

## Gospel Acclamation

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia!

## Gospel

14:1-12

### From the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father’s house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.’

Thomas said, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?’ Jesus said:

‘I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.’

Philip said, ‘Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.’ ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip,’ said Jesus to him ‘and you still do not know me?’

‘To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, “Let us see the Father”?’

Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

‘I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.’

## The Gospel of the Lord.

## Reflection

by Dianne Bergant CSA

**T**he gospel readings for the Sundays just before the feast of Pentecost are all taken from Jesus’ last discourse in the Gospel of John. In them, Jesus prepares his followers for his death and resurrection and his ultimate exaltation.

This Sunday Jesus says that it is through his death that he goes to God. However, it is as he is raised up in crucifixion that he is exalted. The author of the epistle declares him ‘chosen and precious in the sight of God’ but it is as the stone that was rejected that he is so honoured. If we ever wonder how the exaltation of Jesus will effect us, we have Jesus’ own words of explanation. He promises to go ahead of us and make arrangements for us to share in his exaltation in the house of the one he calls Father. All we need do is follow him.

Today’s readings suggest that the exaltation of Jesus is most dramatically manifested in the character of the community of those called by his name. It is revealed in the way Christians settle their differences so that all parties are treated fairly. Jesus is the cornerstone upon which this community is built, and the community mirrors his influence in its life. Christians also participate in the exaltation of Jesus by spreading the good news to others. In Acts we see how the witness of life and the preaching of the word of God increased the number of believers.

# 85

days to go

Register now!  
wyd08woll.org



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# Our Sunday Word

St Michael’s Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Fifth Sunday (Year A) ~ Season of Easter

20 April 2008

## First Reading

6:1-7

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, ‘It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.’ The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

### The word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 32

**R**/ Lord, let your mercy be on us,  
as we place our trust in you.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. (R.)
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (R.)
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

## Second Reading

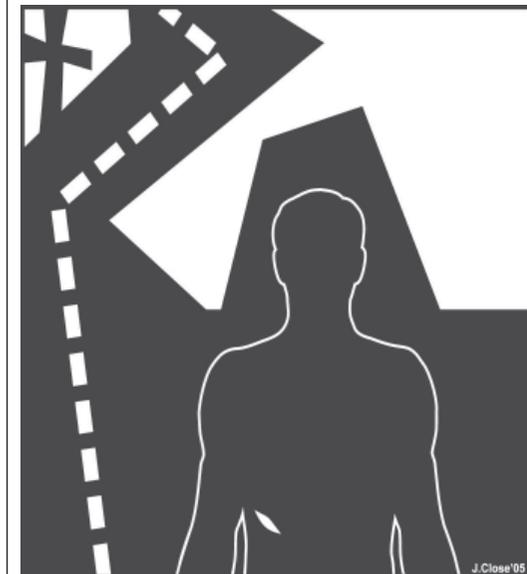
2:4-9

### A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

### The word of the Lord.



J.Close'05



**St Michael's Parish**, Nowra – Tel: 4423 1712 E-mail: [office@nowraparish.org.au](mailto:office@nowraparish.org.au)

**Website: [nowraparish.org.au](http://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.

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter [Year A]

20 April 2008

### Sunday Masses:

**NOWRA** .....6pm Vigil; 8am, 9.30am & 6pm  
**BERRY**..... 8.00am  
**BOMADERRY**..... 9.30am  
**CULBURRA**.....6pm Vigil  
**VINCENTIA**..... 6pm Vigil, & 9.30am  
**KANGAROO VALLEY**..... 11.00am

### MASSES DURING THE WEEK

**Nowra:** Mon 7.00am, Tues/ Wed./Thurs 8.15am,  
**Fri 25<sup>th</sup>.** -- **Anzac Day 8.00 a.m Mass only.**  
 Sat 9.00am **Morning Prayer:** Wed 7.50am;  
**Berry:** Tues 5.30pm **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm  
**Bomaderry:** First Friday only 5.45pm  
**Vincentia:** Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am, Tues /Wed 5.30pm  
**S'haven Heads;** Friday – no Mass on Anzac Day  
**Kangaroo Valley:** ..... Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am;  
 Wed 6.15am. Divine Office is chanted 15 mins prior to  
 Mass. No Mass on Fridays.

