

power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation** Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel** 9:28-36  
*from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow;

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and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Gospel thoughts**

*by Dianne Bergant CSA*

**T**he Second Sunday of Lent celebrates the epiphanies of God, the ways in which God's divine presence is revealed. The first divine epiphany is the manifestation of God as one who initiates a covenant, an intimate relationship with human beings. Not only does God initiate this agreement, but God also seals it with blood, making it official. Although we ritualise our relationship with God in a religious setting, the call to enter into the covenant can come in the ordinary events of life. The important thing to remember about this covenant is that God enters into our lives and initiates the relationship. No life is too simple; no life is too busy. Human history in all of its contours is the setting for the encounter with God.

The glory of God is revealed in the transfigured Jesus, the one who discussed his suffering and death with Moses and Elijah. Lent is a time for us to enter into this suffering, not merely through reflection, prayer and penance, but concretely, by sharing in the suffering of the body of Christ. We see this suffering all around us.

God is revealed through women and men who live lives of Christian commitment. In those whose integrity strengthens us, in those whose religious sentiments inspire us, in those whose endurance gives us confidence. God is revealed in those who get involved in bettering the lives of others. God is revealed in very ordinary ways, if we but open our eyes to see.

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# Parish Life

The Year for Priests (2009 - 29 June - 2010)

St Michael's  
Nowra  
www.nowraparish.org.au

**Second Sunday (Year C) - Season of Lent**

**28 February 2010**

**First Reading** 15:5-12, 17-18  
*A reading from the book of Genesis*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

The word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 27

**R/** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink?
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer. Of you my heart has



spoken: 'Seek his face.'  
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face. Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help.  
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

**Second Reading** 3:17-4:1  
*- the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same



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**Second Sunday of Lent**  
**28 February 2010**

**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 7.00am ..... Tues/Wed/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/Wed/ 5.30pm  
**Kangaroo Valley:** ..... Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat 8.00am  
 Wed 6.15am. Divine Office is prayed 15 mins prior to Mass.  
 No Mass on Fridays. **Shoalhaven Heads** Friday 3.30pm  
**1<sup>st</sup>. Friday Mass at Bomaderry** this Friday-5.45.p.m.  
 Confession 5.15 p.m.

**Confession/Reconciliation**

**Nowra:** Sat 11.30am-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 Fri after 8.00  
 am Mass. **Kangaroo Valley:** Stations of the Cross  
 and Benediction, 5pm during the Fridays of Lent.

**WE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER: Victor (Tom) Smith** who died this week. Also **Tom McGee** and **Sheila Yates**, whose anniversaries occur. May they rest in eternal peace.



**Choir for Holy Week Ceremonies** Practice will be held Thurs 4 Mar, Wed 10 Mar, Thurs 18 Mar, and Wed 24 Mar, in St Michael's Church, at 5.30pm. **All singers and musicians most welcome.**



**Mary McKillop - Place - Museum** . Kennedy's Tours has planned a trip to the museum on **Wed 12 May**. Cost is \$50 with morning Tea on arrival. Ph 4421 7596 for bookings.

on arrival. Ph 4421 7596 for bookings.

**PROJECT COMPASSION**, introduces Teneille, from



Derby, WA. Limited job opportunities, low family literacy levels and poor health and housing are affecting poor school performance amongst Indigenous children. Teneille participates in a Caritas Australia-supported program that is empowering children to attend school, have healthy and

nutritious food and improve school performance. **Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion** helps to work towards the goal of ensuring primary education for all children. **Please give generously this Lent.**

**LORD TEACH US TO PRAY** Week 3<sup>rd</sup> of the Lenten Program is titled 'What we can offer in service?' In the program booklet Bishop Peter refers to the program as 'an invitation to explore and deepen our life of service in Jesus Christ.' Week 3 asks 'How can we cultivate and use the gifts God has given to us?' The reflection suggests many ways we can do this even in quite ordinary lives.

**CATECHIST REMINDERS:**

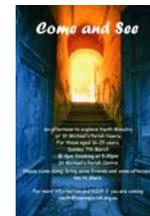
**Level 1 training** begins Wed 3 March, 10-2.30pm, in the Polding Room. BYO lunch. Many thanks to all catechists for a smooth start to SRE lessons. **Lyn 4423 1009.**

**First Reconciliation: Parent Information Night** Wed next 3 March, 7pm. This meeting includes parents from **St Michael's School and the State Schools**; in the Parish Hall.

**Holy Spirit Vincentia Parish Auxiliary** Annual General Meeting will be held Sat 6 March 2010, at 1pm, in the meeting room behind the church. Nominations are sought for all Auxiliary Positions. All parishioners are encouraged to attend.

**Have you ever wondered about a vocation to Religious Life?** The Sisters of the Good Samaritan invite you to an afternoon tea to meet with sisters and novices, Sun 21 Mar, 4 - 6pm, at the Polding Learning Centre, St Mary's College, Wollongong. Please enter via Gate 6 in Market Street. Parking in grounds. For more information email [ritafitt@hotmail.net.au](mailto:ritafitt@hotmail.net.au) or phone/text 0419 169 400.

**'COME AND SEE'** An afternoon to explore **Youth Ministry**, for those aged 16-25 Years. At St Michael's Parish Centre, Sunday 7 March, 4pm finishing at 5.30pm. Please come along, bring some friends and some afternoon tea to share. For more information or RSVP if you are coming



[youth@nowraparish.org.au](mailto:youth@nowraparish.org.au)

**'BORN FOR THIS'** is a modern theatrical interpretation of the Stations of the Cross performed by a cast of young people from the Diocese. **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 \$10/\$5 (Concessions) will be sold at Mass Centres from 6 March and are available at the Parish Centre or online at [www.dow.org.au/born-for-this](http://www.dow.org.au/born-for-this).

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:**



**Nowra:** will be held at Nowra Church of Christ, Illaroo Rd, 5 March, 10am. A talk to be given is titled 'Let everything that has breath praise God'. All welcome.

**Combined Churches of Culburra:** will be held at St John's Anglican Church, hosted by Truehaven, 10am, Fri 5 March. All welcome. Morning tea provided.

**Combined Churches of Bay & Basin:** will be held at, and hosted by, Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Fri 5 March, 10am. All welcome. Morning tea provided.



**A Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** will be held at OLHC Church Culburra, Thursday 4 March from 4.30pm with Mass at 5.30pm.

**FIRST SAT DEVOTION:** Sat 6 Mar; Reconciliation at 8.30 and Mass at 9am, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Rosary and Benediction at 10.30am. Morning tea is available in the Parish Centre.

**Vincentia:** A **big thank you** to all who supported the Triathlon raffle. \$6000 was raised.



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**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 must be paid for to  
guarantee a seat.

