



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.

Christmas [Year A]

25 and 26 December 2010



“The Word was made flesh. He lived among us.” – John 1.14

To all parishioners and visitors, a very blessed, joyful and peaceful Christmas! Welcome home to all who are visiting their families for Christmas.

NOTE: There will be **NO** evening Mass in the Parish on Christmas Day.

Thank You!

As an expression of appreciation and gratitude for the support and generosity of so many parishioners throughout the year, and especially at Christmas time, a **Triduum of Masses** will be offered for your intentions and needs over the Christmas season. **We pray that you and your families will have a blessed, peaceful and joyful Christmas.** (Fathers Pat, George, Ronan and Leo).

CHRISTMAS - 2ND COLLECTION. As has been our parish practice for many years, the greater proportion of Christmas Day **second collection** will be donated to Church Aged Care Facilities in the Shoalhaven, and to **Caritas** to assist in regions of the world that suffered major natural disasters during the year.

Summer Mass Timetable

Up to and including - Sunday 23 January 2011

Vigil Masses (Saturday)

Nowra: 6.00pm **Culburra:** 6.00pm

Vincentia: 6.00pm

Shoalhaven Heads *6.00pm Community Centre

****Mass only on Sat. Jan 1st and 8th 2011**

Sunday Masses (including Sun Dec 26th)

Feast of the Holy Family

Nowra: 8.00am, 9.30am & 6.00pm

Berry: 8.00am **Bomaderry:** 9.30am

Culburra: 8.00am (& at 9.30am on Sun Dec 26th only)

Vincentia: 8.00am & 9.30am

Kangaroo Valley: 11.00am

Feastdays:

Monday December 27th: St John the Evangelist

Tuesday December 28th: Holy Innocents

Sat January 1st: Mary Mother of God.

Sunday Jan 2nd: The Epiphany of the Lord

Masses during the week ahead.

Nowra: Mon 8.00am, Tues/Wed/Thurs/ 8.15.am, Fri. 7.00am and 11.30am.

New Year's Day: Mary Mother of God. Vigil Fri: 7.00pm and Sat 9.00am.

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

K Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am, Wed 6.15am.

Vincentia: Mon /Thurs /Fri / Sat (**New Year's Day**) 8.00am, Tues/Wed 5.30.p.m.

CHRISTMAS TELEVISION – ABC- TV will relay the Papal Mass at 11.00am on Christmas day.

A special thank you to all of our Organists and Musicians who have helped provide music for the Christmas Masses throughout the parish. Your support is greatly appreciated.



We prayerfully remember our relatives, friends and parishioners at Christmas. *Mass will also be offered over the Christmas period for all parishioners who have died over the past 12 months. May they rest in eternal peace.*



The Feast of the Holy Family was introduced by Pope Leo XIII (1893). He had addressed a number of very important Social issues in his Encyclical Letters; e.g working conditions, the rights of workers and families, the importance of a just wage etc. With the restructuring of the Liturgical Calendar following the Vatican Council the Feast was linked more significantly with Christmas. While mindful of the many challenges being experienced by families in modern society, the Church refers to the family in a very admirable expression that comes from the Vatican Council ‘the domestic church’.

Pope Benedict XVI speaks in an apostolic Exhortation on Marriage (Nov 2010)

“The Word of the Lord”. Pope Benedict urges that it “never be forgotten that the word of God is at the very origin of marriage (cf. Gn 2:24) and that Jesus himself made marriage one of the institutions of his kingdom (cf. Mt 19:4-8).” Jesus elevated to the dignity of a sacrament what was inscribed in human nature from the beginning.” Pope Benedict continued “marriage is in many ways under attack, in the face of widespread confusion about love’s meaning, along with the rise of ways of thinking which trivialize the human body and sexual differentiation. God’s word “reaffirms the original goodness of the human being, created as man and woman, and called to a love which is faithful, reciprocal and fruitful.”



“ I implore all men and women of good will to renew their commitment to building a world where all are free to profess their religion or faith, and to express their love of God with all their heart, with all their soul and with all their mind (cf. Mt 22:37). This is the sentiment which inspires and directs this Message for World Day of Peace, devoted to the theme: Religious Freedom, the Path to Peace.”