

Gospel Acclamation 2 Th 2:14  
Alleluia, alleluia! God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

Gospel 2:1-11  
from the holy Gospel according to John

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee. The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited. When they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the wedding was all finished, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said, 'Woman, why turn to me? My hour has not come yet.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews; each could hold twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim. 'Draw some out now' he told them, 'and take it to the steward.' They did this; the steward tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from – only the servants who had drawn the water knew – the steward called the bridegroom and said, 'People generally serve the best wine first, and keep the cheaper sort till the guests have had plenty to drink, but you have kept the best wine till now.'

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This was the first of the signs given by Jesus: it was given at Cana in Galilee. He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

### Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

**T**he readings that are offered to us as we begin Ordinary Time carry over some of the themes that we considered during the Christmas season. Then we celebrated the new era that God inaugurated through the birth of Jesus. Now we look deeply into our minds and hearts to see just how open we are to the demands of that new year. Last Sunday we considered the manifestation of the Spirit at the time of the baptism of Jesus. This Sunday we contemplate the various manifestations of that same Spirit in our own lives. Finally, we are brought to realise that this variety of Spirit-filled ministries is intended to be a source of Christian unity and not of fragmentation or division.

One of the major themes gleaned from the readings for today is that of the call to newness. God summons us to something new, gives us a new name, provides us with new experiences, launches us into new ministries, and calls us to sing a new song of praise. Even Jesus experienced a call to newness. Through Mary, God called him out into ministry, a ministry that would bring the fruits of the eschatological age of fulfilment to the whole world. We may be inclined to think of Pentecost as the season of the Spirit, but in reality the newness of God always comes to us through the Spirit regardless of the season of the year. In the world of the new age, the real glory of Jesus will be manifested in the variety of the gifts of the Spirit given to the church.

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# Our Sunday Word

The Year for Priests

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

Second Sunday (Year C) - Season of the Year

17 January 2010

First Reading 62:1-5  
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

About Zion I will not be silent, about Jerusalem I will not grow weary, until her integrity shines out like the dawn and her salvation flames like a torch.

The nations then will see your integrity, all the kings your glory, and you will be called by a new name, one which the mouth of the Lord will confer.

You are to be a crown of splendour in the hand of the Lord, a princely diadem in the hand of your God; no longer are you to be named 'Forsaken', nor your land 'Abandoned', but you shall be called 'My Delight' and your land 'The Wedded'; for the Lord takes delight in you and your land will have its wedding.

Like a young man marrying a virgin, so will the one who built you wed you, and as the bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so will your God rejoice in you.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 95

**R/** Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. O sing to the Lord, bless his name.
2. Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name.
4. Worship the Lord in his temple. O earth, tremble before him. Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.' He will judge the peoples in fairness.

Second Reading 12:4-11  
- the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. One may have the gift of preaching with wisdom given him by the Spirit; another may have the gift of preaching instruction given him by the same Spirit; and another the gift of faith given by the same Spirit; another again the gift of healing, through this one Spirit; one, the power of miracles; another, prophecy; another the gift of recognising spirits; another the gift of tongues and another the ability to interpret them. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, who distributes different gifts to different people just as he chooses.

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, Berr Sacred Heart, Bomaderry; Mary, Help of Christians, Culburra; St Joseph, Kangaroo Valley; Holy Spirit, Vincentia.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday - Year C**  
**January 17<sup>th</sup> 2010**

**Sunday Masses: (Holiday time)**

**NOWRA** ..... 6pm Vigil; 8am, 9.30am & 6pm  
**BERRY**.....8.00am  
**BOMADERRY**.....9.30am  
**CULBURRA** ..... 6pm Vigil & 8.00am  
**VINCENTIA**..... 6pm Vigil, 8.00am & 9.30am  
**KANGAROO VALLEY** ..... 11.00am

**(The Holiday timetable will conclude on Sunday next January 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**MASSES DURING THE WEEK**

**Nowra:** Mon 7.00am /Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am  
 Friday 7.00am and 11.30am ..... Sat 9.00am  
**Berry:** Tues 5.30pm..... **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm  
**Vincentia:** Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am .....Tues, Wed 5.30pm  
**Kangaroo Valley:** .....Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am  
 Wed 6.15am. Divine Office is chanted 15 mins prior to Mass. No Mass on Fridays.

