

One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down.

Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself. The Gospel of the Lord.

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*In the readings for Ordinary Time, we take a break from the sequence of readings from the Gospel of Mark for five weeks. This week's reading begins a diversion into chapter 6 of the Gospel of John. The whole of John 6 is an extended discourse that explores the image of Jesus as the Bread of Life. The chapter and the discourse begin with this week's miraculous feeding of the multitude. This event occurs in each of the four gospels.*

*The feeding of the multitude is a profoundly political statement. Quite simply, there is sufficient food in our world to ensure that no one should ever be hungry. {G Sunter}*

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### St Michael's Parish Contacts

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Fr Ronan Kilgannon, <i>Resident in Kangaroo Valley</i>	
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Sr Patricia Lawless sgs	4421 2260
Sr Val Green rsc	4441 7035
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## Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

**T**oday we are reminded of God's providence. We live in a world that feeds us and shelters us and supplies us with everything that we need to grow and to thrive, and all of this comes to us from the hand of God. It is usually when we are in desperate straits that we become painfully conscious of our dependence on God, but this dependence is always there. God does not merely intervene when we are helpless; God's providence operates in our lives at all times.

Living in a society that promotes individualism, we sometimes undervalue the communal dimension of life. God certainly cares passionately for each of us (not even a sparrow falls without God knowing it), but God's concern is for the whole people. We are first and foremost members of a people. We would never have seen the light of day, we would not endure or develop, without others. As unique as we may be, we are a unique expression of a communal reality. God created a race; God formed a people; Jesus died for the world. By the grace of God, we belong to the community.

As members of the people of God, we are called to a way of life that is noble, not selfish. We are to live with each other in humility and gentleness, with patience. We are to bear with one another in love. Through baptism we all live by the same Spirit of Jesus; we are all united through the bond of God's love. The bread that we receive from the hand of God is the bread of full life, life in all its dimensions, life in Christ.

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# Our Sunday Word The Year for Priests

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

17th Sunday (Year B) - Season of the Year

26 July 2009

## First Reading

4:42-44

### *A reading from the second book of Kings*

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing Elisha, the man of God, bread from the first-fruits, twenty barley loaves and fresh grain in the ear. 'Give it to the people to eat,' Elisha said. But his servant replied, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' 'Give it to the people to eat' he insisted 'for the Lord says this, "They will eat and have some left over."' He served them; they ate and had some over, as the Lord had said.

The word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144

**R/**The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

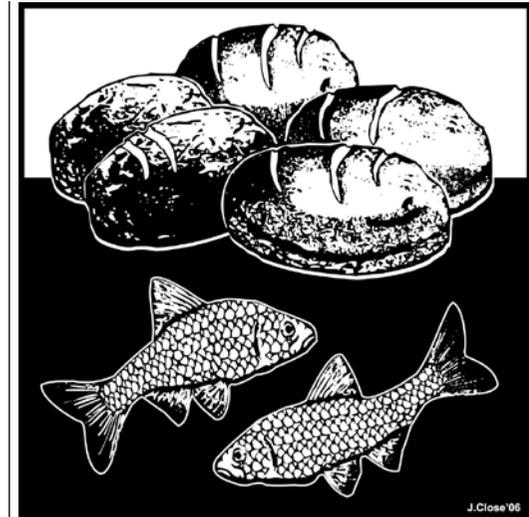
1. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God.
2. The eyes of all creatures look to you and you give them their food in due time. You open wide your hand, grant the desires of all who live.
3. The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds. He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts.

## Second Reading

4:1-6

### *from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians*

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord,



one faith, one baptism, and one God who is Father of all, through all and within all.

The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

Lk 7:16

Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

## Gospel

6:1-15

### *from the holy Gospel according to John*

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.'



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**Website: [nowraparish.org.au](http://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.

