



The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



In the Church's Liturgy with the feast of the Baptism today we make a swift transition from Jesus' infancy and childhood to the event which, in all four Gospels, inaugurates his adult public ministry. I think today's feast while primarily about the baptism of Jesus, is also about

our baptism as well. The Sacrament brings human beings within the Trinitarian experience of God's love enacted in Jesus' baptism and empowers them, as it empowered him, to reflect that love to the world. Beyond Him personally, the divine address of choice, love and favour reaches out to his people (Israel) and to all those who will subsequently become members of His people through faith and Christian baptism. Drawn into the familial intimacy with God that is his, they too will cry out 'Abba, 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 {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 the fact that through Baptism we are 'grafted into Christ'.

Finding Your Calcutta - Youth Retreat (ages 18-35).
Are you unsure about what you want to do with your life? Do you feel the fire of youth burning inside you calling you to do great things but need direction and inspiration? Are you looking for motivation and courage to follow a certain call? **31 Jan- 2 Feb**, at Waterslea Conference Centre, 439 Koloona Dr, West Cambewarra. Early bird discounts for registration prior to 24 Jan. More details at www.findingyourcalcutta.com Contact Christy 0401889906 <https://www.facebook.com/events/1420841551483559/>

Sunday Masses:

Nowra: Vigil 6pm, 8.00am, 9.30am & 6.00pm

Berry:.....8.00am

Bomaderry:..... 9.30am

Culburra: Vigil 6.00pm,

Vincentia: Vigil 6.00pm, and 9.30am

Kangaroo Valley: 11.00.am.

Masses during the Week

Nowra: Mon. 7.00am, Tues/Wed 8.15am, **Thurs 7.00am**

Fri. 7.00am and 11.30am, Sat. 9.00am.

Holy Hour Fridays: 10.30 – 11.30am.

Berry: Tues 5.30pm **Culburra: No Mass this Thursday.**

Vincentia: Mon/Thurs/Fri 8.00am, Tues/Wed 5.30pm

Kang Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri/Sat 9am, Wed 7am

Confession / Reconciliation

Nowra: . Sat 11.30am – 12.30pm,

Culburra: Sat. 5.30pm

Vincentia: Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

Feastdays: Fri 17 Jan: St Anthony, abbot

Saturday January 18th: The Feast of Santo Nino-

The Filipino Annual Festival Mass – 9.00.a.m. at St. Michael's.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – Volunteers needed!


This was a most fruitful ministry last year, making it easier both for children to engage in their faith, and for young families to participate in Sunday Mass. Are you available to help out in this important and rewarding ministry, at Nowra's 9:30am Sunday Mass? Resources and guidance will be provided, and frequency will be determined by you. If you are 18 years or over and interested, please write your name and contact number on the sheet in the foyer. Call Fr



Duane on 44231712 for more information.


Our heartfelt thanks to all our friends at Holy Spirit Vincentia for their prayers, love and support on the recent death of our son Mark. John and Margaret Broomhead.

Pope Francis: "In the climate of joy, typical of this Christmas season, I wish to announce that from 24 to 26 May next, God willing, I will make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land." Pope Francis' visit comes on the 50th anniversary of Pope Paul VI's pilgrimage to the Holy Land and his meeting with the Patriarch of Constantinople, Athenagoras (January 5, 1964)..Their meeting was seen as leading to a new opening between Roman Catholicism and Orthodox Christianity, which cut formal ties with each other beginning in the year 1054

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased: **Kevin Cliffe, Irene O'Donovan Matthew Abbott, and May Louttit** (Moruya-Gary's mother). Also **Anne Moses, Robert Wood, John Standen, Maisie Brodie, Betty Colnan, and Vic Sutherland** whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in eternal peace. 

Parishioners are advised that the **Saint Vincent de Paul Piety Stall** (Berry St, Nowra) has now been re-stocked. It will be well worth a look for your religious gifts.



The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Paul Gallagher, along with Bishop Peter Ingham and other Bishops from Australia, will join over 600 Catholics from every State and Territory as well New Zealand at next week's *Lift Up Your Hearts National Liturgy Conference* at the St Francis Xavier Cathedral precinct and St Mary Star of the Sea College in Wollongong. (15-18 Jan. 2014), 

Pia Irwin and her family would like to sincerely thank parishioners and visitors who contributed to her appeal last week-end, to sponsor her ministry with NET for the year ahead. Your contributions plus the generosity of some individual donors, means that Pia has reached the designated target.

Date Claimer: Retired Staff & partners of Catholic Schools & W'gong CEO. Lunch/social at W'gong Golf Club, Fri 7 Feb 12 noon. Kate Quinn: **4234 1254**



St Michael's Parish, Nowra – Tel: 4423 1712 E-mail: office@nowraparish.org.au ...

The Baptism of the Lord, Year A

12 January 2014

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.

CatholicCare is offering a **Pastoral Care Training Program** for those who would like to be part of a Pastoral Care Team. Holy Spirit Vincentia: Tuesdays for 8 weeks **11 Feb - 1 April**, 9:30am-3:30pm. Please contact Carmen Karauda, the Aged Care Advocate for the Wollongong Diocese, on 4640 8515, 0448 930 287 or carmenk@catholiccare.woll.catholic.org.au



CatholicCare is offering a **Pastoral Care Training Program** for those who would like to be part of a Pastoral Care Team (visiting & supporting older people in our parish); or to acquire some pastoral care skills. Holy Spirit Vincentia: Tuesdays for 8 weeks **11 Feb - 1 April**, 9:30am-3:30pm. Topics include: What is pastoral care? Communication & listening skills, Grief and loss, Dementia, Spirituality & Eucharistic ministry, Spirituality & ageing; and Palliative care. If you would like to attend this course or would like more information, please contact Carmen Karauda, the Aged Care Advocate for the Wollongong Diocese, on 4640 8515, 0448 930 287 or carmenk@catholiccare.woll.catholic.org.au