 September** – 2:30pm to 3:45pm
Berkeley Church.

Everyone is strongly encouraged to attend. If you are unable to attend your own parish’s meeting, you are most welcome to attend one of the other meetings at another Parish. Let’s come together to shape the future of our faith communities. We look forward to seeing you there!

BUS TRIP TO BERRIMA SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF MERCY PENROSE PARK

We would like to warmly invite all Parishioners and friends to join us for this special day. This will include, reciting the rosary on the way to Berrima, joining the procession and Mass and confession will able be available. Date: **13th October 2025**. Time: 8.30am to 5.00pm Cost: \$25.00 Please bring your own lunch. Pick up locations: St Patrick’s Church at Port Kembla and St Francis of Assisi Church at Warrawong. The trip will go ahead if we have sufficient interest from Parishioners cover the cost of bus. If you would like to attend, please call Dani, Secretary at St Patrick’s Parish on Phone: 42741192.

WARRAWONG NEWS

REBORN IN CHRIST

Congratulations to the families of **Lincoln John Evans** & **Melenaite Elaine Ngauamo** baptised at our Parish on the weekend and a warm welcome to our newest members. “I have called you by name. You are mine.” (Isaiah 43:1)

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

Date: **Sunday 21st September, 2025**

Venue: St Francis of Assisi Parish Warrawong.

Time: 2:30 pm Procession of Our Lady of Victories. Followed by Holy Mass.

After mass there will be refreshments at the George Cross Falcons Community Centre, 25-27 Lake Avenue, Cringila. All are warmly welcome to attend.

MORNING TEA CHANGE

Our regular end of month Morning Tea in the Hall is being moved from 28 September to the following weekend, 5 Oct.

St Francis of Assisi Celebration

Join us for Morning Tea hosted by the Secular Franciscan Order on Sunday, 5 October, after the 10:30am Mass in the Parish Hall. Please feel free to bring a plate of cakes, biscuits, or other goodies to share. We look forward to celebrating together!

CALL TO FAITH

We invite you on a Journey of Faith... a Way to rediscover the art of living and receive ongoing education in the faith. **ALL WELCOME!**- no matter what your situation. **Adult Catechesis** - St Francis of Assisi Parish/School Hall. **7.30pm Sundays and Thursdays** (for approx. 1hr each night) **No cost involved**. Babysitting available - call Trish 0408 495 465. For more information or help call Neil 0438 056 016.

ST MARY’S PARISH BERKELEY 60TH ANNIVERSARY BOOKLETS

Booklets are available from the Piety Store at a cost of \$10 each. The booklet details the history of the Berkeley Parish.

100 CLUB

Draw 9 Winning No 74—M Gerada. **Support our parish and be in with a chance to win in future draws! New members are very welcome to join.** Please phone the Parishes Office or speak to Annie if you wish to join — and feel free to invite your friends and family to take part too! Let’s grow the 100 Club and continue supporting our parish together.

BERKELEY NEWS

SOCIAL EVENT

All are welcome to join fellow parishioners for dinner after Mass, next **Saturday, 27th September** (last Saturday of the month) at the Berkeley Sports and Social Club.

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Booklets detailing the history of the Berkeley Parish are available from the Piety Shop at a cost of \$10 each.

DIOCESAN NEWS

HEAR FROM POPE LEO XIV

<https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faithcircles/> to access or sign up to have it sent straight to you.

WHAT’S ON AROUND THE DIOCESE?

Subscribe at dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin.

HEAR PROLIFE SPEAKER - DR JOANNA HOWE

Save our Girls Bill 2025 Speaking Tour.

Join people across churches and all walks of life for an event in Shellharbour with the formidable Dr Joanna Howe as a part of our “Save Our Girls” Speaking Tour. Girls are selectively aborted at an alarmingly higher rate in NSW. Hear why John Ruddick NSW MLC is introducing a bill to end this and how you can help.

Shellharbour Community Church, 7:00pm, Saturday 27 September. Please join us to hear from Dr Jo with opportunity for Q&A as well as supper at the end. Register: drjoannahowe.com.au/speakingtour2025-shellharbour

THE JOURNEY – YOUR DIOCESAN WEEKLY PODCAST

Each week Journey brings you great music, formation in faith, with an array of fantastic presenters from our Diocese and around Australia. Just go to www.jcr.org.au and we will send it to you each week