

and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they

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St Michael's Parish Contacts

Fr Patrick Faherty, <i>Parish Priest</i>	4423 1712
Fr Richard Healey, <i>Assistant Priest</i>	4423 1712
Fr Leo Duck, <i>Resident in Vincentia</i>	4441 5571
Fr Ronan Kilgannon, <i>Resident in Kangaroo Valley</i>	
Mrs Liz Nimmo, <i>Secretary (Mo, Tu, We)</i>	4423 1712
Mrs Cath Elton, <i>Secretary (Th, Fr)</i>	4423 1712
Catriona Nunan, <i>Youth Minister</i>	0422 201 054
Mrs Lyn West, <i>Catechist Coordinator</i>	4423 1009
Sr Margaret Prendergast sgs	4421 2260
Sr Patricia Lawless sgs	4421 2260
Sr Val Green rsc	4441 7035
St Michael's Primary School	4421 3630
St John the Evangelist High School	4423 1666

are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel thoughts *by Dianne Bergant CSA*

The readings for the Sundays after Easter all provide mystagogical catechesis for the entire church, with a special emphasis for the newly baptised. This instruction is meant to help us recognise the presence of the Risen Lord in our midst. The overarching theme for the Second Sunday of Easter is the celebration of this presence in several manifestations.

While we might seek some obvious, tangible manifestation, each reading speaks of the presence of Christ in a way that we would not expect Christ to be present. He is there in the very throes of sickness, in fear and doubt, in the celebration of the liturgy. These presences challenge us to go beneath appearances, beneath the mundane and banal of life, and there discover the risen Lord in personal mystical experience, in the ministry of the believing community, and in the transformative possibilities of the liturgy.

Experiences of the Risen Lord are not reserved for extraordinarily holy people. Any one of us can be invited into a deep personal encounter when we least expect it, in the most unlikely places, with effects that overwhelm us. In fact, the Risen Christ is always just around the next corner, eager to enter our lives with the transforming power of the resurrection. Being part of a community of believers in prayer can be one of the most profound religious experiences. It not only transforms the present, but it also entrusts us with a vision of what is yet to be, an eschatological hope for a glorious future.

Have a Blessed Easter

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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 Easter

11 April 2010

First Reading

5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117

R/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.'

2. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.

3. O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord grant success. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; the true God is our light.

Second Reading

1:9-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

My name is John, and through our union

*Christ is Risen!
He is Risen indeed!*

in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 20.29

Alleluia, alleluia! You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel

20:19-31

from the holy Gospel according to John

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,'

Welcome to all visitors!



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.

Second Sunday of Easter (Year C)

11 April 2010

Divine Mercy Sunday

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

Weekday Masses:

Nowra: No Mass on Mondays. Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am
 Friday 7.00am and 11.30am; Sat 9.00am

Morning Prayer: Wed 7.50am **Holy Hour:** Fri 10.30am

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

Vincentia: Mon/Thur/Fri 8.00am & Tues/Wed 5.30pm

Shoalhaven Heads: Fri 3.30pm Community Centre

Kangaroo Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am;

Wed 6.15am. Divine Office is prayed 15 mins prior to Mass.

No Mass on Fridays.

Confession ~ Reconciliation

Nowra .. Sat 9.30-10.30am (new time) & 5.00- 5.30pm

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

Kangaroo Valley: Sat 4.30 – 5pm

Vincentia: Sat 5 –5.30pm

We prayerfully remember: Terry O'Sullivan

(Gerringong, son-in-law of Jack O'Gorman),

and **Marcia Osbourne** who died this week;

also those whose anniversaries occur at this

time. May they rest in eternal peace.



GOSPEL OF LOVE CD – a double CD with 28 tracks including 14 instrumental tracks by Br James Maher is now available. Normally \$29.95, yours for only \$15 at the Parish Office. **An amazing bargain!**



Bay & Basin Catholic Women's League is having a fundraiser for **Youth Off The Streets** on **18 April** at Vincentia Church Hall, 1pm. The theme is 'Teddy Bear's Picnic': sausage sizzle - \$10 per family, prizes for the kids. BYO teddy bear, chairs and drinks. All welcome.

