

Gospel

20:19-23

From the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven: for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



64 days

Reflection

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Pentecost celebrates the fullness of the Spirit and the great gathering of nations. It brings the Easter season to its conclusion. The Risen Lord has been exalted to his rightful place next to God and he has sent his Spirit to fill the earth with God's power. The world is charged with divine energy; it needs but a spark to ignite it with life and with excitement. This vitality explodes into the extraordinary. Tongues are loosed and speech overflows its linguistic constraints; charismatic gifts flood the valleys of human habitation; barred doors are burst open and frightened hearts are calmed. The Spirit of the Lord fills the whole world.

Once again we gather together for one reason, only to discover that God has gathered us for another. Through the Spirit of God, we are reconciled to each other and then together we spend ourselves for the common good. Through the Spirit of God the world is renewed, the community is revitalised, and we come to know the mysterious yet all pervasive peace of Christ.

The Spirit has been poured forth and works wonders wherever human hearts are open to its promptings. The earth is renewed each time rivalries are resolved, distinctions are recognised as merely expressions of diversity, peace is restored, comfort and solace are offered, and forgiveness is granted. We are immersed in the vigour of the Spirit of God. All we have to do is open ourselves to it and the reign of God will be born in our midst.

Tips for Readers (Part 2)

PSALM: Linking the readings, the response to the Psalm is the key to the liturgy of the word. In a simple statement it sums up the meaning of the readings. Ideally, the psalm is sung by the Cantor either from the lectern or from another location at the front of the assembly in order to lead their response. *When not sung, the psalm after the reading is to be recited in a manner conducive to meditation on the word of God. (Introduction to the Lectionary, 22)*

DO NOT SAY 'Responsorial Psalm' or 'The Response to the Psalm is...'. Instead, look at the congregation and announce the response with confidence.

DO NOT SAY 'response' at the end of each verse. As you read the last line of the verse lower your tone and look up at the congregation. They will come in with the response.

Changes at Mass from today

- **We will stand** (rather than remain sitting) before responding with the prayer 'May the Lord accept the sacrifice...'
- **We will bow** in reverence of the Mystery that we receive just before receiving Holy Communion.

Brochures are available at each Church giving more information.

Our Sunday Word

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Pentecost Sunday (Year A) ~ Last day in the Season of Easter

11 May 2008

First Reading

2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103

R/ Lord, send out your Spirit and renew the face of the earth.

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are, How many are your works, O Lord! The earth is full of your riches. (R.)
2. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. (R.)
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! May the Lord rejoice in his works! May my thoughts be pleasing to him. I find my joy in the Lord.

Second Reading

1:17-23

The first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

The word of the Lord.

Sequence

Holy Spirit, Lord of light | From the clear celestial height | Thy pure beaming radiance give. | Come, thou Father of the poor, | Come with treasures which endure; | Come, thou light of all that live! | Thou, of all consolers best, | Thou, the soul's delightful guest, | Dost refreshing peace bestow; | Thou in toil art comfort sweet; | Pleasant coolness in the heat; | Solace in the midst of woe. | Light immortal, light divine, | Visit thou these hearts of thine, | And our inmost being fill: | If thou take thy grace away, | Nothing pure in man will stay; | All his good is turned to ill. | Heal our wounds, our strength renew; | On our dryness pour thy dew; | Wash the stains of guilt away: | Bend the stubborn heart and will; | Melt the frozen, warm the chill; | Guide the steps that go astray. | Thou, on us who evermore | Thee confess and thee adore, | With thy sevenfold gifts descend: | Give us comfort when we die; | Give us life with thee on high; | Give us joys that never end.

Alleluia, alleluia! Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!



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.

Pentecost [Year A]

11th May 2008

SUNDAY Masses:

NOWRA6pm 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 7am & 11.30am, Sat 9.00am
Morning Prayer: Wed 7.50am; **Holy Hour** Fri 10.30am
Berry: Tues 5.30pm **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm
Bomaderry: First Friday only (2 May, 6 June) 5.45pm
Vincentia: Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am, Tues /Wed 5.30pm
S'haven Heads; Friday 3.30pm (Community Centre)
Kangaroo Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am; Wed 6.15am. Divine Office 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: 1st Fri. 5.15pm; **K'Valley:** Sat 4.30 – 5.00pm
Vincentia: Sat 5.00pm – 5.30pm

NOWRA CWL next meeting Tues 13 May at **Sacred Heart Church, B'derry** at 9.30am for morning tea – meeting following at 10.00am. If you need transport please meet at the Parish Centre at 9.15am. The Nowra CWL hope to have their meetings around the parish giving parishioners the opportunity to attend.

