

through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 10.14

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

Gospel 10:27-30
from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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St Michael's Parish Contacts

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- Fr Richard Healey, *Assistant Priest* 4423 1712
- Fr Leo Duck, *Resident in Vincentia* 4441 5571
- Fr Ronan Kilgannon, *Resident in Kangaroo Valley*
- Mrs Liz Nimmo, *Secretary (Mo, Tu, We)* 4423 1712
- Mrs Cath Elton, *Secretary (Th, Fr)* 4423 1712
- Catriona Nunan, *Youth Minister* 0422 201 054
- Mrs Lyn West, *Catechist Coordinator* 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

Gospel thoughts by Dianne Bergant CSA

This Sunday is traditionally referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. However, the readings for today focus more on the flock than on the shepherd. The overarching theme appears to be unity in diversity. Placing this theme within the context of the Easter season, we might refocus it slightly and suggest that today we celebrate the presence of the Risen Lord in communities of difference.

Unity in diversity is first found in the divine union of the Trinity. All other models of unity flow from it. Both the first and the second readings depict communities made up of people from every nation, race, people and tongue, Jews and Gentile alike. This is precisely the makeup of most communities today. Parishes and religious groups that were born with a particular cultural identity have changed in complexion and composition. Despite the obvious differences, all are children of the one God, all are joined in their common confession of faith.

Not everyone is happy with diversity. Some within the early community resented the success of Paul and Barnabas and they tried to turn the people against them. This sounds strangely familiar to us. Religious groups born out of struggle and hard work, that were lovingly nurtured and that grew strong, often resist what they perceived to be the invasion of foreigners. If these people could only take as their model the company of the blessed revealed in John's vision, they would see that those who have washed their robes in the blood of the Lamb come from every nation and race and people and tongue.

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Parish Life

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

St Michael's
Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

Fourth Sunday (Year C) - Season of Easter

25 April 2010

Commemoration of ANZAC Day



First Reading 13:14, 43-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded

us to do when he said:

'I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 99

R/ We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing for joy.
2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock.
3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love. He is faithful from age to age.

Second Reading 7:9, 14-17

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse
I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been



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Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

25 April 2010 | ANZAC DAY

Sunday Masses:

Nowra	Vigil 18 ⁰⁰ 08 ⁰⁰ 09 ³⁰ 18 ⁰⁰
Berry	08 ⁰⁰
Bomaderry	09 ³⁰
Culburra Beach	Vigil 18 ⁰⁰
Vincentia	Vigil 18 ⁰⁰ 09 ³⁰
Kangaroo Valley	11 ⁰⁰

Weekday Masses:

Nowra: Mon - No Mass.	Tues, Wed, Thurs 08 ¹⁵
Friday 07 ⁰⁰ & 11 ³⁰	Sat 09 ⁰⁰
Morning Prayer: Wed 07 ⁵⁰	Holy Hour: Fri 10 ³⁰
Berry: Tues 17 ³⁰	Culburra: Thurs 17 ³⁰
Vincentia: Mon, Thur, Fri 08 ⁰⁰	Tues, Wed 17 ³⁰
Shoalhaven Heads:	Fri 15 ³⁰ Community Centre
Kangaroo Valley:	Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat 08 ⁰⁰
Wed 06 ¹⁵	Divine Office is prayed 15 mins before Mass.

Confession ~ Reconciliation

Nowra	Sat 09 ³⁰ -10 ³⁰ (new time) & 17 ⁰⁰ - 17 ³⁰
Culburra: Sat 17 ³⁰	Berry: Tues 18 ⁰⁰
Kangaroo Valley:	Sat 16 ³⁰ - 17 ⁰⁰
Vincentia:	Sat 17 ⁰⁰ - 17 ³⁰

We prayerfully remember: **Bob King** and **Preston Collins** (Sydney) father of David Collins who died recently; also **Ray Kennedy** and **Eric Devereaux** whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.



CATECHIST CORNER

Position Vacant: 2 Catechists are needed for Judith Drive Public School, Thurs 10⁰⁰ – 11⁰⁰, years 3/4 & 5/6.

Level 2 Catechist Course: If there are 10 participants, the course will be run here term 3. Call Lyn 4423 1009 to register your interest.

Pastoral Planning Flyers: Co-ordinators, please distribute flyers and encourage children and their families to attend the meeting on 26 May.



Shoalhaven Crossroads will be meeting at the Baptist Church, Old Southern Rd 19¹⁵ - 21¹⁵ on **Fri 14 May**. Please come to join us – everyone is most welcome.



Young people and others interested in Youth Ministry. There will be a gathering **Sun 2 May @ 16³⁰** in the Parish Centre. This is a time to discuss and share: *Your dreams for the youth of the Parish*; The possibility of starting a Youth Group; *How young people can be involved in the Parish*; WYD 2011 in Madrid. Email Catriona youth@nowraparish.org.au

First Saturday Marian Devotions on 1 May.

Mass at 09⁰⁰ followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Reconciliation, Rosary and Benediction at 10³⁰. Morning tea is available in the Parish Centre. Everyone is most welcome.



