

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; whoever eats this bread will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel

14:12-16,22-26

The holy gospel according to Mark

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover. And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the

kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The readings, which reflect some aspect of the feast, feature three prominent themes: the importance of blood in the ratification of the covenant; the atoning actions of Christ; the attitude of thanksgiving.

Most people today would probably be repelled by the ritual use of blood. Yet birth blood is not subject to the same revulsion, nor is blood transfusion frowned upon. Blood is recognised as a life force, and blood relationships are cherished. In a sense this ritual makes us blood sisters and brothers of God and of each other. It seals our fate and it entitles us to the family inheritance.

This feast celebrates the incomparable love of Christ. He offered himself for the expiation of our sins; he spread a banquet table for us at which we are able to eat the bread of companionship and share the blood of the new covenant.

How shall we make a return to the Lord for all the good that we have received? The only appropriate response to God's graciousness is thanksgiving (*eucharistia*). We have been chosen; we have been delivered; we have a witness in heaven; and now we have been given the bread of eternal life and the blood of salvation. What return can we give? A life of gratitude lived in the presence of God; a life of union with all those who eat the same bread and drink from the same cup; a life of faithful expectation, waiting for the coming of the reign of God in all its fullness.

Year of St Paul eConference

Tuesday 30 June 2009 10.30am - 4pm
Catholic Church Offices, 88 Market St, Wollongong
or visit the website for more information:
www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/
www.vividas.com.au/

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Our Sunday Word

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Corpus Christi Sunday (Year B) - The Body and Blood of Christ

14 June 2009



First Reading

24:3-8

A reading from the book of Exodus

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115

R/I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.

1. How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me? The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
2. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds.
3. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people. (R.)

Second Reading

9:11-15

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

The word of the Lord.

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



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; Friday 7.00am and 11.30am; **Sat 13th. 10.00am**
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

Friday 19 June Solemnity of the Sacred Heart.

Sacrament of Confession ~ Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 11³⁰ - 12³⁰ pm & 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰ pm
Culburra Beach: Sat 5³⁰ pm. **Berry:** Tues 6⁰⁰ pm
Bmderry: 1st Fri 5¹⁵ pm; **K, Valley:** Sat 4³⁰ - 5⁰⁰ pm
Vincentia: Sat: 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰ pm.

On Sunday next June 20/21st. we celebrate the Feastday of our Diocesan Patroness: **The Immaculate Heart of Mary**. Readings will be of 12th. Sunday (B) with prayers proper to the Feast.

WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER **Bernard Flannery** (Currarong) **Dorothy (Dot) Solomon** (Culburra) recently deceased; also **Molly Devereaux, Emilia Labrador, Nicholas Borg and Joe Aquiline** whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.



MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS AUXILIARY Culburra

– a short note to thank everyone for their ongoing support of raffles/fund-raising. This year we have been able to purchase a new vacuum for the Church, pay for cleaning materials, curtains for the Sacristy and blinds for the Sanctuary. Again, thank you very much for your generous support.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION:

- Prayer time – Candidates and Parents – Wednesday 17 June 7.00pm at St Michael's Church for all regions of the Parish.
- **Confirmation will be celebrated at St Michael's on Sunday 21 June with Masses at 9.30am and 2.00pm**



Parishioners who regularly attend the 9.30am Mass are encouraged to attend another Mass next Sunday.

ST MICHAEL'S P&F ASSOC will be holding a **"Car Boot Sale"** on Sat 27 June, 9.30am – 1.30pm (set up from 8am, no sales before 9.30am) in the car park opp St Michael's Church. **What** – anything that fits in your car boot or car & trailer. **Book a space or make a donation of goods for the P & F stall.** Cost – Car space \$15 (\$20 if paid on day) or Car & Trailer space \$20 (\$30 if paid on day). Contact Annette 0438 831 472 or P&F section of www.stmichaels.woll.catholic.edu.au for more information. Spaces limited – book early!

THE "COME & SEE" Spirituality group will have a Reflection Day at Jamberoo Abbey on Sat 20 June. The focus will be **"Benedictine Spirituality in our times"** with input by one of the Abbey sisters. **All welcome. RSVP essential:** Moira 4423 6077 or Liz 4422 1279 by Wed 17 June. Please bring lunch to share. The group will meet at St Michael's Church at 9am for car pooling.

MOTHER RUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND Gala Theatre Evening - **"She Stoops to Conquer"** on Wed 24 June from 7.30pm for 8pm at Nowra Players Theatre, B'derry – Champagne on arrival and extended interval supper. Tickets \$25 or \$20 for students. Contact Denise Jones 0419 248 889 or 4423 2299 (w) and leave a message. **BOOK TODAY!**

The Diocesan social services agency **Centacare** has changed its name to **CatholicCare**. CatholicCare is a multi-service provider of programs for children and youth, families, the aged and those with a disability. For info go to www.catholiccare.woll.catholic.org.au or call 4227 1122.

"When the Church celebrates the Eucharist, the memorial of her Lord's death and resurrection, this central event of salvation becomes really present and "the work of our redemption is carried out". This sacrifice is so decisive for the salvation of the human race that Jesus Christ offered it and returned to the Father only after he had left us a means of sharing in it as if we had been present there. Each member of the faithful can thus take part in it and inexhaustibly gain its fruits. This is the faith from which generations of Christians down the ages have lived..."
(Pope John Paul – *On the Eucharist* 1:11 — 2003)



ANOTHER FINANCIAL YEAR END IS ALMOST HERE!

Parishioners are encouraged to bring their Planned Giving up-to-date in the next 2 weeks. The new sets of envelopes are now available at your Mass centre from this weekend. Receipts will be available at all Mass Centres mid July for collection – **RECEIPTS ARE NOT POSTED OUT. If you have changed your address please advise the office.**

- **Contributors to the Planned Giving Program** with envelope numbers above 601 will find that they have a new number for 2009-2010.
- With the introduction of **SEDSO** (ie a levy component in fee structure) by the Diocese in 2000 St Michael's Catholic Primary School is not at present dependent on the Parish % of Planned Giving. Consequently - commencing **July 2009** the Parish will no longer be contributing 15% of income from the Planned Giving Program to the School Building Fund. Only this 15% was tax deductible. The School Building Fund will remain open with a significant credit balance, but will not receive the 15% of Planned Giving for the time being. Few parishes in the Diocese currently support a School Building Fund.

CATECHIST APPEAL – Several Catechists will be leaving next term. Volunteers are needed for Nowra Primary 3 -6 and Cambewarra 5/6 or they won't be having Scripture until 2010. If you are able to help until Christmas please contact Lyn 4423 1009.