

dead we know. Victorious king, your mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation I Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel 20:1-9

The holy gospel according to John

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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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

Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Easter is the season of mystagogical catechesis, that instruction that unpacks the hidden mystery of the experience of the sacraments of initiation received or renewed at Easter. The readings of each Sunday concentrate on some aspect of this mystery. The central theme of this Sunday is newness of life in Christ. This newness is not without its historical context. It burst forth first in the resurrection of Christ, and then through the preaching of the first Christians.

The readings testify that if we die with Christ, we will appear with him in glory; if we cast out the old yeast, we will be fresh dough. And when this wondrous transformation takes place, everything is new; everything is fresh. To what newness are we called? To what must we die in order to rise transformed? What old yeast of corruption must be cast out in order that we might be fresh dough? At Easter we renew our baptismal vows. What is it that we really renounce? Ours is a world of violence, of prejudice, of indifference. Too often we harbour feelings of anger and resentment, of selfishness and disdain. Easter proclaims that Christ has died and has risen; with him we die to all of the wickedness in our lives and in our world, and we set our hearts on higher things, on sincerity and on truth.

halleluyah!
alleluia!
Christ is risen!

dow.org.au/year-of-st-paul/

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Our Easter Word

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Easter Sunday (Year B)

12 April 2009

First Reading 10:34,37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 118

R/ This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of

the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

Second Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him. (3:1-4)

The word of the Lord.

Sequence *Alleluia!*

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, has sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what you did see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the





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.

Easter Sunday (Year B)

12 April 2009

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 8.00am Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am
 Friday 7.00am and 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 – 5.45pm
Vincentia: Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am - Tues, Wed 5.30pm
S/Heads: Fri 3.30pm Community Centre
Kangaroo Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am;
 Wed 6.15am. Divine Office is chanted 15 mins prior to
 Mass. No Mass on Fridays.

Sacrament of Confession ~ Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 11.30-12.30pm & 5.00- 5.30pm
Culburra Beach: Sat 5³⁰ pm. **Berry:** Tues 6⁰⁰ pm
Bmderry: 1st Fri 5¹⁵ pm; **Kang Valley:** Sat 4³⁰ – 5⁰⁰ pm
Vincentia: Sat 11⁰⁰ – 11³⁰ am & 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰ pm.

BACK TO THE 60's NIGHT! A social evening for all parishioners at the **Huskisson Community Hall** at 7.00pm on Sat 18 April - Tickets \$10 - includes supper. BYO drink – soft drinks available to purchase on the night DJ music provided. Prizes and lucky door. Proceeds to the Catholic Women's League and Holy Spirit Auxiliary. Contact Michael King 4443 7732.

The priests of the Parish wish all parishioners and visitors, a very blessed, joyful and peaceful Easter! Thank you to all those who have assisted in any way in making our Parish celebrations of Holy Week and Easter so prayerful and reflective.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES: Dear friends, through the Paschal Mystery, we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may rise with him to a new life. Now that we have completed our Lenten observance, let us renew the promises we made in Baptism when we rejected Satan and his works, and promised to serve God faithfully in His holy Catholic church.

Priest: Do you reject sin, so as to live in the freedom of God's children? **All: I do.**



Priest: Do you reject the glamour of evil, and refuse to be mastered by sin? **All: I do**

Priest: Do you reject Satan, father of sin and prince of darkness? **All: I do.**

Priest: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth? **All: I do.**

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? : **I do.**

Priest: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting? : **I do**

Priest: God, the all-powerful Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and forgiven all our sins. May He also keep us faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ forever and ever. **All: Amen.**



WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER the recently deceased; **Bernard Nixon** (K Valley), **Tom Guthrie** (Berry), **Jim Dunworth** (father of Bernadette Pullen), **Kevin Byron** (Qld). Also **Anne Wheatley, Stefan Pajak & Joseph Trotter** whose anniversary occurs at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.

“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.**

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 19 April. A Holy Hour in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday will be held at Holy Spirit Church, Vincentia beginning at 2.30pm. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will be included in the Liturgy.

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST HIGH SCHOOL will celebrate its 20th Anniversary on 22-24 May. All past pupils, staff and parents are warmly invited to attend. For info please visit the school website:

www.sje.woll.catholic.edu.au, phone 4423 1666, or email info@sje.woll.catholic.edu.au

- **Staff Spirituality Day** – Monday 11/5
- **School Foundation Day Mass** – Friday 22/5
- **Cocktail Party** - Sat 23/5 \$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. (No Sunday evening Mass in the Parish)

CENTACARE is calling for volunteers as Community Visitors to visit people in aged care homes, providing companionship and helping to reduce loneliness and social isolation 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**. Regular activities include dinners, dancing, lawn bowls etc. Contact John 4424 5600.

SHOALHAVEN CROSSROADS next meet on Fri 17 April from 7.15 – 9.15pm at the Nowra Baptist Church, Sth 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. **If anyone is able to help by providing something for supper** please leave it at the Parish Centre for collection.

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.