



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.

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

22 December 2013

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

Mass times for the Week.

Nowra:. Monday 7.00.a.m.; Tues/ Thurs 8.15.am; Fri 7.00am & 11.30am; Sat 9.00am.

No Mass at Culburra this Thursday evening

Vincentia: Mon/ Thurs/Fri.8.00am;

K Valley:...Mon/Thurs/Sat 9am,

(Friday afternoon Mass at Shoalhaven Heads will resume on Feb 7th 2014))

Confession – Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 9..30 -10.30am; & 5.00-5.30pm

Tuesday Christmas Eve: 9.00 - 10.00.a.m.

K Valley: Sat 4.30-5.00pm

Vincentia: Sat 5.00–5.30pm

SVDP Rosary: Tues 9.30am St Michael's Church. All welcome

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased: **William Hegarty** and **John Palmer**.

Also **John Wheatley, Karlo Malina, Louise Moore**, whose anniversaries occur. *May they rest in eternal peace*



Feastdays: Wed 25 Dec; The Nativity of the Lord

Thurs 26 Dec; St Stephen, the first martyr

Fri 27 Dec; St John, apostle, evangelist

Sat 28 Dec; The Holy Innocents, martyrs

Nativity Play Christmas Eve

Vigil Mass; 7pm Tues 24 Dec, during the Gospel. Would your primary school age child like to take part in this special Mass? If so, please bring them to the

practice on Mon 23 Dec at 11am

in St Michael's School Hall. Parents must stay to supervise their children. Contact: Annette 0438 831 472.



Pope celebrates his birthday on Tuesday 17th by having breakfast with homeless men.



Pope Francis started his 77th birthday with his usual morning Mass held in the chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae residence where he lives. He requested that the Mass be attended by the residence staff "in order to create a particularly family atmosphere for the celebration. After the Mass, all those present sang 'Happy Birthday' to the Pope", the Vatican statement said. As part of a low-key celebration of his 77th birthday, Pope Francis had breakfast with three people who live on the streets near the Vatican. A small dog belonging to one of the homeless men was also on the guest list. (*L'Osservatore Romano*)

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE 2013



Christmas Eve - Vigil Masses: Tuesday 24 December

Nowra: 7.00pm & 10.00pm

Culburra: 6.00pm

Vincentia: 6.00pm and 8.00pm

Kangaroo Valley: 9.00pm

Berry: 9.00pm

Shoalhaven Heads (*Community Centre*): 6.00pm

Christmas Day: Wednesday

Nowra: 8.00am and 9.30am

Berry: 8.00am

Bomaderry: 9.30am

Culburra: 8.00am

Vincentia: 8.00am and 9.30am

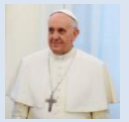
Please note: There is no Mid-Night Mass and no evening Mass on Christmas Day - 25 December

Culburra – Callala Conference of St Vincent de Paul will hold their **Annual Appeal** on the weekend of **28/29 December**. Donations will be genuinely appreciated to assist the work of the Conference.



Speaking on Dec 18th. Pope Francis said:

"Dear Brothers and Sisters: Christmas is a feast of joyful hope, for God has become one with us in the person of his Son, true God and true man. He showed his love for us by becoming part of our world, with all its conflicts, its suffering and its poverty. Jesus is truly Emmanuel: God among us. This is the great "gift" which he brings: a divine love which heals and transforms our hearts, overcoming all uncertainty and pessimism. Our joyful contemplation of the mystery of Christmas should make us realize that, as God has become one of us, we too are called to become like God: humble, close to others, especially the poor, and ever attentive to their needs"



The Pope's Christmas Mass will be Televised on ABC 1, 25 Dec, 11am-12.50pm, from Rome via satellite.

Repairs and Maintenance: In early January 2014,



we are planning to have St Michael's Church painted externally. This is an obvious need as it has not been painted for over 20 years. At the same time the roof of the sacristy, which has badly rusted, (one of those dreaded flat roofs), will be replaced. Added to this the Sacristy and sanctuary will need to be rewired. Quite an amount of work of which you will see little! Should there be any inconvenience in regard to morning Mass or any other Liturgy usage we will use the Hall, as it is already set up for the Christmas Season.

SVdP Nowra would like to say a **sincere thanks** to all who donated to the recent Christmas Appeal. The sum of **\$8379.** was raised to support those in need, plus more than 60 large hampers from St John's

Few if any of the traditional Christmas Carols that we sing to-day are according to their original texts, or lyrics. (Extract from 'Favourite Christmas Carols' by Aled Jones).

Oh Come all ye Faithful: For many years this was an anonymous Latin Hymn. '**Adeste Fideles**' It is thought to have been composed by John Francis Wade (1711-86). He was the son of a Leeds' cloth merchant. The text to-day is the work of many hands.



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O Holy Night: 'the most beautiful of Christmas carols', this was first performed at midnight Mass in Roquemaure parish Church (near Avignon) in 1847. The words by Placide Clappeau 1808-77) and music by Adolphe Charles Adam (1803-56).

Hark the Herald Angels Sing: This carol was first published in 1739, but has undergone many amendments. The words were by Charles Wesley (1707-88), but the music currently used is by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47).

Silent Night (Stille Nacht): This remains the most popular Christmas Carol and has been translated into more than 250 languages. It was originally an Austrian/Bavarian folk song, sung at midnight Mass. Joseph Mohr was born in Salzburg on December 11th 1792 and ordained in 1825. He wrote the words while curate at St Nicholas' Church in Oberndorf and with the assistance of a local teacher and organist Franz Gruber composed "Stille Nacht." The first English translation was in 1858. It was sung in the trenches on Christmas Night in World War I, and brought a brief truce and an exchange of greeting between the warring British and Germany soldiers.

Parish Staff – Parish Office: 4423 1712

Fr Patrick Faherty: Parish Priest, Nowra

Fr Duane Fernandez: Assistant Priest, Nowra:

Fr Leo Duck: Vincentia; 4441 5571

Fr Ronan Kilgannon: Kangaroo Valley.

Deacon Peter Presdee - Chaplain to Corrective Services

Mrs Lyn West: Catechist Coordinator, 4423 1009

Mrs Liz Nimmo: Part-time Parish Secretary 4423 1712

Mrs Cath Elton: Part-time Parish Secretary 4423 1712

