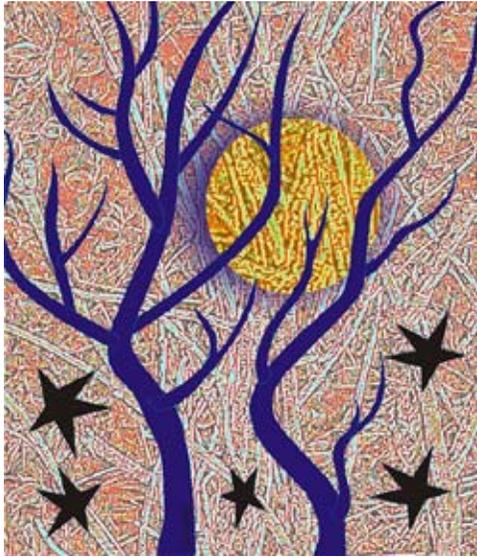


coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

‘Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

‘But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.’
The Gospel of the Lord.



Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

Although this is not the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the major theme found in the readings is the end of time. The events that will usher in and will take place during this time are described in apocalyptic terms. The struggles of life will culminate in a massive cosmic confrontation between the forces of good and those of evil. This last battle will be universal in scope, just like the first primordial conflict between chaos and God.

In some way, all of today’s readings state that good will finally prevail over evil. In the last days Michael, the angelic warrior of God, will rise up. In the epistle, Christ is pictured seated triumphantly at the right hand of God with his enemies under his foot, a sign of conquest. Finally, in the gospel, the Son of Man, the mysterious figure from apocalyptic literature, comes in the clouds with great power and glory. All of these images are apocalyptic; each of them is quite hopeful.

We read these stories at the close of the liturgical year, because we are coming to the conclusion of our yearly telling of the story of salvation. However, apocalyptic images are timely whenever we find ourselves in the throes of the battle with evil and it appears that we will succumb. These forms will remind us that good will be able to withstand evil. From this we will conclude that we need only trust in God.

St Michael’s Parish Contacts

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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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Our Sunday Word The Year for Priests

St Michael’s Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

33rd Sunday (Year B) - Season of the Year

15 November 2009



First Reading

12:1-3

A reading from the prophet Daniel

‘At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.’

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 15

R/ Keep me safe, O God: you are my hope.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and

cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay.

3. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness forever.

Second Reading

10:11-14,18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings. The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful, and pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

Gospel

13:24-32

from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man



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

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.

33rd Sunday of the Year (B)

15 November 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 7.a.m./Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am
 Friday 7.00am and 11.30am; Sat 9.00am

Holy Hour: Fri 10.30am

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

Bomaderry: 1st Friday of the month only...5.45pm

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 11.30-12.30pm & 5.00 – 5.30pm

Culburra Beach: Sat 5.30pm. **Berry:** Tues 6.00pm

K.Valley: Sat 4.30 – 5⁰⁰pm **Vincentia:** Sat: 5⁰⁰ - 5³⁰pm

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no mass at Kangaroo Valley on Mon, Tues or Wed of next week only.

WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER: – Brian Devine

(brother of Helen King) **who died last week;** also **Dave Sherry, Tim Wiley, Rita Smith and Molly Cloran** whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.



THE NOWRA BRANCH OF THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE will be holding an Ecumenical Evening in St Michael's Hall on 27 November at 7.30pm – Coffee and dessert. More information to follow.

The Culburra Family Group November function will be on Sunday 29th. Please meet at the boat ramp/pontoon at Orient Point at 11.30 am for a shared lunch followed by fishing. Paul and Marg Casey

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS BOOKSTALLS – It's that time of year again!



▪ **Vincentia** – 21/22 November

▪ **Nowra** – 28/29 November

▪ **Bomaderry** – 12/13 December

There should be something for everyone – good Christmas gifts, devotional, etc.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP – CHRISTMAS CARD MAKING NIGHT – Mon 16 Nov in the parish centre – to order your card making pack (Cost \$15 to make 10 cards) RSVP to Jody by Mon 9 Nov - jodyedwards@yahoo.com.

TAIZE PRAYER NIGHT will be held at St Michael's Church on Friday 4 December. A wonderful opportunity for spiritual preparation for Advent and Christmas.



AN ELDERLY PARISHIONER residing at Greenwell Gardens Retirement Village, 4 Brereton St Nowra requires transport to the 8am Mass on the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month, she has transport for the other Sundays. If you are able to assist would you please contact Robbie or one of the Priests.

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED in finding out how you could be involved with families of children with Autism? Expressions of interest in special training are invited – please contact Robbie or one of the Priests...

ADVENT PROGRAM – the Diocesan program “**The Lord is Near**” is available this weekend – full colour featuring reflections on the 4 Sundays of Advent, a personal examination of conscience leading into 2010. Cost \$1

LENT 2010 – BORN FOR THIS! The Diocese will be staging this pilgrim production – a moving, modern theatrical interpretation of the Stations of the Cross. Young people wishing to take part are asked to attend auditions on **Sat 5 Dec** at the Cathedral meeting room (W'gong from 3pm – 5pm) Info avail www.dow.org.au/youth or Loretta 4253 0809 or lorbrinkman@woll.catholic.org.au

Closure of Dapto Convent (1880) A farewell Mass for the Sisters of St Joseph will be held on Saturday 12 Dec. Mass will commence at 6pm followed by supper. Phone 4261 1315 to RSVP by 30 Nov.

CATECHIST NEWS: Our Thanksgiving Mass and morning tea – Mon 23 Nov at 9.30am at St Michael's. Please bring some Christmas fare to share.

- **Award Ceremony for 10 & 15 years** as Catechists will be held on Fri 11 December, 10am at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral followed by a farewell luncheon for our director Paul Brady at St Mary Star of the Sea College Hall. RSVP Lyn before 16 November 4423 1009.
- If any Catechist is interested in doing Level 1 again we will begin the course on Mon 30 November. Ring Lyn for more information.

Pastoral Care of the Sick and Aged. In addition to the Hospitals and Palliative Care unit, there are at least eight Retirement Centres /Nursing Homes throughout the parish. We depend very much on being notified by parishioners regarding relatives, friends and fellow parishioners in residential care, who may need pastoral visitation and the Sacraments. Please do not presume that they are on our lists; ensure they are!

COME & SEE Spirituality Group next meets on Wed 18 Nov, 7:30pm at the Parish Centre. This is our last gathering for the year focusing on time for reflection and preparation for Advent. Please bring some Christmas fare to share for supper. Contact Moira 4423 6077 or Liz 4422 1279.

END OF THE YEAR PARTY – 1st Saturday Marian Group will be holding their Christmas party at the Postman's Tavern on Sun 29 Nov at 12.30pm (**please note change of time**). Cost \$12 or \$18 with dessert. Ring Jo 4422 4883 or Anna 4447 0382 to book by 28 November.

Points to consider; “*Bad times, hard times-this is what people keep saying; but let us live well, and times shall be good. We are the times: Such as we are, such are the times.*” (St. Augustine)

“**Let us live our lives with a daily consciousness of the eternal**” (St Therese of Lisieux)

(Sunday next November 22nd . The Feast of Christ the King.)