AGM NOWRA BRANCH – Tues 10 June, 10.00am at the Parish Centre – **All welcome.**



We prayerfully remember: **Bonnie Nelson** and **Veronica Mc Donald** who died this week. Also **Bill Egan, Kevin Robinson** and **Donald Rosenberg** whose anniversaries

occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*
Requiem Mass for Bonnie Nelson- Tuesday 11.30.a.m. St. Michael's.

YOUNG ADULTS next meeting Mon 19 May – Curry & Games night, 6pm at Jody's house. Bring along your favourite winter warming dish for a night of food and fun! rsvp Jody 4422 3318.

BURMA DISASTER – all loose money in the 2nd. collection throughout the Parish this weekend will go towards assisting the cyclone victims of Burma through Caritas Aust. Once again we most gratefully appreciate your support.

YOUTH MINISTRY INAUGURAL MEETING – Tues 20 May at 7pm in the Parish centre – for information contact Grant Gleeson 0411 039 941 or email ggleeson@mh.com.au or contact Robbie at the Parish office. **SO COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THIS VENTURE!**



MOTHER RUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND – Theatre Gala – Wed 4 June – “**The Happiest Days of Your Lives**” – Nowra Players Theatre, B'derry. Adults \$25, Students \$20. Contact

Denise Jones 0419 248 889 or 4423 2299(bh), Tickets need to be paid for to guarantee seat.



TO THE MOTHERS OF OUR PARISH – May God bless you in everything you do with and for your children and family. May you find joy, hope and fulfilment in your children.

THE ROSARY led by St. V. de Paul members is prayed in St Michael's Church each Tues at 10.00am – all parishioners are welcome.

"COME & SEE" Spirituality Program - for men and women - meet Wed 21 May, 7.30pm - Parish Centre - followed by supper (please bring a plate of finger food to share). The focus for May is "Our Lives Gifted by the Holy Spirit". You are welcome to join us for prayer and conversation. Contact Moira 4423 6077 or Liz 4422 1279.

CATECHISTS' Retreat Day – May 23, 9.45 – 2pm at Bellambi – Christian Meditation & Meditating with children.
Child Protection – May 26, 9.15 – 12.30 at Bellambi. To register ring Lyn 4423 1009
Co-ordinators please update numbers of children at your school. Statistical returns are now due.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR 2008
Missions' Annual Appeal - Sunday 1 June
Confirmation – Sunday 22 June
1st Holy Communion – w/end of 25/26 October



WYD08 INFORMATION NIGHT – to be held in the Parish Centre on **Wed 14 May** from 6pm – 7pm. If you are interested in attending any part of World Youth Day week (as part of the parish group), please come along to have your questions answered, to get help registering,

and to meet others who will be sharing the journey. Contact Fr Richard or Sarah Ison to know more.

ST MICHAEL'S PARISH / the Young Adult Group and St John's High School will be contributing to the cost of the young people who are attending WYD08 in Sydney in July - **SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.** If you would like to attend or have registered already please contact Robbie at the Parish Office in the week after the meeting of Wed 14 May.

"EVERYTHING AUSSIE" - Sat 12 July **commencing at 11am** - stalls, entertainment, food and good things for the visiting overseas pilgrims and parishioners to sample and enjoy – followed by sporting competitions. The day **concludes with Vigil Mass, 6pm at WIN Entertainment Centre** – a youth focussed liturgy **open to all parishioners** preceded by 30 minutes of music and youth choir.

INTERNATIONAL WYD VISITORS – our parish is still looking for HomeStay Hosts to accommodate **45 WYD pilgrims** during 9 – 14 July 2008. Register online now at www.wyd08woll.org or speak to one of the following HomeStay coordinators.

Nowra/ Bomaderry – Fr Richard, Louise Taylor, Maureen Ison, Peter & Sue Delaney | **Berry** – Greg Troy
Culburra – Paul & Marg Casey
Vincentia – Carolyn Visser & Maryann Tweed

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION EVENING; This Wed May 14th. 7.00. p.m. St. Michael's Hall, for **All** Candidates and parents (at least one parent). This is an essential aspect of our preparation programme.