



**St Michael's Parish**, Nowra – Tel: 4423 1712 E-mail: [office@nowraparish.org.au](mailto:office@nowraparish.org.au)

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.

## The Baptism of the Lord [Year A]

9 January 2011

### Sunday Masses: (Holiday time)

**NOWRA** . . . . . 6pm Vigil; 8am, 9.30am & 6pm

**BERRY** . . . . . 8am

**BOMADERRY** . . . . . 9.30am

**CULBURRA** . . . . . 6pm Vigil & 8am

**VINCENTIA** . . . . . 6pm Vigil, 8am & 9.30am

**KANGAROO VALLEY** . . . . . 11am

**SHOALHAVEN HEADS:** Vigil 6pm concludes this week-end, 8 January. Friday Masses at 3.30pm will resume 4 February 2010.

### MASSES DURING THE WEEK

**Nowra:** Mon 7am . . . . . Tues, Wed, Thurs 8.15am

Fri 7am & 11.30am . . . . . Sat 9am

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

**Vincentia:** Mon, Thurs, Fri 8am . . . . . Tues, Wed 5.30pm

**Kangaroo Valley:** Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat. : 8am, and Wed 6.15am *Divine Office is prayed 15 mins prior to Mass at KV.*

### Confession/Reconciliation

**Nowra:** Sat 9.30.-10.30am. . . . . & 5 - 5.30pm

**Culburra:** Sat 5.30pm. . . . . **Berry:** Tues 6pm

**K Valley:** . . . . . Sat 4.30 – 5pm

**Vincentia:** . . . . . Sat. 5 - 5.30pm



We prayerfully remember **Norman Muller, Roger McCloskey, and John Murphy** who died recently; also **Wayne Foley, Donald Geary, Christopher McManus, John Standen and Robert Davison** whose

anniversaries occur. *May they rest in eternal peace.*

### Date to Note:

**Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup>. Jan. Santo Nino- The Filipino Annual Festival Mass – 9.00am at St Michael's.**

### Some Clergy Changes in the Diocese:

- With the retirement of Fr Douglas Rheinberger – Fr Francis Tran has been appointed Parish Priest of Dapto.
- Fr Damien Ellis assistant priest at Kiama, has gone full-time Army Chaplain

## The Baptism of the Lord



Today's feast of the Baptism marks a swift transition from Jesus' infancy and childhood to the event which, in all four Gospels, inaugurates his adult public ministry.

Matthew's Gospel account of Jesus' Baptism at the hands of John (3:13-17), catches up these

emphases. As in all the accounts of this episode in the Gospels, what is most significant is not so much the baptism itself as what happens immediately afterwards when Jesus is addressed by a divine voice from heaven. The experience he undergoes as he emerges from the water following the baptism gives confirmation and reassurance that this chosen path is indeed what God wants. In fulfillment of the prophecy in Isaiah, God 'endows' him with the Spirit and addresses him as 'My Son, the Beloved; on whom my favour rests'. As throughout the New Testament (cf. Rom 5:5; 8:15), the experience of the Spirit is primarily an assurance of God's love. Everything that is now to follow in the ministry of Jesus will derive its origin, its impulse and its meaning from this sense of deep, familial intimacy with the Father.

For this reason it is appropriate to read this particular Gospel at every baptism. Each and every Christian has the right to hear, '**You are my beloved son, my beloved daughter, in whom I take delight**', personally addressed to him or her by God. Would it not make a difference if that was the first thing we allowed ourselves to hear on rising every morning, if we began our day, our work, our ministry with that divine address ringing in our ears – not because we deserve it or have earned it but simply because we know that this is how God looks upon us in Christ? (Fr Brendan Byrne SJ)

**Easter is the Feast that is directly related to Christian Sacramental Baptism, however this is an appropriate occasion to reflect on our own Baptismal 'calling'.**

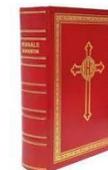


The Culburra Beach members of the St Vincent De Paul Conference wish to

sincerely thank all parishioners and visitors for your generous contributions to their annual appeal last weekend. A total of \$1,914-00 was contributed. A very sincere thank you to all.

### New Translation of the Missal – Facilitator Training Workshop.

Two or more people are invited to attend a workshop on the DVD "*Become One Body One Spirit in Christ*". This DVD will introduce the new missal to the parish. You will provide leadership in the implementation of the missal by conducting parish formation sessions. You will need to be computer literate and able to operate a data projector. The workshop will be held on **Saturday 12 February**. If you can assist in this way please contact the Parish Office on 4423 1712.



ROME, DEC. 24, 2010 ([Zenit.org](http://Zenit.org)).- At the time that St. Augustine wrote "**he who sings prays twice,**" one could easily recognize how much the character itself of

sacred music made it essentially different from a simple group singing or an elegant performance by an expert musician of the secular realm.

The conviction of the fact that prayer is doubled if sung instead of being recited was not based so much on the merits of human effort, but rather on the need to describe the mystical dimension within sacred music, its emotive and artistic aspects, inasmuch as it is an exchange between God, the Giver of every gift, and the response of love of the human being to the Lord's omnipotent love. (Fr Paul Gunter, OSB on Sacred Music)

**Spare Missal? A new parishioner** is inquiring whether anyone might have a Mass Missal that you no longer use. If you are able to help please **contact** him on **0419 481 147.**