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

**26 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**

**Nowra:** Mon 7am, Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am, Friday 7.00am and 11.30am; Sat 9.00am

**Holy Hour:** Fri 10.30am

**Berry:** Tues 5.30pm **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm

**Bomaderry:** No Mass 7 August due to a special Mass for Bl Mary MacKillop at Berry at 6.30pm

**Vincentia:** Mon, Thurs, 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<sup>30</sup>-12<sup>30</sup>pm & 5<sup>00</sup> - 5<sup>30</sup>pm

**Culburra Beach:** Sat 5<sup>30</sup>pm. **Berry:** Tues 6<sup>00</sup>pm

**K, Valley:** Sat 4<sup>30</sup> - 5<sup>00</sup>pm **Vincentia:** Sat: 5<sup>00</sup> - 5<sup>30</sup>pm.

**WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER: Frank Wall, Keith Royston and Bernard Conroy (Vincentia) who died this past week. Also Shirley Rigney, Albert Muller and Gino Bocci whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.**



**CATECHIST NEWS –**

- **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!**

**Sat 1 Aug** - WYD Pilgrim reunion in Gerringong – details to follow.

**On the Sundays of August there will be a count of Mass attendance for Diocesan planning purposes.**

**THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY Winter Appeal –**

We would like to thank all those parishioners who have donated to our Winter Appeal to date. Your donations are extremely welcome and will be put to good use.

- **Doorknock** – apart from actually knocking on doors, which in itself is very important, we will be looking for volunteers to assist with collections in the various shopping centres. There will be an opportunity to make commitments for both this and door knocking, on the second and third weekends in August. In the meantime, if anyone would like more information or would like to volunteer ahead of these weekends, please ring 4421 0053 or 4422 1129. **Remember, doorknock weekends are 22/23 and 29/30 August.**

**The Sacred Heart Care Conference:** Members visit the aged, sick and lonely in their homes; they also visit three Nursing Homes regularly. (They do not distribute material relief or vouchers.) If a parishioner would like to refer someone for such a visit or chat please contact: Kath 4423592 or Judy 44218565,

**A nursing sister** is looking for accommodation in Nowra to work with the community in mental health. A lady "in her mid-fifties, quiet, non smoker and Catholic". If you are able to assist please contact Cherrie 0448 575 425

**BERNIE AND DON BODY** recently visited the WYD pilgrims from the Denver Archdiocese who were our guests and who stayed with Bernie and Don in July 08. They were able to present the parish in Denver a letter from Fr Pat, which was warmly received. Many photos were brought back with many memories and the pilgrims expressed their gratitude for the hospitality and friendship they experienced in St Michael's Parish.

**'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.

**REFUGEE & MIGRANT SUNDAY MASS 30 AUGUST** – an invitation is extended to people of the Diocese to celebrate Mass with Bishop Peter as the principal celebrant at Mount Carmel Parish Church, Varroville at 2.00pm. International food and entertainment will follow in the parish hall.

**1<sup>st</sup> SATURDAY MARIAN DEVOTIONS – 1 Aug.** Reconciliation at 8.30am followed by Mass at 9.00am. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary and Benediction at 9.30am. Morning tea will be available in the Parish Centre after devotions. All welcome.

**St Brigid's Primary School, Gwynneville and Fr Chris Riley's 'Youth of the Streets' CHARITY DINNER** will be held on Fri 7 Aug at the Villa D'Oro Function Centre at 6.30pm. Tickets \$75 each. Tables of 10 can be organised. Silent auction & entertainment throughout. Contact St Brigid's 4229 1969 or Judith 0421 107 378.

**WATOTO African Children's Choir**

Thursday 20 August - at Berry St Patricks 7pm;  
 Friday 21 August - Entertainment Centre, Nowra.  
 This is a free concert and seats are not reserved, "but we will ask for a generous donation from those who come..."

**Feast Days of the Week:**

- Wed 29 July** – St Martha
- Fri 31 July** – St Ignatius of Loyola, priest
- Sat 1 Aug** – St Alphonsus Liguori, bishop, doctor

**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