

Gospel 6:17,20-26  
from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: 'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

### Gospel thoughts

by Dianne Bergant CSA

**P**aul teaches us that, united to Christ through faith and in baptism, we are united in his death and resurrection. With Christ we die to sin; with him we rise to a new life. We cannot wait to see proof of our transformation before we change our actions. The proof is in the lives we live in faith. To deny that we have died and been raised is to deny the resurrection of Christ. Paul insists that they cannot be separated. The challenge is to live in and out of this faith.

Both Jeremiah and Jesus introduce us to such a way of living. It is a way of paradox, a way that moves us beyond the self-centred standards of the world. The poor, the hungry, those who weep, and those who are persecuted are really the ones who are blessed. The victims of our social and economic systems, those who have been ravaged by war or have been made vulnerable by life itself are the ones who, if they place their trust in God, will be blessed in the end. They may appear to be the outcasts of this world, but, if they are filled with faith, they will inherit heaven. The wealth of this world and its pleasures are not the blessings that we might think they are. They can blind us to the real values of life and prevent us from dying to the world and living resurrected lives in Christ.

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# Our Sunday Word The Year for Priests

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

Sixth Sunday (Year C) - Season of the Year

14 February 2010

### First Reading

17:5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The Lord says this:

'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord.

He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

The word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 1

**R/** Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

1. Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night.

2. He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.

3. Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind. For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.



### Second Reading

15:12, 16-20

- the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The word of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation

Lk 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia!

### 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
- Mrs Cath Elton, Secretary (Part time) 4423 1712
- Mrs Liz Nimmo, Secretary (Part time) 4423 1712
- Sr Margaret Prendergast sgs 4421 2260
- Sr Patricia Lawless sgs 4421 2260
- Sr Val Green rsc 4441 7035
- Mrs Lyn West, Catechist Coordinator 4423 1009



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

**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.

**6th Sunday - Year C**

**14 February 2010**

St Valentine's Day

**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 7.00am..... Tues/Thurs 8.15am  
 Fri 7.00am and 11.30am ..... Sat 9.00am  
**Berry:** Tues 5.30pm ..... **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm  
**Vincentia:** Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am; .....Tues 5.30pm  
**Kangaroo Valley:** Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat .....8.00am  
 Wed 6.15am. No Mass on Fridays

**Shoalhaven Heads** .....Friday 3.30pm

Ash Wednesday - 17 February

Nowra .....7.00am  
 Culburra.....8.00am  
 Kangaroo Valley.....8.00am  
 Vincentia.....8.00am  
 Bomaderry.....8.30am  
 Nowra ..... 11.30am  
 Berry .....6.30pm  
 Nowra .....7.00pm  
 Vincentia.....7.00pm

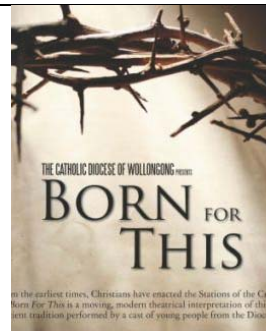
**Confession/Reconciliation**

**Nowra:** Sat 11.30.-12.30pm & 5.00 - 5.30pm  
**Culburra:** Sat 5.30pm **Berry:** Tues 6.00pm  
**Vincentia:** Sat 11.00-11.30am & 5 - 5.30pm  
**K Valley:** Sat 4.30 – 5pm **Stations of the Cross**  
**Vincentia:** Each Friday following 8.00am Mass

**CATECHISTS' CORNER:** Thank you to everyone for making a special effort to attend our meetings this past week. If any school needs more Sacramental Program letters, please ring me. Also, would you return any manuals and activity books that you do not need?

**Catechist Reminders:** 'Christ Our Light and Love' In-service. 22 Feb, 11.45-2.30pm, Bellambi.  
**Orientation:** 25 Feb 9.30-2.30pm in the Parish Centre. Register for both by calling **Lyn 4423 1009**.

**BORN FOR THIS.** From the earliest times, Christians have enacted the Stations of the Cross. 'Born For This' is a modern theatrical interpretation of this ancient tradition performed by a cast of young people from the Diocese. This production brings this great story of faith alive for audiences throughout Lent 2010. **Don't miss your chance** to see this moving Way of the Cross as part of your Lenten journey. **19 March, 7.30pm**, St Michael's Hall, Nowra. Tickets are available online for \$10/\$5 (Concessions) at [www.dow.org.au/born-for-this](http://www.dow.org.au/born-for-this) or by contacting Fr Richard at the Parish Centre.



**Thank you from Mary Zammit:** I want to thank everyone for their cards, phone calls, best wishes and kind thoughts, during my illness. But most of all I want to thank you all for your prayers. This made a huge difference to my recovery. Wishing you a happy and healthy 2010.

**THANK YOU!** I would like to thank everyone and the Parish for the many phone calls, cards, flowers and gifts I have received on my retirement. – I have been quite spoilt. It has been my very special privilege to be able to work with you all and to live my faith in that role. In particular it has been wonderful working with Frs Pat, Ronan, Richard and the many priests who have been in the Parish over 18 years. I'm sure I will miss you all, but am looking forward to time for Laurie and me... Robbie.

**Compass.** The new Compass group (for mid 20s to mid 40s) will kick things off for 2010 with Mass on Monday 15 Feb at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre.



**MOTHER RUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND Theatre Gala:** 'Not now, Darling'. This is an English comedy - Wed 17 March at the Nowra Players Theatre, Bomaderry. Champagne on arrival and an extended interval supper are included. Cost is adults \$25, students \$20. Contact Denise Jones 0419 248 889 or 4423 2299 (BH). Tickets need to be paid for to guarantee a seat.

**LENTEN PROGRAM 2010 'Do you love me?'** Our Lenten Program begins on Monday. In a beautifully presented booklet with impressive artwork, week one asks "What Does It Mean To Serve?" The gospel reflection guides us "to understand that everything comes from God and that God calls us to serve." Parishioners are still welcome to join groups where there are spaces – see lists in foyers. Group leaders are reminded to contact all group members to confirm the time and place of first meeting. Any queries contact Francene 4421 5962 or Peggy 4421 3417.



**Contacts for other areas:**

- Berry/S'Heads, Sr Patricia 4421 2260
- Callala, Joyce Buttel 4446 5569
- Culburra Bch, Jean Helliwell 4447 3018 or Harry Ray 4447 2941
- Currarong, Noel Reid 4448 3215
- K Valley, Fr Ronan
- Vincentia, Fr Leo 4441 5571

Books are still available at all Mass Centres for \$5

**Holy Spirit Vincentia Fundraiser raffle:** Please return tickets, sold or unsold, by 14 Feb. Tickets will be available up to 21 Feb. Prizes will be drawn at Huskisson following the Triathlon presentations Sunday 21 Feb. **Are you in with a chance?**

Let us remember in our prayers **Bishop William Murray** now a stroke victim in residential care – Mt St Joseph's Nursing Home, Randwick, who will be 90 on Tues 16 Feb.

**WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER: Melissa Hope who died this week; also Anne Moses, Paul Coffey, Noelene Schmal, Regina Werda, Milka Kalie, Katarina Broz, Tom McQuade, Henke and Mathilda Hulsman** whose anniversaries occur. May they rest in eternal peace.

