

Our Sunday Word The Year for Priests

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

16th Sunday (Year B) - Season of the Year

19 July 2009

to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

Gospel 6:30-34 *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, 'You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while'; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Jesus chose disciples to continue his work; he instructed them and empowered them. He sent them out on a mission, and they returned. People followed them, because they wanted to hear what Jesus and the disciples had to say; they wanted to be released from the sickness and the demons that possessed them.

There are so many searching people in the world today, people hungering for instruction, good people looking for direction. They may be parents who are sick with grief over the future of a troubled child; a man stripped of his dignity through unemployment; a woman facing a pregnancy alone; elderly people feeling the surge of life leave their declining bodies; people who are angry and confused because they believe that the church is no longer dependable. They are people who are looking for answers and for meaning. They are like sheep without a shepherd, and Jesus looks to us to shepherd them.

In the midst of this confusion, there are reliable shepherds who walk with us in the dark valleys. They are willing to share the dangers through which we pass, even at the risk of their own safety. They do not pit one segment of the community or one theological perspective against another, scattering the sheep and driving them away. Instead, they work to dismantle the walls that divide us. They speak the word that gathers us together. They reconcile us with God and with each other. They may not give us easy answers, but their primary concern is to lead us to Jesus, the one who is our peace.



First Reading 23:1-6

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

'Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them. Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them, and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

'See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true

king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence.

And this is the name he will be called:

'The Lord-our-integrity.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23

R/ The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff, with these you give me comfort.

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Second Reading 2:13-18

from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God. In his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came

St Michael's Parish Contacts

Fr Patrick Faherty, <i>Parish Priest</i>	4423 1712
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Fr Leo Duck, <i>Resident in Vincentia</i>	4441 5571
Fr Ronan Kilgannon, <i>Resident in Kangaroo Valley</i>	
Mrs Robbie Forsythe, <i>Secretary</i>	4423 1712
Sr Margaret Prendergast sgs	4421 2260
Sr Patricia Lawless sgs	4421 2260
Sr Val Green rsc	4441 7035
Mrs Lyn West, <i>Catechist Coordinator</i>	4423 1009
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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.

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

19 July 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 (NB Clergy Inservice)

Nowra: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs **7.00am**;
 Friday 7.00am and 11.30am; Sat 9.00am
Holy Hour: Fri 10.30am
Berry: NO MASS **Culburra:** NO MASS
Vincentia: Mon & Fri 8am **only** - Fr Leo on in-service.
S/Heads: Fri 3.30pm Community Centre
Kangaroo Valley: Mon/ Tues/Sat 8.00am;

Sacrament of Confession ~ Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 11³⁰-12³⁰pm & 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰pm
Culburra: Sat 5³⁰pm. **K Valley:** Sat 4³⁰ - 5⁰⁰pm
Vincentia: Sat: 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰pm.

WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER: Harold Leggo, and Elizabeth Blackburn who died recently. Also **Albert Muller, Lucina Juco, William Haywood, Ellie Schutz, Mary Rouen, Val Warburton, Elsie Weston, Moya McCabe, and Eileen Stone** whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.



CATECHIST NEWS –

- **Regional Catechist In-service** to be held at St Francis Xavier's School, W'gong on Fri 24 July from 9.15am – 2.00pm. BYO lunch, COLAL teaching materials. Volunteer mentors needed.
- **Catechist Retreat Day** at St Mary Star of the Sea, Gerringong, 25 Sept 9.45am – 2pm; Topic Prayer, presented by Fr Schmitzer. BYO lunch
- **Contact Lyn 4423 1009** to book either of the above.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP EVENTS!

Mon 20 July – no meeting due to school holidays
Sat 1 Aug - WYD Pilgrim reunion in Gerringong – details to follow.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM. We would be grateful if the parishioner using **ENVELOPE NUMBER 565** could please contact the office as soon as possible – because of a discrepancy in numbers.

- We have seen a substantial drop in the number of parishioners participating in the Planned Giving Program over the past two years. This can be explained to some extent by the number of faithful contributors who have died over recent years; others have moved to live closer to family members or gone into residential retirement. And of course we recognise the economic downturn that has had a direct impact on others. The consistency with which parishioners support Planned Giving is of course crucial to parish financial planning. If you are currently not contributing to the program it might be a time to consider committing a portion of your income towards the parish Planned Giving. You can do so by contacting Robbie Forsythe in the Parish office.

THE PRIESTS OF THE PARISH will be attending in-service during the coming week – **PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MASS TIMES during the week.**

CULBURRA FAMILY GROUP will be holding a progressive dinner on Sun 19 July at Casey's at Callala Bay starting at 12.30. The dinner will start and end at Casey's. For inform. ring Marg or Paul on 4446 4117.



THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY. The Winter Appeal – Doorknock. At the end of this month we will be appealing for helpers to assist us in this year's doorknock – people who are prepared to donate 1, 2, 3 or more hours of their time to doorknock an area in Nowra, North Nowra, Bomaderry, Worrigeer or Cambewarra. Please make a note in your diaries – the doorknock days are all those between 22 and 30 August, but mainly the two weekends.

- **Winter Appeal Envelopes** are available at Church exits. Please mail to the address on the envelope, hand in to any of our shops, a known society member or drop into the parish office.



'THINKING ABOUT DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD'
 Gerringong 31 July to 2 Aug, (5.30pm Fri to 11am Sun) – is a time to consider the possibility of a priestly vocation. \$30 contribution is requested where this can be managed. For details contact Fr Mark 4271 1068 or 0408 611 320 or Fr Richard 0401 621 591 or 4423 1712.

CatholicCare Wollongong offers a program **'Seasons for Growth for Carers'** to Carers of a person who has a disability, is Aging or experiences a chronic illness. The program will run over 5 weeks beginning Mon 3 Aug. If interested contact Jacinta 4254 9351.

POSITION VACANT: Coordinator of Compeer Friends Illawarra Program (St V de P Society). Part-time (30.4 hrs per wk) based in Warrawong with responsibility for working closely with staff who conduct a 2 day a week Social Recreation Program for people living with a mental illness and facilitating workshops in mental health awareness for volunteers. Applicants must undergo and pass a medical examination & Federal Police check. For Application form and job description advert@svdpwgong.org.au or 98208223. Closing date for applications Wed 22 July 2009.

Dates to Note:

Fri 31 July – Grandparents' Mass – 11.30am
 Fri 7 Aug Berry – Mass for Bl Mary MacKillop - 6.30pm
 Sat 15 August – Solemnity of the Assumption
 Sat 26 Sept – Parish Dinner at Worrigeer House.

The Year of the Priest. In conjunction with the 150th anniversary of the death of St John Vianney, Pope Benedict inaugurated the Year of the Priest on 19 June. He asked Catholics to pray the Year of the Priest might lead to a greater appreciation of priests and encourage new vocations to the ordained ministry. "May this new jubilee year be a timely occasion for intensifying the value and importance of the priest's mission and for asking the Lord to grace his Church with numerous and holy priests."