



St Michael's Parish, Nowra - Tel: 4423 1712 E-mail: office@nowraparish.org.au

Website: nowraparish.org.au Incorporates the Church Communities of St Michael, Nowra; St Patrick, Berry

Sacred Heart, Bomaderry; Mary, Help of Christians, Culburra; St Joseph, Kangaroo Valley; Holy Spirit, Vincentia.

The Epiphany of the Lord [Year A]

6th January 2008



The Feast of the Epiphany

"The very ancient Feast of the Epiphany celebrates the fact that Israel's

Messiah is also the Saviour of the entire world. We believers of later generations take this more or less for granted. But it is clear that for the earliest Christians of non-Jewish ('Gentile') origin it was a source of immense wonder and gratitude.

Faced with this 'mystery' of the extraordinary richness and scope of God's salvation, the early Christians went back to the Scriptures of Israel to find traces of its foretelling...

We see here a pattern whereby revelation springs from a combination of natural wisdom and biblical prophecy. The human gifts and learning of these representatives of the Gentile world play an essential role in leading them to the Saviour.

Their journey has been one of faith and risk. Their coming has caused 'disturbance' in Jerusalem; the treacherous and murderous figure of Herod looms over all, presaging the Passion that is to come. But the riches of God's salvation will go to the Gentiles. We too walk in the footsteps of the wise men, sharing their longing, their faith, and the joy of their discovery, and bringing our own gifts to the Lord....". {Brendan Byrne SJ}

Sunday Masses: (Holiday time):

NOWRA 6pm Vigil; 8am, 9.30am & 6pm
BERRY 8.00am
BOMADERRY 9.30am
CULBURRA 6pm Vigil & 8.00am
VINCENTIA 6pm Vigil, 8.00am & 9.30am
KANGAROO VALLEY 11.00am
SHOALHAVEN HEADS: Vigil 6.00pm
 (In the Shoalhaven Heads Community Centre)

MASSES DURING THE WEEK

Nowra: Mon 7.00am Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am
 Friday 7.00am and 11.30am, Sat 9.00am

Berry: Tues 5.30pm **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm

Bomaderry: First Friday only 5.45pm

Vincentia: Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am ... Tues, Wed 5.30pm

Kangaroo Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am;
 Wed 6.15am. Divine Office is chanted 15 mins prior to Mass. No Mass on Fridays.

Sat. Jan. 12th. Santo Nino The Filipino Annual Festival Mass – 9.00.a.m. at St. Michael's

Confession/Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 11.30.-12.30pm. 5.00 - 5.30pm.

Culburra: Sat. 5.30pm. **Berry:** Tues 6.00pm

B'derry: 1st Fri. 5.15pm.; **K Valley:** Sat 4.30 – 5.00pm

Vincentia: Sat. 5 - 5.30pm.



We prayerfully remember **Joyce McMahon, Irene Henry, John Lane and Yvette Tito** whose anniversaries occur. *May they rest in eternal peace.*

WYD2008 – The Diocese of Wollongong's HomeStay program has been launched. Would you like to host WYD pilgrims? This is a wonderful opportunity to welcome international visitors into your home during WYD08. Be sure to pick up a blue flyer and register by visiting wyd08woll.org or place your completed flyer in the Homestay box (in all Mass Centres).



Note: If you have already returned the blue flyer, please take one of the HomeStay information packs, and complete the 2-page application form at the back, and drop the completed form in the HomeStay box. Thanks!

❖ **The Young Adults Group** are holding a raffle with prizes of approx. \$500/1st prize, \$250/2nd prize and \$120/3rd prize. The winners will be announced through Bulletin. All monies raised will assist youth and young adults to attend WYD08.

JOURNEY TO THE HEART LENTEN PROGRAM

– As Lent begins on 6 Feb 2008 we need to get **Lenten groups** organised over the holiday break. Sheets for Nowra/B'derry are at the Church doors; for the other centres please check with the usual contact people. Enquiries – please contact Peggy 44213417 or Francene 44215962. The Diocesan program is – **Journey to the Heart** – an Australian Pilgrimage to renew our life in Christ and with one another. It would be a wonderful lead-in to the journey of the cross and icon and to WYD08.



We urge people to put their names down as groups will need to be finalised soon.

Bishop Peter Ingham is visiting the Parish and celebrating some of the Masses over the next two week-ends. He will be visiting Culburra (Vigil), Berry and Bomaderry on Sunday morning this weekend (Epiphany) and will celebrate Masses in Nowra next weekend (Baptism of the Lord).

The Society of St Vincent de Paul Culburra-Callala. The Society wishes to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the Christmas Appeal last weekend. The total raised was \$1212. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



CLERGY OF THE PARISH: Ph: 4423 1712
 Fr Patrick Faherty PP,
 Fr Richard Healey.....
 Fr Leo Duck (Vincentia).....Ph: 4441 5571
 Fr Ronan Kilgannon (K/Valley)

Next Sunday January 13th. is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.
 We wish all parishioners and visitors every blessing, peace and good health throughout 2008.