

Our Sunday Word

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Palm Sunday ~ Passion Sunday (Year B)

5 April 2009



First Reading

50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away.

I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21

R/ My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.)

2. Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me. They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones. (R.)

3. They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe. O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me!

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

Second Reading

2:6-11

the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and

being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

14:1 - 15:47

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark (final section only)

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said, 'Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!' The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.' Even those who were crucified with him taunted him. When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this they said, 'Listen, he is calling on Elijah.' Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink saying, 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.' But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment.

And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said, 'In truth this man was a son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

In this final Lenten Sunday, we see that we have been saved through the kenotic (partial renunciation of divine nature) humility of Jesus, not through military power. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted criminal, and there endured the sense of abandonment. However, this saviour was later lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine prerogatives.

Jesus became one of us in order to show us how we are to live. He was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down. The passion recounts the extent to which he willingly offered himself. We have a saviour who first offered himself for us and then continues to offer himself to us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we are told to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with him is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair seems to hold sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for us.

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St Michael's Parish Contacts

Fr Patrick Faherty, Parish Priest	4423 1712
Fr Richard Healey, Assistant Priest	4423 1712
Fr Leo Duck, Resident in Vincentia	4441 5571
Fr Ronan Kilgannon, Resident in Kangaroo Valley	
Mr Duane Fernandez, Seminarian	4423 1712
Mrs Robbie Forsythe, Secretary	4423 1712
Sr Margaret Prendergast sgs	4421 2260
Sr Patricia Lawless sgs	4421 2260
Sr Val Green rsc	4441 7035
Mrs Lyn West, Catechist Coordinator	4423 1009
St Michael's Primary School	4421 3630
St John the Evangelist High School	4423 1666

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24th world youth day 2009

Handover of the WYD Cross and Icon from the youth of Sydney to the youth of Madrid at 8pm on Palm Sunday at **xt3.com**

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St Michael's Parish | 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

Sunday Masses:

NOWRA 6pm Vigil; 8am, 9.30am, 6.00pm
BERRY 8.00am
BOMADERRY 9.30am
CULBURRA 6pm Vigil
VINCENTIA 6pm Vigil & 9.30am
KANGAROO VALLEY 11.00am

Masses During Holy Week

Nowra Mon 7.00, Tues/Wed 8.15am
Morning Prayer: Wed 7.50am
Berry Tues 5.30pm
Vincentia Mon 8.00am, Tues/Wed 5.30pm
Kangaroo Valley Mon/Tues/ Wed 6.15am.
 Divine Office is chanted 15 mins prior to Mass.

Stations of the Cross - Shoalhaven Heads:

Wednesday of Holy Week 3.00pm

Confession/Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 9.00am - 10.00am.

THE CHRISM MASS will be celebrated at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral on Wednesday 8 April at 7.30pm. All parishioners are invited. This is a most significant Mass for the entire Diocese.

Holy Week is regarded as the most sacred week in the Church Year. The last three days of the Week constitute an inner sanctuary known as the Paschal Triduum (3 days).

COPIES OF THE HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE – if you are able to distribute some of these to the local Motels and Caravan Parks it would be very much appreciated.



EASTER CEREMONIES – ST MICHAEL'S NOWRA

– all ceremonies will be held in the Parish Hall to facilitate the increase of parishioners attending.

HOLY THURSDAY - at the

end of Mass we will process to the Parish Centre to the Altar of Repose for a brief vigil until 9.00pm.

The Easter Vigil Mass (Nowra) will be an especially joyful celebration – baptising Elizabeth White and welcoming Ken Golinski into the Church.

CULBURRA AUXILIARY will be selling tickets for their Easter raffle this weekend and prizes will be drawn at Easter. Any donations towards the prize would be gratefully received.



COMMEMORATION OF THE PASCHAL MEAL – Sunday

evening – a simple and joyous Parish celebration that connects the Last Supper with the Old Testament



Passover, it is a great lead-up to all the events of Holy Week and the Easter ceremonies.

PALM SUNDAY YOUTH MASS & SPANISH FIESTA – 5 April.

Dioceses around the world will be celebrating the 24th WYD with the theme “We have set our heart on the living God.” At St Peter's Basilica, Pope Benedict will witness as a delegation of young Aussies farewell the WYD Cross and Icon and pass it on to the young people of Madrid. In Wollongong, a Youth Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 5.00pm followed by a Spanish Fiesta. At 8.00pm we will witness the handover.

BACK TO THE 60's NIGHT!

A social evening for all parishioners at the **Huskisson Community Hall** at 7.00pm on Saturday 18 April - Tickets \$10 which includes supper. BYO drink – soft drinks available to purchase on the night at a small cost. DJ music provided. Prizes and lucky door. Proceeds to the Catholic Women's League and Holy Spirit Auxiliary. Contact Michael King 4443 7732.



THE NOWRA BRANCH OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

will be holding their Autumn/Winter Fashion Parade on Saturday 18 April at St Michael's Parish Hall. Entry \$8.00 donation – includes afternoon tea and Lucky Door Prizes. Fashions will be presented by NEC Direct Fashion (sizes range 8 to 20)



“COME & SEE” Spirituality Group – for men and women – the next meeting will be Wed 15 April at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. The focus for April is “Listening as Spiritual Awareness”. Please bring a plate of finger food to share for supper. Contact Moira 4423 6077 or Liz 4422 1279. **All Welcome.**

ENROLMENT for Kinder 2010 at St Michael's Primary school – application packs available from the school now. Interviews will be held in May

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL will celebrate its 20th Anniversary on 22/23 & 24 May, with a variety of celebrations. All past pupils, staff and parents are warmly invited to attend. For further info please visit the school website www.sje.woll.catholic.edu.au, email info@sje.woll.catholic.edu.au or phone 4423 1666.

