

'Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The major themes today are call and discipleship. Most of us are rather insignificant in the eyes of the broader society. And even those who are well known or in some way famous are still just



simple human beings with needs and fears and dreams like the rest of us. Yet we have been called by God. This is what makes us special. Paul picks up this theme in his development of justification. He argues that we are special because when we were still sinners we were justified. All this has come to us as a pure gift from God. It is God who calls; it is God who chooses; it is God who justifies. If we are to boast, we must boast in God.

Paul further teaches that good works do not gain faith. It is the other way around. It is faith that manifests itself in works. In the gospel we see that the disciples are sent out to give to others the gift of faith which had been given to them. They proclaim the gospel, the good news that the time of fulfilment has come, and then they perform mighty works that demonstrate what they preach. We too have been called to discipleship; we have been made God's special people. To us has been entrusted the good news of salvation to proclaim to others. We must be the healing touch of Christ in our world. We must comfort those who mourn, bring back to life those who are in despair, embrace those who have been ostracised by society, drive out anger and fear and hatred.

WYD08 - Register now! It's not too late!

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Gospel thoughts

by Gregory Sunter

One area of Scripture examination that needs more attention is the deep emotions Jesus harbored. Today presents an example. The first sentence of the gospel states, 'When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them.' Some translations say 'deep compassion'. They pale compared to what the Greek word, *splagchnizomai*, means – guts, heart, lungs, liver, kidneys. In all, deep down things. 'Felt sorry' sounds so tepid. In today's scene, Jesus' deepest feelings are shaken when he views the crowd in need of direction, help and attention 'like sheep without a shepherd.'

Jesus is moved to action. He sends his twelve out to 'gather the lost sheep of the House of Israel ... cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.'

Deep feelings cause deep reactions. For Jesus, the reactions took shape in strong actions that would change people's lives – the sick are healed, hopeless lepers are made cleansed, demoniacs are settled.

What do we do with our deep compassion, and do we have enough passion to do something about it? First of all, we need to examine our lives and discover what causes deep concern that would propel us into action.

Can you imagine how Jesus must have felt when he saw the crowd who 'looked harassed and dejected'? He sent out his disciples on a mission of caregiving. Jesus felt deeply, so deeply he did something about it. His *splagchnizomai* was channelled.

What do you do with your attacks of *splagchnizomai*? What matters in your life? Remember, 'you received without charge, give without charge.'

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sleeps to go
Visit wyd08woll.org or
youth.dow.org.au



Our Sunday Word

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Eleventh Sunday (Year A) ~ Season of the Year

15 June 2008

First Reading

19:2-6

A reading from the book of Exodus

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, 'Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, "You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation."

The word of the Lord.



Responsorial

Psalm

Ps 99

R/ We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing for joy. (R.)
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock. (R.)
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading

5:6-11

From the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not

easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God's anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Mk 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is near; repent and believe the Good News! Alleluia!

Gospel

9:36-10:8

The holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.'

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:



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.

11th Sunday in Ord Time (A)

15 June 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 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 (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

The Trustees of the MOTHER RUTH

SCHOLARSHIP FUND wish to thank all those who contributed to our \$2025 profit at the recent Theatre Gala event. Thank you also to those who donated to the supper. A wonderful result especially when ticket sales were so slow one week prior.



We prayerfully remember **Gertie Harding**

(nee Morrissey) formerly of Berry who died recently; also **Molly Devereaux, Janina**

Wiczkowski, Ray Owen, Ada L'Estrange,

Margaret Leary, Horace & Sadie Watts whose

anniversaries occur.. *May they rest in eternal peace.*



ST MICHAEL'S P & F Trivia Night is on Sat 28 June from 7.00pm in the Parish Hall – cost will be \$15 per person (tables of 10) which includes nibbles throughout the night and tea & coffee.

Please RSVP by 18 June – send money and names into the School office.

HomeStay Program update... Thanks again to all the wonderful people who have opened their homes to our International visitors (9-14 July). You will receive an information pack soon—if you have not already got one! Allocations of pilgrims to your home is almost complete. There will be an information night on Thursday 26 June at St Michael's Hall led by Michelle Duncan (WYD Office) at 7pm. Come along to have all your questions answered!

BUSES TO WOLLONGONG AND SYDNEY FOR WYD

Parishioners are now asked to **confirm** your intention to travel by bus to the Diocesan Mass at Wollongong on Sat 12 July (leaving at 3.00pm) or the Papal Mass in Sydney on Sun 20 leaving 5.00am. The cost of the bus to **Wollongong** will be \$10pp or \$15 per family (2 or more) and to **Sydney** \$20pp or \$30 per family (2 or more) – please place the money in an envelope – write your name, number going and event on the envelope and place in the collection bags at Mass this weekend – or hand it in at the Parish office **by Mon 23 June.**

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES – the new sets of envelopes are available at all Mass Centres this weekend. Some contributors to the program will notice that their envelope number has changed – we had to consolidate Envelope numbers.

Please note: **CONFIRMATION** will be celebrated during Mass in St Michael's Parish Hall next Sunday 22 June by Bishop Peter Ingham **at 9.30am and 2.30pm.**

'COME & SEE' Spirituality Program – you are invited to spend a day of prayer & reflection at Jamberoo Abbey on Sat 21 June – theme for the day is "Silence is a Challenge" with input by one of the Abbey sisters. Meet at 9am at St Michael's Church to car pool. Bring a lunch to share. Register by phoning Moira 4423 6077 or Liz 4422 1279.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND – 4/6 July at Merroo Christian Centre, Kurrajong. A w/end away for married couples in peaceful, picturesque surroundings – away from the distractions of everyday living. Take time out to invest in your most precious asset...your marriage! Contact 4283 3435 or visit www.wvme.org.au

"EVERYTHING AUSSIE" - As a Diocese let us celebrate and entertain our overseas pilgrims - Sat 12 July at 12.30pm – Parish stalls, entertainment, food and good things for the visiting overseas pilgrims and by local and international artists. An amazing line-up of talent. Sporting competition to follow leading into the **WYD Commissioning Vigil Mass, 6pm at WIN Entertainment Centre** – a youth focussed liturgy **open to all parishioners** preceded by 30 minutes of music and 80-piece youth choir. Don't miss this spectacular celebration of the Diocesan Church infused by the presence of 1,500 International Youth!

WILL YOU BE ATTENDING THE MASS BUT NOT GOING BY COACH? – please call Robbie on 4423 1712 as we need to book a number for seating for Nowra.



Register Now!

Now over 100 registrations for WYD!

Parish Sponsorship for weekend packages is now closed, but if you wish to register for package B sponsorship is still available. All registrations must be finalised by 20 June. Please notify us if you wish to change from a weekend package to a week-long registration package. Just send an email with your details to wyd08@nowraparish.org.au. If you are currently living in the Parish you will be subsidised by \$180 for the week. **Visit egeria.wyd2008.org to register now!** Call Fr Richard for more: 0401 621 591
 - For package B (week, own accom) join group **6247.**

HOLY HOUR OF POWER

– Wed 18 June, 7pm in St Michael's Church –
 Pilgrims and parishioners are invited to come and pray for WYD 08. Join with us for a special night of adoration, prayer, music, candlelight and fellowship. No matter what your involvement is with WYD, whether a pilgrim, leader, volunteer, host, parent, teacher, parishioner... This is our opportunity to pray together for WYD, for our fellow pilgrims and for the event to bear much fruit.
 Supper will follow in the Parish Centre.