

Sunday, 21st September 2025 25th Sunday in the Season of Ordinary Time

Prudent Stewards



The steward in today's Gospel confronts the reality that he can't go on living the way he has been. He is under judgment. He must give account for what he has done.

The exploiters of the poor in today's First Reading are also about to be pulled down, to be thrust from their stations.

Servants of mammon, or money, they're so in love with wealth that they reduce the poor to objects; they despise the new moons and sabbaths—the observances and holy days of God.

Their only hope is to follow the steward's path. He is no model of repentance. But he makes a prudent calculation—to use his last hours in charge of his master's property to show mercy to others, to relieve their debts.

He is a child of this world, driven by a purely selfish motive—to make friends and be welcomed into the homes of his master's debtors. Yet his prudence is commended as an example to us, the children of light. We too must realize, as the steward does, that what we have is not honestly ours, but in truth belongs to another, our Master.

All the mammon in the world could not have paid the debt we owe our Master. So He paid it for us. He gave His life as a ransom for all, as we hear in today's Epistle.

God wants everyone to be saved, even kings and princes, even the lovers of money. But we cannot serve two Masters. By His grace, we should choose to be, as we sing in today's Psalm, "servants of the Lord."

We serve Him by using what He has entrusted us with to give alms, to lift the lowly from the dust and dunghills of this world. By this we will gain what is ours and be welcomed into eternal dwellings, the many mansions of the Father's house.

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Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 9am

The Word Of The Lord

This Week's Readings: 25OC

First: Amos 8:4-7
Second: 1 Timothy 2:1-8
Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Psalm Response:

(R.) Praise the Lord who lifts up the poor.

Next Week's Readings: 26OC

First: Amos 6:1, 4-7
Second: 1 Timothy 6:11-16
Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Parish Staff

Parish Priest: Father Leo Duck

Parish Secretary: Donna Small

02 4256 2038

office@stpaulsparish.org.au

249-251 Tongarra Road, ALBION PARK PO Box 194, Albion Park, NSW 2527

Parish EFT Bank Account

BSB: 066 711 Account: 001754

or

donate online using your credit card: stpaulsparish.org.au/give

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday: 08:00 - 16:00 Wednesday: 08:30 - 10:30

12:00 - 16:00

Thursday: 08:30 - 16:30 Friday: 10:30 - 16:30

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stpaulsparish.org.au/ Free WiFi: St Paul's Church: Password: saulpaul

This Week's Masses: 250C

22/09	Monday	6:45am Mass
23/09	Tuesday St Pius of Pietrelcina	6:00pm Mass
24/09	Wednesday	6:00pm Mass
25/09	Thursday	8:00am Mass
26/09	Friday Ss Cosmas & Damian	9:30am Mass Year 8 attending
27/09	Saturday St Vincent de Paul	6:00pm Vigil
28/09	Sunday (26OC) 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:00am Mass

Other Events: (22nd – 28th September)

Mon	6:30pm	Charismatic Group (PMR)
Mon	7:30am	MacKillop building repairs
Wed	9:00am	Year 12 Graduation (SJHS Hall)
Fri	8:00am	Legion of Mary (PMR)
Sun	10:00am	After Mass Cuppa

PMR: Parish Meeting Room; Mac: MacKillop Meeting Room

Rosters Next Week – 26OC

Readers: 27th September – 28th September

6pm: Tania Di Pietro, Vickie Gal

9am: Tess Godfrey, Jesse Godfrey

Counters

21/09 Wayne Lees, Sonja Patulny,

Gaby Hooker

28/09 Brian Godfrey, Gary Amess,

Moira Sheldon

Church Cleaners

21/09 Allan O'Rourke, Linda O'Rourke

28/09 Catherine Foster, Julianne Hoffard

"Always remain close to the Catholic Church, because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace."

Saint Padre Pio

Reminder: Mass on Monday, 22nd September will be at 6:45am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

23/09 **Tuesday:** 5:00pm – 5:45pm

24/09 **Wednesday:** 5:00pm – 5:45pm

27/09 **Saturday:** 5:00pm – 5:45pm

Reconciliation

(Held in the Chapel)

23/09 **Tuesday:** 5:00pm – 5:45pm

24/09 **Wednesday:** 5:00pm – 5:45pm

27/09 **Saturday:** 5:00pm - 5:45pm

We Remember In Prayer

- Recently deceased: Michael Bonnano; Bishop Pat Power; Teresa Witkowski; Angela Arnold; Frank Cassar; Anthony Bendall; Jack Braakman; Lyn Gal; Kevin Small; Ignazio Piffarelli; Fr David Catterall.
- Anniversaries: Ken Hancock; Thelma Brownlee; John Angwin; Pat Quennell; Nancy Groves; Filomena Alfiero; Mary George; Winsome Uren; Ian Angwi; Annette Gillespie (Snr); Chris Hatfield; Tom Brownlee; Dick Hill; Jack Martin; Warren Harmer; Jack Williams; Sr Rosa; Ron Ross; Dorothy Hamilton; George Rospara; Vince Dallas; Maureen Daly; Denise Cerniauskas; all souls in purgatory.
- For all who are sick: Charlie Bonnano; Peter; Fred de Hosson; Fr Ronan Kilgannon; Brian Russell; Katie Keys; Catie; Mary Boerebach, Msgr Paul Ryan; Sr Carmel; Brent Austin; Allen Maxwell; Carmel Keyes; Bernadine Hagan; Les Lugowski; Rebecca; Ron Smith; Maurie Jamieson; Michael Graham; Denise Constable; Janice Nussbaumer; Jacob Purcell; Teresa Farrugia; Anne Iverson; Luke Aitken; Colleen Julian; Jack McPhee; Toni Dragon; Emily Pattison; Paul Robinson; Karl Edlinger; Emilia Maslanka; Rosa Maria Santos; Dylan Sant; Summer Martin; Jessica Hart; Steven Maxwell.
- We pray for Pope Leo XIV, vocations to the priesthood and religious life.
- We pray for all unborn children and those for whom no-one else prays.