### Confession/Reconciliation

**Nowra:** Sat 11.30-12.30pm. 5.00 - 5.30pm.  
**Culburra:** Sat. 5.30pm. **Berry:** Tues 6.00pm  
**B'derry:** 1<sup>st</sup> Fri. 5.15pm; **K'Valley:** Sat 4.30 – 5.00pm  
**Vincentia:** Sat 5.00pm – 5.30pm

**NOWRA CWL** extends an invitation to mothers and grandmothers of the Parish to a Mothers' Day a/noon tea on Sat 3 May at 2pm in the Parish Centre. **RSVP** (for catering purposes) by 27 April 2008 to Marie 4448 5347 or Judy 4421 8565



**BAY & BASIN CWL** invite parishioners to a reflection day led by Sr Bridie on 7 May at Berry Church Hall commencing 9.30am for morning tea.



We prayerfully remember **Anne Wheatley**. Also **Jennifer Heffernan** and **Margaret Harding** whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*

**THE NEXT YOUNG ADULTS** meeting will be Mon 28 April at 8pm – a JCI Experience sharing night – so bring along your photos, video footage, stories & memories of the Journey through the Parish.

### A PRAYER FOR ANZAC DAY

Lord our God, boundless provider, source of peace that the world cannot give, kindly hear our constant prayer for those who bore witness to your fidelity by giving their lives for the freedom and security of nations. Resurrect them in our true homeland and perfect that peace for which they longed and died



### YOU ARE INVITED TO SHARE IN THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY'S GOOD WORKS!

Our local Conferences are seeking new members to join them in their work of serving the disadvantaged and vulnerable members of our community. We meet weekly to pray and reflect upon our service in Light of the Christian Gospel. There is also a **Care Group** that meets fortnightly on a Tues at 10.30am in Nowra (ea 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting is a social morning tea) – this group undertakes hospital and nursing home visitation. New members are always welcome. Contact Pat 4421 2767, Anne 4422 1395 or Kath (care group) 4422 3592 for inform or attend our Information Event on 29 April at 7pm in the Parish Centre

**CULBURRA FAMILY GROUP** – is having a picnic, walk and visit to the Museum at Fitzroy Falls this Sun 20 April at 11.00am.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR 2008:

**Missions' Annual Appeal** - Sunday 1 June  
**Confirmation** – Sunday 22 June  
**1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion** – w/end of 25/26 October

**ATTENTION ALL MEN!!** –of whatever status or denomination. You are invited to hear guest speaker **Maurice Williams (a deacon from UK.)** on **PRAYER FOR MEN**, Mon 28 April – a breakfast session at 7.30am in the Parish Centre. Breakfast/refreshments provided. Gold coin donation appreciated. Enq. Kim (Diocesan Parish Services Team) 4253 0985 or [kim.mannix@dow.org.au](mailto:kim.mannix@dow.org.au). There will be a form at Nowra/Bomaderry & Berry to indicate your interest. All regions welcome.

**DIOCESAN MASS TO CELEBRATE WYD08** (during the Days in the Diocese) – A youth focused liturgy **open to all parishioners** to be held at W'gong Entertainment Centre on Sat 12 July at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass), preceded by 30 minutes of music and youth choir. We are hoping to organise a bus, leaving from St Michael's Nowra – **there will be forms at all Mass Centres** – please complete the form to express your interest in attending.

- The form will also allow for you to indicate your interest in attending the **Pope's Mass on 20 July** by bus. You will still have to register to attend the Mass.

**JOURNEY OF THE CROSS & ICON** – photos of the journey throughout the Diocese can be viewed on the Diocesan WYD website – [www.wyd08woll.org](http://www.wyd08woll.org) (click on the JCI photo gallery banner on the homepage).

### THE PARISH RECIPE BOOK –

containing many delicious recipes by many Parishioners is on sale this w/end for **\$6.00** at all Mass Centres or at the Parish Office. Please purchase a copy to support fundraising to assist young parishioners to attend WYD08 in Sydney.

**There are a couple of corrections to the recipe book – as follows** Page 45 – Lemon cake – add 1 cup of sugar to ingredients

Page 57 – S/berry Cream butterfly cakes – amount of butter should read **60g**.

**CENTACARE – ROLLERCOASTER** – an 8 week program to assist children experiencing parental separation, divorce or parents in new relationships . 8 Mon a/noons 4pm – 5pm 12 May to 30 June. Cost \$5 per session. Bookings essential 4421 8248.

**YOUTH MINISTRY:** The Parish Web site has the proposal and Activ8 or get a copy from the Parish office – an opportunity for all generations to look at the options – contact Grant Gleeson on 0411 039 941 or send an email [ggleeson@mh.com.au](mailto:ggleeson@mh.com.au) or contact Robbie at the Parish Office. A meeting date will be advised.