

## Gospel

10:2-16

### from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

**I**n marriage, the couple does not merely receive a sacrament, they become one. They become an outward sign of the love of God. They are able to open themselves to each other in love, because God has first loved them. When they become one in marriage, they create something new, something that is a sign of the creative power of God. This in no way minimises the passionate love that they may have, or the unselfishness with which they give themselves to each other. Rather, it underscores the origin of that passion and the model of that unselfishness.

We are brothers and sisters of Christ in more than one way. First, through his incarnation, he became one of us, a little lower than the angels. He shared our human existence; he knew the highs and lows of human life. Then he redefined family relationships, claiming that blood bonds were no longer the determinant for establishing kinship. Instead, those who hear the word of God and keep it, those who commit themselves to God in faithful discipleship, are his brothers and sisters.

Marriage and other forms of discipleship make religious demands on us. Because we are taking a step into the unknown, they require a profound act of trust – trust in ourselves, trust in each other and, most importantly, trust in God. They also expect openness on our part – openness to give and openness to receive. Unfortunately we associate these characteristics with unpretentious children. While children may possess them because they are innocent, adults must repossess them because we have been recreated in Christ.



©2009 liturgyhelp.com.au & St Michael's Parish, Nowra

# Our Sunday Word

The Year for Priests

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

27th Sunday (Year B) - Season of the Year

4 October 2009

## First Reading

2:18-24

### A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them, each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,  
and flesh from my flesh!  
This is to be called woman,  
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

The word of the Lord.

## Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127

**R/** May the Lord bless us  
all the days of our lives.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.
- Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.
- Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from

Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life! May you see your children's children. On Israel, peace! (R.)

## Second Reading

2:9-11

### from the letter to the Hebrews

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

1 Jn 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia! If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love. Alleluia!





**St Michael's Parish**, Nowra – Tel: 4423 1712 E-mail: [office@nowraparish.org.au](mailto:office@nowraparish.org.au)

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

**4<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**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.

**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 8am, 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.a.m. Tues/Wed/ 5.30.p.m.  
**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 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: –**

**Rebecca Maude Schreiber** recently deceased; also **Marie Longhurst, Daphne Fossey, Anthony John Russell, Annie Weeks, Frank Husein and Des Rutherford** whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** – are you looking

for a gift for a child making their 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**Feast Days of the Week:**

**October the month of the Rosary.**  
**Wed 7** - Our Lady of the Rosary  
**October has been known traditionally as the month of the Rosary. The Rosary will be prayed each Tuesday at St Michael's at 8.a.m. for the Sick and the spiritual needs of the Parish.**

**THE PARISH RETREAT DAY – “To be a Blessing”** will be held on **Sat 24 October** at Nowra, and will be led by **Sr Eileen Brown**. Parishioners – men and women, are encouraged to attend the 9.00am Mass which will be followed by morning tea and then the Retreat will commence at 10.00am concluding at 3pm with Evening Prayer and Benediction in the Church. Morning tea provided, BYO lunch. **Hosted by Catholic Women's League Nowra.**

**ST PATRICK'S BERRY** has a new Family Group with eleven families involved – although it is always open for others to join. The group is eager to have some activities involving all of the St Patrick's community. Any inquiries please ring Maureen & David Collins 4464 2445.

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION: WHY JESUS? WHY THE CHURCH?**

What do you think life is all about? Share your point of view with others. An evening, open to Church going and non-Church Christians will be held at Ss Peter & Paul Parish, Manning St, Kiama on Thurs 22 Oct from 7.30 – 9.00pm. Gatherings include supper and discussion. This Diocesan evening is being run in conjunction with the **Jesus. All About Life Campaign.**



**Dates to Note:**

**Tues 20 Oct - Berry** – 11.a.m. Mass and Anointing of the Sick – morning Tea  
**Wed 21 Oct** - Prayer Evening – 1<sup>st</sup>. Holy Communion  
**Sat 24 Oct** – Parish Retreat at St Michael's  
**Sun 1 Nov** – First Holy Communion.  
**Sat 7 Nov** – Memorial Liturgy at Worrigeer Cemetery

**CATECHISTS:** a Catechist is needed for years 5 & 6 for Nowra Primary on Wednesdays from 11.30 – 1.00pm. If you can help please ring Lyn 4423 1009

**SHOALHAVEN CROSSROADS** – the next meeting will be held at Nowra Baptist Church, Old Southern Rd., South Nowra on Fri 9 Oct from 7.15 to 9.15pm. The host Church this month is the Salvation Army. If you would enjoy a really good night and help out at the same time, please feel welcome to attend.

**NATURAL DISASTERS IN PHILIPPINES, SAMOA AND INDONESIA** –In addition to the tragic loss of life, the consequences for families and whole villages are heart-wrenching. All loose monies from the Second Collection throughout the Parish this weekend will be forwarded to CARITAS to assist with this appeal

**HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH** is holding a raffle – tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5 – available on **this weekend**. Prizes are Vouchers for Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb, Hairdresser, 1hr Remedial Massage, \$20 Pizzeria voucher. Come for morning tea after the 9.30am Mass, buy some tickets and be there for the draw at 11.00am. **ALSO THANK YOU BBQ!** Sun 11 Oct from 12 noon – at 115 Naval Pde, Erowal Bay – BYO salad/sweet to share. For catering purposes **RSVP 6 Oct** to Judy 4441 7456 or Michael 4443 7732.

**CANONISATION OF ST JEANNE JUGAN** – *A Saint for old age and every age.* Jeanne Jugan was the foundress of the Little Sisters of the Poor. The Sisters have been at Randwick since 1886 and on 11 Oct she will be canonised a Saint by Pope Benedict. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be led by Cardinal Pell at St Mary's Cathedral on 1 Nov at 10.30am. The Little Sisters of the Poor have cared for many sick and aged priests, including Bishop William Murray.

**YOUNG MEN RISE UP – “YOU WERE BORN FOR THIS!”** The Young Men of God National Conference (an Australian movement of young Catholic men) will be held in Sydney from 23 – 25 Oct. For more information contact Luke 0437 842 272 or Ben 0410 401 763 or email [conference@ymgmovement.org](mailto:conference@ymgmovement.org).

**CATHOLIC HEALTHCARE** provides care for the aged residents of our community at Villa Maria, Unanderra, St Mary's Berkeley and Bishop McCabe at Towradgi. We are holding a combined **OPEN DAY & SPRING FAIR** on Sat 17 Oct with all funds raised on the day going towards the upgrading of the bus that all facilities share – from 9.30am to 2.30pm at Villa Maria, Tannery St., Unanderra. **Your support would be very much appreciated!**