Divine Mercy Devotions will be held in Holy Spirit Church, Vincentia, Sun 11 April, 2.30pm, followed by afternoon tea.



OUR JOURNEY AHEAD: The Pastoral Planning Process is underway with consultations occurring across the Diocese. This process offers everyone a chance to become involved in sharing ideas and advice about the future of our Diocese. Everyone is encouraged to attend our local consultation on **Wed 26 May from 7pm - 9pm in St Michael's Hall.** Please read the information guide prior to attending. The guide is available in the latest Journey magazine and online www.ourjourneyahead.org.au.



CONFIRMATION PREPARATION-

Vincentia. There is a series of 6 lessons. The 2nd lesson is on **Mon 26 April, 3.45-5pm.**

This will be followed by lessons on 3 May, 10 May, 17 May and 24 May from 3.45-5pm.

Phone Sr Val 4441 7035 for information.

Catholic Women's League: The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 13 April** in the Parish Centre, starting at 9.30am for morning tea, and a 10am start.



"COME & SEE" Spirituality group next meets **Wed 21 April, 7:30pm** in the Parish Centre. The guest speaker is Marie Milne, who has an interest in art and spirituality, and in connecting with others on their journey toward self-awareness. Please join us for a Mandala art experience, and bring a plate to share for supper. To register, phone Moira 4423 6077 or Liz 4422 1279.



VINCENTIA BBQ 'Thank You' Sunday 11

April, 12 noon at 115 Naval Pde, Erowal Bay. The BBQ is to show appreciation of your support of raffle and volunteering at Triathlon. Sausages, bread, tea & coffee supplied. BYO chairs, drinks, salad, & sweet to share.

St John's School Bulletin: St John's found an innovative way to contribute to Project Compassion this year, Each time a House Group raised \$7 it represented the 'purchase' of a chicken to those in need in Cambodia. These chickens signify more than just chooks, they represent a life source. **Total amount raised is \$5455.75 which is 779 chickens and therefore 779 families helped by the students!** McCabe House would like to thank the whole school for their great effort.



Year of the Priest: An informal parish dinner will be held at **Nowra Golf Club, Wed 19 May, 6.30 for 7pm**, to celebrate God's

graciousness to us, and to express appreciation for the faithful commitment of the priests of our parish. By arrangement with the club, meals and drinks are to be individually ordered and paid for on the night. **RSVP Wed 12 May** at the Parish Office. Please indicate if you would like transport to be arranged. Gold coin donation toward clergy refreshments would be appreciated. Phone the Parish Office 4423 1712, or Cath 4422 1784 for info.

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting **Project Compassion.** If you still have a box



or set of envelopes, please bring them back this week. If you are wondering how you could make a difference in the struggle against poverty in your daily life then visit www.bemore.org.au and take up the challenge to BE More!

Youth Ministry: Join Cat Nunan for an outing to Taronga Zoo, Thurs 15 April. Anyone under 16 yrs must be accompanied by an adult. For more info or RSVP email youth@nowraparish.org.au. If you haven't yet met Catriona, feel free to drop by the Parish Office on Tues 13 April between 9.30-3.30pm.

Mercy Night – Friday 16 April, 7-8pm in

St Michael's Church. Join the Compass Group for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, with songs, readings and quiet time. Reconciliation will be available. Will finish with dinner afterwards in a local pub. *All very welcome.*

Fr Pat will return from Ireland on 15 May. Fr Richard and the other priests will attend to the pastoral needs of the Parish during his absence.



DAY OF REFLECTION: 'In the stillness... my heart waits for you.' A day of meditation and stillness drawing inspiration from the Taize community in France. **Sat 17 April 9.30am-4pm.** Benedictine Abbey, Jamberoo Mountain Rd, Jamberoo. Cost is \$20 (includes morning tea and lunch) payable in cash on the day. **RSVP by Tues 13 April** by calling 4232 1034 (Pat Boniface) or email gogarty@exemail.com.au