The Celebrate Love Seminar

All marriages go through highs and lows. Give your relationship the attention it deserves and rediscover the joy of being a man and woman in love.

Bowral: 15-16 May, \$200/couple (including meals)
- a two day retreat for married couples

See website for details, rego and motel suggestions.
If cost is an issue, call Fr Richard to discuss sponsorship.

www.celebratelove.com.au

Call Geraldine 02 4872 1955



Mother's Day 2010: Catholic Women's League, Nowra, cordially invites you all to a **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea** at St Michael's Parish Hall, **Sat, 1 May at 14⁰⁰**.

All Mothers and Grandmothers are most welcome.

National eConference on Mary 18 May 2010, 10¹⁵-15¹⁵, at St John's High School, Nowra. It's Free! Fr Frank Moloney will engage you as he shares his insights into Mary as disciple, woman and mother. RSVP to Jane Edwards at jane.edwards@dow.org.au or 4253 0899.

The ANZAC Tradition: 'The ideals of courage, endurance and mateship that the Anzac legend created are still relevant today and are principles that many young people especially can identify with. The Anzac tradition reflects Australia's commitment to defending the dignity of every human being and serving the global community for the good of all humanity.' *Archbishop Philip Wilson.*



Date claimers:

- **Mary MacKillop Museum** – 12 May
- **Year of the Priest Dinner** Nowra Golf Club, Wed 19 May, 18³⁰ for 19⁰⁰
- **Our Journey Ahead** – local consultation Wed 26 May. St Michael's Hall. 19⁰⁰-21⁰⁰

COMPASS Group Retreat

Blessed Pier Giorgio Retreat - You are warmly invited to a retreat at St Patrick's Berry (**22-23 May**) exploring the life and spirituality of Pier Giorgio. Facilitated by Paul Elarde who helped bring the relics to Australia for WYD 2008. RSVP to compass@nowraparish.org.au

BAY & BASIN CWL dates to remember

Mother's Day Stall before and after Vincentia Masses on 1 and 2 May. All welcome.

Sr Bridie's Retreat at Holy Spirit Hall, Vincentia, 5 May 09³⁰ – 15⁰⁰. Bring lunch & slice or cake to share; tea/coffee provided. All welcome, and as always it will be a memorable day.

Fundraiser for Holy Spirit Church Hall: Sunday 23 May 13⁰⁰. A luncheon of soup & slice with tea or coffee will be followed by the movie - "When in Rome", suitable for all ages, at Huskisson Cinema. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$12 children under 12. Tickets available now – see Eileen Oliver, 4443 8008, or Sr Val.



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Fourth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

25 April 2010 | ANZAC DAY

Anzac Day 25 April is the day Australians remember the soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZACS) who landed and fought on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey early on the morning of 25 April 1915 during the First World War (1914-1918). We remember their bravery and sacrifice, many of them never returning home from the war.

Mary McKillop Place & Museum.

Kennedy's Tours has planned a trip to the museum, **Wed 12 May**. Cost is \$50 incl. morning tea. Book on 4421 7596. Flyers are available in each church.



CONFIRMATION PREPARATION in Vincentia. Please note: Due to the Anzac Day holiday the **next lesson will be on Tues 27 April 3⁴⁵-5pm**; then on Mondays 3 May, 10 May, 17 May and 24 May from 3⁴⁵-5pm. Phone Sr Val 4441 7035 for information.

Catholic Women's League, Nowra Branch will meet **Tues 11 May** in the Parish Centre. Morning tea at 09³⁰ is followed by the meeting at 10⁰⁰.

We extend our prayers and a special greeting to parishioners who are homebound and unable to gather with the church community to celebrate during the Easter season. May you be comforted by God's consolation and compassionate love.

CATHOLICCARE: Ph 4421 8248 for bookings.

- **Parenting Children with Challenging Behaviours:** This is a 2 session program to help you understand your child and explore communication & behaviour management strategies. **St Michael's Primary School, Thurs 10.30 –1pm. 20 & 26 May. Cost is \$20.**

We are creating a PARISH PASTORAL PLANNING TEAM (4-5 people) to help facilitate the consultation and to move forward other initiatives in the Parish. If you would like to be involved please **complete a nomination form** for yourself or someone else by 25 April.

St Vincent de Paul Shop, Berry urgently needs volunteers to help serve. Please contact Sheridan, 4423 3221, if you can help.

GOSPEL OF LOVE CD – SAVE 50% - a double CD with 28 tracks including 14 instrumental tracks by Br James Maher is now available. Normally \$29⁹⁵, yours for only \$15 at the Parish Office. **An amazing bargain!**



Year of the Priest dinner 19 May : An informal parish dinner will be held at **Nowra Golf Club, Wed 19 May, 6³⁰ for 7^{pm}**, to celebrate God's graciousness to us, and to express appreciation for the faith and 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.



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 at ourjourneyahead.org.au

Fr Pat is on holidays in Ireland until 15 May.
Fr Richard and the other priests will attend to the pastoral needs of the Parish during his absence.
