

Gospel Acclamation Jn 14.23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

Gospel 14:23-29
from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home with him. Those who do not love me do not keep my words. And my word is not my own: it is the word of the one who sent me. I have said these things to you while still with you; but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you. Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. You heard me say: I am going away, and shall return. If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. I have told you this now before it happens, so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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 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

The new city of God is built on the foundation of the apostles, but on its gates are inscribed the names of the tribes of Israel. These names represent the openness to all nations, races, peoples and tongues. The resurrection of Jesus has radically transformed the way we live together and the way we live with God.

What must we do to be saved? The question put to Jesus centuries ago is still asked today, and the answer is still the same. We must believe and we must love God and love one another. We will be recognised as resurrection people by our active faith and by our unselfish love, not by an exterior mark, regardless of how sacred. This change in requirements for membership does not diminish the rigour of our religious obligations. Rather, it suggests that we may always have to reinterpret the law, for what is appropriate at one time and in one place may be inappropriate in another. With the early Christians, we will need the guidance of the Holy Spirit in this very delicate process. This is why the departing Jesus assures us that the Spirit will come to us to teach us all things.

The final gift that Jesus promises to give is his own peace, a peace that he has won by overcoming sin and death. This peace issues from the union that Jesus enjoys with God, a union which we are now invited to share.

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Parish Life

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

Sixth Sunday (Year C) - Season of Easter

St Michael's
Nowra

www.nowraparish.org.au

9 May 2010

First Reading 15:1-2,22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 66

R/O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known upon earth and all nations learn your saving help.
2. Let the nations be glad and exult for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples, you guide the nations on earth.
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. May God still give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him.

Second Reading 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord.



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.

Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

9 May 2010 – Mothers' 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 & Wed - No Mass.Tues & Thurs 08¹⁵

NB there will be **NO MASS** in Nowra on Wed 12 May.

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 Community Centre:	Fri 15 ³⁰
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 **James Aldous** and **Mary Castray** (mother of Sue Halbish) who died recently; also **Bonnie Nelson** and **Bill Egan** whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace.



NOWRA CWL: The next meeting will be held on **Tues 11 May** in the Parish Centre, commencing at 09³⁰ with morning tea.



Happy Mothers' Day

We pray for the protection of those who have given us the gift of life. May our mothers know the deepening joy that comes from God's presence.

OUR JOURNEY AHEAD: Come to the parish consultation and share your thoughts and ideas on what is needed for our church. How can we keep relevant and make a difference? Invite your family and friends to join in. Read through the Pastoral Planning Information Guide which is available in the latest Journey magazine and online at ourjourneyahead.org.au, and then come along and be part of the process, **Wed 26 May in St Michael's Hall**. Supper will be served from 6^{30pm} and the meeting will be punctual from 7^{pm} - 9^{pm}. Ask at the Parish Centre if you need transport or a copy of the guide.



Please claim the date and plan to make a difference!

BLESSED PIER GIORGIO RETREAT

Sat 22 May 09³⁰ - 16⁰⁰ & Sun 23 May 08⁰⁰ - 13⁰⁰, St Patrick's Berry. Cost \$25 includes morning & afternoon tea & BBQ lunch on Sunday. **This retreat is for everyone! Please join us!** RSVP to Jody 4422 3318 or compass@nowraparish.org.au

Taizé Chant for Pentecost will be hosted by Holy Spirit Church. This evening is an excellent and prayerful preparation for Pentecost. Invite a friend, all are welcome. Holy Spirit Church, Vincentia **7³⁰ Fri 21 May**.



Culburra Family Group will hold a morning of Bare Foot Bowls, **Sun 9 May 10⁰⁰** at Callala Beach RSL. Share a picnic afterwards at Bi-Centennial Park, Callala Bay. All welcome.

BEGINNING THEOLOGY INFORMATION SESSIONS. Do you want to study your faith at a deeper level? This certificate level course requires no previous theological background. Find out more at information sessions to be held on Thursday, 27 May 2010 at Albion Park, St Paul's Parish meeting room, 4.00pm OR 7.30pm. Contact Jane Edwards at info@dow.org.au or 4253 0899.

YEAR OF THE PRIEST DINNER:

Nowra Golf Club, Wed 19 May, 6³⁰ for 7^{pm}. Please join us to make this a strong expression of thanks for the hard work of our priests and religious. 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 4423 1712. Phone Cath 4422 1784 for info or assistance with transport.



Date claimers and coming events:

- **Holy Spirit Fundraiser Hall: Sun 23 May 1^{pm}.** Luncheon & Movie *When in Rome*. See Eileen Oliver 4443 8008 or Sr Val for tickets.
- **Spirituality in the Pub:** Mon 10 May 7^{30pm} Jamberoo Pub.
- **Mary National eConference: Tues 18 May 10¹⁵-15¹⁵,** at St John's High School, Nowra. Includes lunch. **FREE!** RSVP by Friday morning to Jane Edwards - info@dow.org.au or 4253 0899.



Shoalhaven Crossroads will be meeting at the Baptist Church, Old Southern Rd 7¹⁵ -9^{15pm} on **Fri 14 May**. Please come to join us – everyone is most welcome.

Petition in Support of Catechist Classes

The NSW Government is trialling a secular ethics class in state schools that will draw kids out of SRE classes. **Please sign the petition today** to move the ethics classes to another time during the week.

NEEDED: 2 Catechists at Judith Drive School, Thurs 10-11am, years 3/4 & 5/6. Ph Lyn 4423 1009 if you can help

Parenting Children with Challenging Behaviours: A two session program to help you understand your child and explore communication & behaviour management strategies. **St Michael's Primary School, Thurs 10³⁰ – 1^{pm}, 20 & 26 May. Cost is \$20. Ph CatholicCare 4421 8248 for bookings.**