

Gospel Acclamation Mt 11:28

Alleluia, alleluia! Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel 5:1-12

from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we celebrate the memory of all the baptised who have gone before us and whose lives were virtuous. The saints of God are all those who have been baptised into Christ, who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb. We all know people whose lives were steeped in genuine holiness. The life of every one of us has been blessed by their goodness. This is a day for us to remember and to celebrate their holiness. We celebrate the lives of all those who have been marked with the sign of faith, those who have been canonised by the church, those whom we have known personally as well as those whose names we do not know.

In the beatitudes listed in today’s gospel we are given examples of what it means to live lives of holiness. This gospel really does not present a blueprint for holiness. Rather, it offers a series of snapshots that demonstrate the holiness that is ours by virtue of our baptism. Those who have gone before us lived such lives. Today, as we remember them, we hold up their lives as examples of holiness and models for our imitation. The sentiments that are expressed and the commitment that it illustrated in the beatitudes clearly stand in opposition to the standards of the world. Their radicality may be more than some can understand, but they are traits that are recognisable by those who belong to the family of God, for they are genuine godly traits.



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Our Sunday Word The Year for Priests

St Michael’s Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

All Saints Day (Year B)

1 November 2009

First Reading 7:2-4; 9-14

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, ‘Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.’ Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, ‘Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, ‘Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.’

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, ‘Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?’ I answered him, ‘You can tell me, my Lord.’ Then he said, ‘These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.’

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23

R/Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1. The Lord’s is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples. It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm.
2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things.
3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him. Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Second Reading 3:1-3

from the first letter of John

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God’s children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

The word of the Lord.





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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.

## The Feast of All Saints: Year (B) First Holy Communion – November 1<sup>st</sup> 2009

### THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS: November 1<sup>st</sup> (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

**First Holy Communion** is being celebrated throughout the Parish on this the Feast of All Saints November 1<sup>st</sup> – We congratulate the 90 children who are receiving the Blessed Eucharist for the first time, and pray that this will be a very blessed and memorable occasion for them and their families. Our very sincere thanks to the teachers at St Michael's and Catechists throughout the Parish who have been so directly involved with the children's preparation.



**Mon Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> All Souls' Day**  
**Nowra** ..... 7.00 am and 11.30am  
**Culburra** ..... 8.00.am **K. Valley** ..... 8.00.am  
**Berry** ..... 6.00.pm **Vincentia** ..... 6.00 pm

**ALL SOULS' DAY – MON Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>** - In response to the invitation of the Church, and in keeping with the age old Catholic tradition, we assemble on 2<sup>nd</sup> November to pray for the faithful Departed.

**Envelopes for Mass Offerings** for deceased family and friends will be available at all Mass Centres this weekend – **please return them as soon as possible.**

### **MASSES DURING THE WEEK**

**Nowra:** Mon 7.a.m./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:** Wednesday 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 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

**NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> Memorial Liturgy** – As has been our practice for many years, the Parish will hold a **Memorial Liturgy at Worrigea Chapel for the Faithful Departed on Sat 7 November at 10.00am**, followed by morning tea in Reflections Café – generously supplied by the S'haven City Council. All parishioners and those of other Christian traditions are most welcome to participate. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Pierre and his staff for their wonderful support.

**The Communion of Saints:** *“We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in Heaven,- all together forming one Church; and we believe that in this communion, the merciful love of God and His saints is always attentive to our prayers.”(CCC)*

**THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE Nowra branch** would like to thank all who attended and supported the parish Retreat on Saturday last. It was a very prayerful and thought provoking retreat, led by Sr Eileen. The response was marvellous and it was wonderful to see so many men participating. It was spiritually very inspiring.

**CWL** – the next meeting will be on Tues 10 Nov in the Parish Centre – 9.30am for morning tea with the meeting commencing at 10.00am.

**WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER: –Lorna Tempone, Kathleen Haigh, and Oscar Olsen (Sydney) who died this week;** also George Sullivan, Margaret Johnson, Margaret Christoffersen, Pierina Andreoli, Virginio Marastoni and Bill Toohey whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.



**BISHOP PETER WILL BE CELEBRATING MASS** for the pioneer men and women of the Illawarra who were buried in the early Catholic cemetery, in conjunction with Nov Masses for the deceased, at Andrew Lysaght Park, W'gong on **SAT 14 NOV AT 11.00AM.** All welcome.

**Found:** Early this year a valuable Rosary beads was found at the North Nowra Shopping Centre. The finder displayed notices in the area, but there has not been any response. For further information contact Joseph 44230805

**ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL FETE** will be held on Sun 8 Nov commencing at 10.30am (after 9.30am Mass)

- Jumping Castle, Giant slide and games
- Stalls – cakes, gourmet delights, Plant & Produce, Gift Baskets, books, trash & treasure, Toys and more
- Students busking, face painting, animal farm & reptile Display.

**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP** – next meeting **Mon 2 Nov** – “Saints” - bring along stories about your favourite saint and how they have inspired your own life – 8pm in the Parish Centre. **CHRISTMAS CARD MAKING NIGHT** – Mon 16 Nov in the parish centre – to order your card making pack rsvp to Jody by Mon 9 [jodyedwards@yahoo.com](mailto:jodyedwards@yahoo.com) Cost \$15 to make 10 cards.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** – Lil Toohey of Berry is celebrating her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday on Sunday – we wish Lil a very blessed and happy birthday.

### **FOSTER CARER RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN – Give hope to a child – become a Foster Carer.**

CatholicCare is urgently appealing for foster carers to provide a safe home to care for children and adolescents who are unable to live with their parents due to abuse or neglect. For more information call Tammy on 4628 0044 or



[www.catholiccare.woll.catholic.org.au](http://www.catholiccare.woll.catholic.org.au)

**1<sup>ST</sup> SAT MARIAN GROUP Sat 7 Nov.** Reconciliation and Rosary 8.30am followed by Mass at 9.00am. After Mass everyone is invited to attend the Liturgy for the Faithful Departed at Worrigea Chapel at 10.00am. The group will be holding its **Christmas Party** at the Postman's Tavern on Sun 29 Nov at noon. Cost \$12 or \$18 with dessert. Ring Jo 4422 4883 or Anna 4447 0382 to book by 28 Nov.

**THE LYDIAN SINGERS and the S'haven Youth Orchestra** are joining to present Mozart's Requiem and other sacred choral & orchestral items in the Nowra School of Arts – Sat 7 Nov at 7.30pm and Sun 8 Nov at 2.30pm. Tickets avail at the Tourist Information Centre.