- **Staff Spirituality Day** – Monday 11 May at the school – 8.30am – 3.00pm.
- **School Foundation Day Mass** – Friday 22 May at 10.00am in the School Hall.
- **Cocktail Party** - Saturday 23 May at the Nowra Golf Club commencing at 7.00pm until midnight. \$35/person incl. finger food and entertainment. Contact Debbie ph: 4423 1666 or dmckenzie@sje.woll.catholic.edu.au
- **OPEN DAY AND MASS** – an Open air Mass on Sunday 24 May at 4.00pm, (principal celebrant Bishop Peter) as well as an Open Day commencing at 1.00pm – showcasing Drama, Band and Music.
- **Parishioners please note** - there will be no evening Mass on 24 May at St. Michael's



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP –

- the group will be attending the **Palm Sunday** youth Mass and fiesta at Wollongong followed by WYD cross and Icon handover to Spain
- **Good Friday** 10 April – a DVD showing of WYD Stations of the Cross at 7.30pm at the Le's house.
- **Easter Monday** 13 April – Robert Galea Concert at St Paul's Parish Hall, Albion Park at 7.00pm – cost \$5, rsvp to Jody 4422 3318.

FINDING AN INNER HEALING – Day of

Reflection – a day of renewal with meditation, silent reflection, music and prayer, drawing inspiration from the Taize community of France on Sat 18 April 9.30am – 4.00pm at the Benedictine Abbey, Jamberoo. Cost \$15 (includes morning tea and lunch). rsvp by Tues 14 April Gabrielle 4232 2735 or gfogarty@exemail.com.au



CONGRATULATIONS and best

wishes to Jim and Judith Gatty, (Bomaderry) who celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on the 4 April – they were married at St Therese Church, New Lambton.

SHOALHAVEN CROSSROADS next meet on Fri 17 April from 7.15 – 9.15pm at the Nowra Baptist Church, South Nowra. **St Michael's** will be hosting the event. If you have a little time and want to have an enjoyable night, join the young people in their activities and give your support.



CENTACARE are looking for people to become volunteers as Community Visitors to visit people in aged care homes, providing companionship and helping to reduce loneliness and social isolation. Volunteers are asked

to set aside time to regularly call on an elderly person – be their special visitor. Full training and support provided. Call Audrey 4254 9352 (Mon – Wed). **ALSO** volunteers to assist with **Disability Social Group**. As a volunteer you help create experiences for social interaction with people with a disability who may feel socially isolated. Regular activities include dinners, dancing, lawn bowls etc. Contact John 4424 5600.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL will be closed for roof restoration from Fri 17 April and will reopen around the 1st week of June.

THE DIOCESAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE will be closed from Good Friday and reopen Thurs 16 April.

We prayerfully remember: **Miriam (Mim) McCorquodale** who died this past week; also **Fr Maurice Crocker, Fr Peter Moore, Ron Bowden and Jack Regan** and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*



WELCOME HOME – CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME PROGRAM – Are you a baptised Catholic who is still to find your home in Christ among other Catholics? Do you



know someone who needs support to return to the Active practice of their faith? Have you experienced pain or hurt but wish to re-connect with God and a faith community? **Ss Peter and Paul Parish Kiama** is running a program commencing on 28 April "Welcome Catholics

Home" – all warmly invited to attend. For inform Ann 4234 2704 or Joan 4232 2414.

CONFIRMATION – Vincentia.

The 1st lesson will commence on 4 May, however the children from Vincentia school (only) will commence on 3 May at 9.00am, incorporating the Mass as they have a school activity on the 4th.



WE FAREWELL KEVIN AND LAUREL COUCH of Callala Beach who are leaving to live in Bulli after 16 years in the Parish. We wish them good health and happiness in their new Parish.

holyweek

THE GREAT WEEK | 5 – 12 APRIL 2009

St Michael's Parish
NOWRA TIMETABLE
nowraparish.org.au



Holy Week is regarded as the most sacred week in the Church Year. The last three days of the Week constitute an inner sanctuary known as the Paschal Triduum (3 days).

In the early centuries Holy Week was known as the GREAT WEEK or PASSION WEEK.

Our participation in the Liturgy of Holy Week is both a wonderful privilege, and our Christian responsibility.

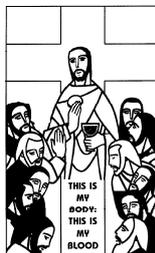


HOLY THURSDAY – 9 April Mass of the Lord's Supper

Nowra:	7.00pm
Berry:	7.00pm
Kangaroo Valley	5.00pm
Culburra Beach	6.00pm
Vincentia	7.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY – 10 April Stations of the Cross

NOWRA	10.00am
VINCENTIA	10.00am
BOMADERRY	8.30am
KANGAROO VALLEY	10.00am



Good Friday – 10 April Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

NOWRA (Hall)	3.00pm
BERRY	3.00pm
CULBURRA BEACH	3.00pm
VINCENTIA	3.00pm



THE EASTER VIGIL

Holy Saturday – 11 April

NOWRA:	7.00pm
CULBURRA BEACH:	6.00pm
VINCENTIA:	7.00pm
BERRY	7.00pm



Mass of the Resurrection

EASTER SUNDAY – 12 April

NOWRA (Hall)	8.00am, 9.30am & 6.00pm
BERRY	8.00am
BOMADERRY	9.30am
CULBURRA BEACH	8.00am & 9.30am
VINCENTIA	8.00am & 9.30am
KANGAROO VALLEY	11.00am