

Gospel Acclamation Gal 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

Gospel 8:27-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take

up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.' The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

There are several messianic traditions, each one characterising the anointed one of the future in a unique way. Do we expect a prophetic figure who will enter our world and reform the structures of society, or a strong leader who will overturn these structures and establish a new order? Are we waiting for a teacher who will transform our minds and hearts, or a judge who will punish us for our infidelities? Are we expecting someone who will renew the face of the earth, or someone who will come in fire and brimstone to destroy it? What kind of a messiah do we expect? For what kind of a change are we preparing ourselves?

Jesus seems to overturn our expectations. We look for one who will save us from the predicaments in which we find ourselves, and he comes to us as one who seems to be a victim of his own predicament. God's thinking seems to be the reverse of ours: Those who save their lives, lose them; those who lose their lives, save them; the seed must die before it can bear fruit; Jesus will be killed, but will then be raised from the dead.

Can we claim to understand Jesus? Or are we more like the people in James' community: people who profess faith in Jesus, but who do not live it out; people who speak pleasant words to others, who say the right things, but who do not back up their words with good works? Is our faith really living?

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, ©1966-1968 Darton Longman and Todd Ltd. Extracts from the Lectionary for Mass ©1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. Used with permission; all rights reserved. ©2009 liturgyhelp.com.au & St Michael's Parish, Nowra

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
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 Lynn West, Catechist Coordinator 4423 1009
St Michael's Primary School 4421 3630
St John the Evangelist High School 4423 1666

Our Sunday Word

The Year for Priests

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

24th Sunday (Year B) - Season of the Year

13 September 2009

First Reading 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me? The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 114

R/ I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

- 1. I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him.
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death, with anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress. I called on the Lord's name. O Lord my God, deliver me!
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion. The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me.
4. He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.



Second Reading 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The word of the Lord.



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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

13 September 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
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: 5.30.p.m; **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm
Vincentia: Mon, Thurs, Fri 8.00am, Tues/Wed 5.30pm
Shoalhaven 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 11³⁰-12³⁰pm & 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰pm
Culburra Beach: Sat 5³⁰pm. **Berry:** Tues 6⁰⁰pm
K, Valley: Sat 4³⁰ - 5⁰⁰pm **Vincentia:** Sat: 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰pm.

WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

Winifred Lorraine Keever and
James Gerrey – recently deceased;
 also **Ray Abood, Monica Hudson, Bishop
 McCabe, Bishop Geoffrey Mayne and Fr. John
 Ward**, whose anniversaries occur at this time.
 May they rest in eternal peace.



YOUNG ADULTS GROUP - the next activity will be
“Quiz the priest.” Got questions? Need clarification?
 Come along and fire your questions at Fr Leo in a fun
 relaxed atmosphere – **14 Sept** 7.30pm in the Parish
 Centre.

- **YAG** will be booking a table for the Parish Dinner
 on 26 Sept. Money and numbers to Shannon.

Feast Day of the Week:

Mon 14 – Triumph of the Cross
Tues 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows
Wed 16 – Cornelius, pope, martyr and
 Cyprian, bishop, martyr

**PARISH FEASTDAY – a Festive Mass at St Michael’s
 Nowra and Annual Dinner** at Worrigea House will be
 celebrated on Sat 26 Sept. Tickets will be \$35pp and \$10
 per child (subsidised by the Parish). There will be a set
 menu but those with special dietary needs will be catered
 for as last year. Dinner music will be ‘easy listening music’
 by Christina, Kate and Phillip Mullany. The speaker will be
 Sr Margaret Fitzgerald who is the Director of Outreach
 Programs for the Sisters of Charity. Book a table or just
 come along and meet new friends!

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY – time is running out!

**THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, Doorknock
 Appeal** – A wonderful result for all who
 participated in the doorknock for the
 Nowra/Bomaderry and S/haven Heads areas -
 \$13,226.90 to date. Money very much needed
 to support the work of the Society – those in need.



The next CULBURRA FAMILY GROUP function will be a
 Spring Picnic Races Day (chicken and champagne lunch)
 at Joan & Greg Watts’ home at midday on Sun 13 Sept.
 Please contact Marg/Paul Casey for details 4446 4117.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – are you looking for a
 gift for a child making their 1st Holy Communion in
 November? The Society has a range of suitable gifts or if
 there is something in particular you want they can usually
 get it in for you.

**HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE of St Vincent de Paul
 Society** invites all past and present members to the
 9.30am Mass on Sun 27 Sept on the feast of St Vincent de
 Paul. Morning tea will follow Mass.

CATECHISTS – Gerringong Retreat – Friday 25
 September from 9.45am to 2.00pm. BYO lunch and a
 mug. The topic, led by Fr G Schmitzer is Prayer. Ring
 Lyn 4423 1009 to register

Dates to Note:

Sun 20 Sept – Awareness Mass – 6.00pm (Hall)
 Sat 26 Sept – Parish Dinner – 7.30pm
 Sat 24 Oct – Parish Retreat at St Michael’s
 Sun 1 Nov – First Holy Communion.



“COME AND SEE” Spirituality group
 next meets on Wed 16 Sept, 7.30pm in
 the Parish Centre. The evening will be
 lead by Pat O’Gorman and Beth Riolo
 from the Catholic Education Office in

W’gong, with the focus being **“Our Journey – Our
 Story”**. Life is a sacred journey of change, growth,
 discovery, movement and transformation. We are
 continuously called to expand our vision of what is
 possible, to stretch our soul and take courageous steps
 along the way. You are on the path...exactly where you
 are meant to be right now...and from here you can go
 forward, shaping your life story into a magnificent tale of
 triumph, healing, courage, beauty, wisdom, power,
 dignity, and of love. All welcome – Come and see
 where you are on your journey. Contact Moira 4423
 6077 or Liz 4422 1279.

AN INCLUSION MASS - Mass on Sun 20 Sept at St
 Michael’s Parish Hall -6pm. The Mass will be a
 celebration of the gifts that each member of our Parish
 brings and a reminder of the importance of *including*
 everyone in the celebration of Mass. All are welcome!
 Refreshments will be served afterwards. For further
 inform contact Sr Jeanie Heining 4654 8709 or
jeanieh@materdei.org.au

ST. MICHAEL'S YOUTH meeting at the Hill's place -
 164 Penguin’s Head Rd Culburra Beach, at 6.45pm on
 Fri 11 Sept, for talk, prayer and combined youth games.
 Contact Matthew Hill ph: 02 4447 3197 or email
hill.matthew.john@gmail.com

Child Protection Sunday – Sept.13th

The aim is to ensure that all communities and
 organisations within the Church are safe and enriching
 environments for people of all ages, with special concern
 for children, young people and vulnerable adults.

SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB – theme for 2009 – ‘Does
 God Really Matter?’ – the next meeting Mon 14 Sept,
 7.30pm at the Jamberoo Pub – **“The God Young
 People Seek”**. For more inform Eileen 4232 3121 or
 Gabrielle 4232 2735 – meals available from 5.30pm.