**Confession/Reconciliation**

**Nowra:** Sat 11.30.-12.30pm ----5.00 - 5.30pm  
**Culburra:** Sat. 5.30pm **Berry:** Tues 6.00pm  
**K Valley:** Sat 4.30 – 5.00pm  
**Vincentia:** Sat. 5 - 5.30pm.

**St Vincent de Paul Society**

St Michael's Conference has an urgent need for sheets and towels. Donations would be much appreciated. Please call 4421 0390 or any Conference member.



**The Society is conducting a Diocesan wide raffle** in Feb & March to raise funds for its escalating expenses. Prizes are \$5000, \$2000, and \$1000. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets in Stocklands Shopping Centre on 12 Feb, 6 & 20 March 2010. Please contact John 4422 1505 or Ivor 4421 0929 if you are able to help.

**Mater Dei St Vincent de Paul Conference, Culburra would** like to thank all who contributed to their appeal on the weekend of 2-3 Jan 2010. With collections, and a donation, over \$1000 was raised. A sincere 'Thank You' for this generous response.

**Jesus at Cana in Galilee**

"At the end of the wedding story, the Evangelist St John comments: 'He let his glory be seen, and his disciples believed in him' (2:11). The reference to 'glory' makes the connection. The point is that the glory of God, of which the Israelites got only a terrifying and distant glimpse at Mt Sinai, is now, because of the Incarnation, displayed and made accessible to human beings in precisely such homely occasions as a village wedding where the wine runs out. God is 'living among us' in this remarkable sense; the sacramental depth of such realities is being revealed". {Fr Brendan Byrne SJ}



St John who writes His Gospel with the view to describing " the New Creation" in Christ, lists only **seven 'SIGNS" (miracles.)**, of which the changing of

Water into Wine is the first.(2:1-11) They are signs as to who Jesus really is; signs of the Presence and Action of God.

A miracle is a supernaturally (divinely) caused event. Therefore when speaking of 'miracles' in relation to Blessed Mary MacKillop, we are speaking of 'miracles' attributed to her prayerful intercession. "As a sign, a miracle is perceived by the senses and makes present the supernatural order, God's governance of nature, and His loving plan of salvation. Miracles are a call to faith."

**LENTEN PROGRAM 2010 'Do you love me?'** Ash Wednesday is 17 February and this is an early reminder that our Lenten program will commence the week beginning Monday 15 Feb. We would be grateful if past and potential (hopefully) group leaders would contact Peggy 4421 3417 or Francene 4421 5962.

**Congratulations and best wishes to Sandra and Gerald Groom (Berry)** celebrating their forty first wedding anniversary on 18 January.

**RECENT TRAGIC EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI**

Thousands are dead after a massive earthquake destroyed the Haitian capital, including its Cathedral, and "all the great churches, all the seminaries" on Tuesday afternoon. Pope Benedict has said: "I invite everyone to join in my prayer to the Lord for the victims of this catastrophe and for those who are mourning their loss. I assure my spiritual closeness to people who have lost their homes and to all those affected in various ways by this calamity, imploring from God consolation and relief of their suffering".



**The parish will hold a special appeal next weekend, and all loose monies in the second collection will be donated to Caritas Australia.**

**POPPY PLAYGROUP:** CatholicCare is holding this



group for parents experiencing difficulties coping with their young children (0-5 yrs). Parents can play with their children, enjoy the company of other parents and explore parenting issues in a relaxed and supported cottage environment. Friday mornings of school term, starting 12 Feb, at 68 Shoalhaven St, Nowra. The course is free. Call 4221 9248 for bookings.

**HOLY SPIRIT VINCENTIA** raffle fund raiser (in conjunction with the Triathlon to be held in Feb 2010) – tickets will be on sale at all Masses. Proceeds will go towards funding of the new Hall. The Auxiliary would like to thank you for your ongoing support of their activities

**WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER: Patricia Wattern who died in the UK during the week (Geoff Wilkins' sister), and Patrick Green( K.V.)** Also Ronald Trevillion, members of the Davison Family; (Bob, Lily & Robert; Elizabeth & Neville); and Michael McGrath, whose anniversaries occur . May they rest in eternal peace.

