

Reflection

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings for this feast do not directly explain the doctrine of the Trinity as we have come to know it. Rather, they offer us glimpses into the nature of our Triune God. The psalm response suggests that our primary response to God should be one of praise for the love that God has for us.

The God who is beyond our comprehension is also the God who has saved us. We see this theme in both the first reading and the gospel. The covenant language in the reading from Exodus underscores God's unfathomable goodness. God's graciousness and mercy are not rewards for our fidelity. They are extended to us in our sinfulness. It is God's saving grace that transforms us, not any merit on our part. In the gospel we are assured that Jesus was sent into the world to save it, not to condemn it.

The Trinitarian phrase found in the letter to the Corinthians is so expressive of the love that God has for us that it has been incorporated regularly into the liturgy. It declares that through his death and resurrection, Jesus has opened for us the treasury of divine grace. It also proclaims that the love of God has forged the bonds of community that unite us. Created in the image and after the likeness of this God, we are called to unity among ourselves. As incomprehensible as it may seem, it is primarily through the unity that we share that we will manifest the unity that exists in God.

Changes at Mass

The revised General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) came into effect in Australia last Sunday. More information about the changes and the full text is available at: www.dow.org.au

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

UPDATE!

WYD HomeStay (9-14 July)

The groups that our parish will be hosting have now been announced! We will be hosting groups from the Archdiocese of Denver, Colorado, USA (123 pilgrims); Diocese of Paterson, New Jersey, USA (10) and Diocese of Motherwell, Scotland (24).

There will also be 26 pilgrims from the Diocese of Galloway, Scotland, staying in the Vincentia (Bay & Basin) area.

So they will all speak English (of a sort!)

We are still in need of 18 more HomeStay host families to take 2 or more young international pilgrims during *Days in the Diocese*. Please take home an information pack from each Church or download one at the Parish website.

We are also in need of people who may be available as Transport volunteers.

Most of the young pilgrims will arrive by bus on Wednesday afternoon, 9 July (Some on 10 July). Thursday will be free time to look around. On Friday morning they will meet in Nowra for a practical Social Justice workshop (with pilgrims from Kiama). On Saturday, they will all travel together to Wollongong for the Everything Aussie day, which will conclude with the Diocesan Mass. Sunday morning will feature animation of our normal Masses. Monday morning they will head to Sydney for the week.

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sleeps to go

Register now!

wyd08woll.org



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Our Sunday Word

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Trinity Sunday (Year A)

18 May 2008

First Reading

34:4-6,8-9

A reading from the book of Exodus

With the two tablets of stone in his hands, Moses went up the mountain of Sinai in the early morning as the Lord had commanded him. And the Lord descended in the form of a cloud, and Moses stood with him there.

He called on the name of the Lord. The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, 'Lord, Lord, a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger, rich in kindness and faithfulness.' And Moses bowed down to the ground at once and worshipped. 'If I have indeed won your favour, Lord,' he said, 'let my Lord come with us, I beg. True, they are a headstrong people, but forgive us our faults and our sins, and adopt us as your heritage.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Dan 3:52-56

R/ Glory and praise for ever!

You are blest, Lord God of our fathers. (R.)

Blest your glorious holy name. (R.)

You are blest in the temple of your glory. (R.)

You are blest on the throne of your kingdom. (R.)

You are blest who gaze into the depths. (R.)

You are blest in the firmament of heaven. (R.)

Second Reading

13:11-13

Second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers, we wish you happiness; try to grow perfect; help one another. Be united; live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with the holy kiss. All the saints send you greetings.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

The word of the Lord.



Gospel Acclamation

Rev 1:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come. Alleluia!

Gospel

3:16-18

A reading from the Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

'God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



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.

TRINITY SUNDAY [Year A]

18th 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

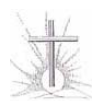
Nowra: Sat 11.30-12.30pm. 5.00 - 5.30pm.

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

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



We prayerfully remember **Bonnie Nelson** recently deceased; also **Jean Walsh, Joan Ashby, Charlotte Whitaker, Alan McRae, Margaret Rooke, Bartholomew & Joseph**

Zarb whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*

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.

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

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING: next Sunday 25 May, 7.15pm – Parish Centre.

YOUTH MINISTRY: An inaugural meeting on **THIS Tue 20 May at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre** to discuss what form of 'Youth Ministry' might take place in the Parish – so **please consider** participating in the initial meeting to give the optimum result in the long term. **Don't hold back** – attending the first meeting does not mean a firm commitment to anything – **SO COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THIS VENTURE!**

"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.

NOWRA CONFERENCE OF THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY is having an appeal for blankets/duoners in order to assist many families needing help in the Winter months. If you have any spares would you please deliver them to the centre in Plunkett St or you could drop them into the Parish Office.

CULBURRA FAMILY GROUP – will be going to the Boyd homestead at Bundanon (not Bundanoon), this Sun. Meet at Arch Gate (Callala Bay turn off) at 10.15am to organise car pooling.

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.

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH CULBURRA will be celebrating their Patronal Feastday on Sat 24 May with a supper in the hall following Mass; please bring a plate of finger food to share.

CATECHISTS NEEDED – Cambewarra school is in need of 2 Catechists on Thurs a/noons – k/1 & 2/3/4(combined). **Also WYD lessons & booklets for yrs 5/6** available – Please phone Lyn 4423 1009 if you can help.

- **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

"EVERYTHING AUSSIE" - Sat 12 July commencing at 12pm - 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 18 HomeStay Hosts to accommodate **36 WYD pilgrims** during 9 – 14 July 2008. Register online now at www.wyd08wooll.org or speak to one of the following HomeStay coordinators. See back page for more.
Nowra / Bomaderry – Fr Richard, Louise Taylor, Maureen Ison, Peter & Sue Delaney
Berry – Greg Troy | **Culburra** – Paul & Marg Casey
Vincentia – Carolyn Visser & Maryann Tweed



AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA - Thurs 22 May from 10am to 12 noon at the home of Vonni Muller, "Pomona", 360 Princes Highway, Meroo Meadow. Proceeds to Cancer Research.

JOURNEY OF THE CROSS & ICON – photos of the journey throughout the Diocese can be viewed on the Diocesan WYD website – www.wyd08wooll.org (click on the JCI photo gallery banner on the homepage).

Sincerest thanks for your contributions to the Burma Appeal (Caritas) on Sunday last. Just over \$4,000 was received by way of 'loose money' in the 2nd Collection

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY FOR 2008
Sat. 24 May Our Lady Help of Christians. Missions' Annual Appeal - Sunday 1 June
Confirmation – Sunday 22 June
1st Holy Communion – w/end of 25/26 October