Instituted Ministries of Acolyte & Lector

Formation For Instituted Ministries

Place: Xavier Conference Centre Wollongong

Date: 30th November 2025 **Time:** 9.30am - 1:00pm

10.30am: Celebration of the Eucharist (Cathedral)

Register: dow.sh/im25

Welcoming Mass & Baptisms

This weekend we welcome the Micallef and Raposio families, as three children, Carter, Oaklen and Gianna will receive the Sacrament of Baptism from Father Leo. We pray that the grace of the Holy Spirit will be granted to these children in abundance as they begin their lives anew as members of God's family. We pray also for their parents and God-parents, that they will encourage these children to pray always and to say **Yes** to God.

Uniting Church Summer Fashion Parade

Date: Tuesday, 23rd September

Time: 10:00am

Cost: \$10.00. A great morning tea will be provided.

RSVP: Kay Glover - 0419 478 756

Bishop's Annual Appeal: THIS WEEKEND

The Bishop's Annual Appeal is being held this weekend and next. There are a number of ways to make a **tax-deductible donation** to the Bishop's Appeal:



Scan: QR code **Call:** (02) 4222 2400

Online: www.dow.org.au/giving

Envelope: Appeal Envelopes will be available in the narthex on 20-21 and 27-

28 September. They can be dropped into the collection bags at either collection this weekend and next.

Music Ministry Update

During the upcoming school holidays, I will be attending the National Liturgy and Music Conference: *Pilgrims of Hope, Transformed through Sacrament and Song.* Thank you, once again, to those who have financially supported me, so I can attend. Photos from the conference will be shared on the Parish Facebook page. Please take note that whilst away there will be limited music at the weekend masses. I look forward to sharing with everyone the insights and new music from the conference on my return. Thanks and God bless. *Catriona Nunan*

Resinject Repair Work Begins this Week

This week, beginning on Monday, 22nd September, Resinject will begin the essential repair work to the foundations of the old presbytery, now known as the MacKillop building. Father Leo is very thankful to the parishioners who have been so generous in making donations to this specific cause.

Ministries Roster

The new Ministries Roster will begin on the weekend of 4^{th} & 5^{th} October. Hard copies will be available in the narthex from next weekend. Thank you to all parishioners who so willingly give of their time and talents to sustain the liturgical, sacramental, catechetical, social and benevolent life of the parish community.

St John Vianney's Class of '75 - 50th Reunion

Class of '75, Year 6, 50th Anniversary Reunion

Contact: Angela, Luiza, Jose or Sophie
Email: info.sjvclassof75@gmail.com
Facebook: St John Vianney's, Class of 75 - 50th

reunion

Pro-Life Speaker Dr Joanna Howe

Save Our Girls Bill 2025

Date: Saturday, 27th September

Time: 7:00pm

Venue: Shellharbour Community Church

Register: drjoannahowe.com.au/speakingtour2025-shellharbour Join people across churches and all walks of life for an event in Shellharbour with 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. Please join us to hear from Dr Jo with opportunity for Q&A as well as supper at the end.

Blessing of Animals

Date: Monday, 6th October

Time: 9:30am

Parish: Saint Michael's Parish, Thirroul

Address: 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul.

The blessing will take place in the courtyard next to the church. All animals under 800kg and their carers/handlers are welcome.

The feast of St Francis of Assisi is Saturday, 4th October. There will be a Mass at 9:30am – animals welcome.

Thank You from St Vincent de Paul Society

A belated Thank You to the Catholic Women's League for their generous support of the St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal last month. *Hugh Kennedy (SVdP President)*

Mission Mindset Retreat Sunday

Date: Saturday, 18th October 2025

Time: 12:00pm

Venue: St Mary Star the Sea Parish Centre, Gerringong

RSVP: RSVP by Thursday, 16th October

Contact: youth@dow.org.au or

Register: dow.org.au/events/mission-mindset-retreat

We are all called to mission, wherever we are and whatever we are doing. We are missionaries of the everyday. Join NET Ministries Australia & New Zealand as they dive into what it means to have a mission mindset. Whether you're interested in mission or wondering what it looks like in our church, come along and bring a friend. We hope to see you there atop the beautiful hill overlooking Gerringong

Australian Catholic Youth Festival

Place: Melbourne Exhibition Centre

Date: 30th November - 2nd December 2025

Register: dow.org.au/cymw or

Enquiries: Arnie Hurdoyal arnie.hurdoyal@dow.org.au

ACYF is a national celebration of faith, drawing together thousands of young people (Year 9 to 25 years old) from across Australia for a powerful experience of encounter, formation, prayer and community. Each day includes dynamic speakers, workshops, music, Mass, and an interactive expo. Travel and accommodation are being organised through **Harvest Journeys**, with a full package including ACYF ticket, return flights, transfers, 4 nights' hotel accommodation, daily breakfast & dinner on arrival. Spots are limited and must be finalised by mid-September.

The Word of God: Sunday of the Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time | Year C

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

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.

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.

"The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great."

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.'