

Our Sunday Word The Year for Priests

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

13th Sunday (Year B) - Season of the Year

28 June 2009

She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I will be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all

out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

In the gospel, Jesus reaches deep into the world beyond life and rescues a young girl from the jaws of death. Earlier, he was jostled by the crowd and felt healing power leave him in order to restore an afflicted woman. Repeating the words of last week's gospel: Who is this man? Is this someone with whom we want to become involved? On the other hand, can we afford not to get involved with him? This is a man who can lead us to life even in the midst of death. He is someone who is interested in the well-being of everyone, even those who may not be highly valued by society – women and children, the chronically ill, those who carry the seeds of death within them.

God's graciousness toward us should prompt us to be generous toward others. What we receive as life-enhancing gifts, we must share with those in need, those to whom life has not been kind. As we have been favoured by the healing touch of God, so we must extend that same loving touch to others. The love of Christ impels us to be openhanded as we approach those in need. Following Jesus' lead, we must not only give to them, we must also allow them to take from us. At times this will require that we share material resources; at other times it might mean that our energy will be drained in our service of them. In all of this, Jesus has set the example for us to follow.

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First Reading

1:13-15, 2:23-24

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Death was not God's doing, he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living. To be – for this he created all; the world's created things have health in them, in them no fatal poison can be found, and Hades holds no power on earth; for virtue is undying. Yet God did make man imperishable, he made him in the image of his own nature; it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world, as those who are his partners will discover.

The word of the Lord.



Responsorial Psalm

Ps 29

R/I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me and have not let my enemies rejoice over me. O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead, restored me to life from those who sink into the grave. (R.)

2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him, give thanks to his holy name. His anger lasts but a moment: his favour through life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn. (R.)

3. The Lord listened and had pity. The Lord came to my help. For me you have changed my mourning into dancing, O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever. (R.)

Second Reading

8:7-15

- second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest

share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

2Tim 1:10

Alleluia, alleluia! Our Saviour Jesus Christ has done away with death and brought us life through his gospel. Alleluia!

Gospel

5:21-43

The holy gospel according to Mark

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she had spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse.



St Michael's Parish, Nowra – Tel: 4423 1712 E-mail: office@nowraparish.org.au

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

28 June 2009

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 & 6pm
BERRY8.00am
BOMADERRY9.30am
CULBURRA6pm 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 . 9.00.a.m.
 Morning Prayer: Wed 7.50am Holy Hour: Fri 10.30am
 Berry: Tues 5.30pm Culburra: Thurs 5.30pm
 Bomaderry: First Friday (3 July) 5.45pm
 Vincentia: Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am - Tues, Wed 5.30pm
 Shoalhaven Heads: Fri 3.30pm Community Centre
 Kangaroo Valley: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat 8am; Wed 6.15am.
 Divine Office is chanted 15 mins prior to Mass. No Mass on Fridays.

Sacrament of Confession - Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 11³⁰-12³⁰pm & 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰pm
 Culburra Beach: Sat 5³⁰pm. Berry: Tues 6⁰⁰pm
 Bomaderry: 1st Fri 5¹⁵pm; Kangaroo Valley: Sat 4³⁰ – 5⁰⁰pm
 Vincentia: Sat: 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰pm



WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

Don Wiggins (Berry), **Salvacion Caguillo**
 (mother of Alma Curran - Philippines) who
 died recently; **Ray Owen, Myrtle Austin, Monsignor
 John Purcell** and **Alice O'Heir** whose anniversaries
 occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.

CONFIRMATION 2009:

We congratulate the 106 young parishioners + one adult, who were confirmed last Sunday. Bishop Peter was delighted with his experience of Confirmation in the Parish. He remarked on the reverence and the enthusiasm of the children. He also expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the teachers and catechists who had diligently prepared the children, for which we as parishioners are also most grateful. We pray that the Lord will bring all this good work to fruition in lives of fidelity to Christ and his Church.

THE YEAR OF ST PAUL comes to a conclusion on 29 June 2009.

Arguably Paul's influence on Christianity has been greater than any other Christian writer. The 13 epistles attributed to Paul have influenced great figures of Christian history from St Augustine to contemporary theologians as well as untold numbers of believers. Paul experienced hostility and suspicion from within the early Christian community as he began to preach the Gospel. He was remembered as Saul who zealously persecuted Christians. He would also have experienced resentment from the Jewish community.



He had been the most Pharisaic of Pharisees, the most legalistic of Mosaic lawyers. Now he suddenly appears to other Jews as a heretical welcomer of Gentiles, a traitor and apostate. Yet Paul never lost his love for his Jewish family, though he carried on a lifelong debate with them about the futility of the Law without Christ. He reminded the Gentiles that they were grafted on the parent stock of the Jews, who were still God's chosen people, the children of the promise. Paul's central conviction was simple and absolute: Only God can save humanity. No human effort—even the most scrupulous observance of law—can create a human good which we can bring to God as reparation for sin and payment for grace.

To be saved from itself, from sin, from the devil and from death, humanity must open itself completely to the saving power of Jesus. Paul's experience of the Risen Jesus on the road to Damascus was the driving force that made him one of the most zealous, dynamic and courageous ambassadors of Christ the Church has ever had. But persecution, humiliation and weakness became his day-by-day carrying of the cross, material for further transformation. The dying Christ was in him; the living Christ was his life.

"Paul was a generous apostle and an original thinker, but not the "new founder" of Christianity, as some have claimed. By listening to his teaching, may we be strengthened in our commitment to Christ, so as to take part joyfully in the Church's mission of evangelisation!" Pope Benedict XVI

Sacrament of First Reconciliation:

Vincentia: Mon 29 June 4.00pm
 Nowra: Tuesday 30 June & Thursday 2 July at 6.30pm
 Berry: Tuesday 7 July 6.15pm
 Culburra: Thurs 9 July 6.15pm

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2009- The Feast of All Saints – Sun 1 November. First Parent Meeting: Wednesday 1 July – 7.30pm St Michael's Hall.

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR! Parishioners are encouraged to bring their Planned Giving up-to-date by Tuesday. Any money received after Tuesday will not attract a 15% tax-deduction. Receipts will be available at all Mass centres mid-July for collection – RECEIPTS ARE NOT POSTED OUT. **New subscribers always most welcome.**

FORMING GENEROUS HEARTS – IN THE SPIRIT OF VATICAN II presented by international guest speaker, Leisa Anslinger who will explore principles of parish life that lead to living discipleship and stewardship and look at effective pastoral practices that contribute to forming generous hearts in individuals and the community of faith. Sat 4 July 2009 at Chevalier College, Bowral from 10am – 3pm. \$30/\$15 or by donation. Morning tea and lunch included. RSVP ESSENTIAL – contact Jane Edwards at info@dow.org.au or 4253 0900.

THINKING ABOUT DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD will be held at Gerringong from 31 July to 2 August. It is a time to consider the possibility of a priestly vocation. \$30. For more details or bookings, please contact Fr Mark O'Keefe at Unanderra on 4271 1068 or 0408 611 320.

HOLY SPIRIT COMMUNITY VINCENTIA:

- 1) Soup & Slice Luncheon Sunday 5 July Meeting room. 12noon. Food - fundraising - FUN!
- 2) 'SPRING FAIR' Saturday 5 Sept. See notice board at Holy Spirit for more details & how you can help!

NAIDOC ECUMENICAL LITURGY. (National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance) Parishioners are invited to attend the annual NAIDOC Ecumenical Liturgy to be held at St Thomas More Parish, Acacia Avenue, Ruse on Sunday, 5 July 2009.