



**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, & 9.30am  
**Kangaroo Valley:** 11.00am

**Masses during the week.**

**Nowra:** Monday: 7.00.a.m.  
Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am,  
Fri 7am, 11.30am. Sat. 9.00.a.m.  
Holy Hour Fridays 10.30-11.30am  
**Berry:** Tues 5.30pm **Culburra:** Thurs 5.30pm  
**Vincentia** Mon/Thurs/Fri 8.00am; Tues/Wed 5.30pm  
**S'haven Heads** – Community Hall, Fri 3.30pm



**Confession/Reconciliation**

**Nowra:** Sat 9.30-10.30am & 5-5.30pm  
**Berry : Sat 20<sup>th</sup>.** 9.30 -10.30.a.m.  
**Culburra** Sat 5.30pm  
**Vincentia:** Sat 5.00–5.30pm  
**SVdP Rosary:** Tues 9.30am St Michael's Church. All welcome.

We prayerfully remember: **Lola Watts, Dallas Carberry, Jo Hillyard, and Wesley Rodrick** whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*



**NEW ROSTERS Readers & Cleaners, Nowra** available for collection in the Churches. Please consider our environment by providing your email to Wendy at: [pwreid25@yahoo.com.au](mailto:pwreid25@yahoo.com.au) for easy distribution of future rosters.

**ST. MICHAEL'S Cuppa & Play: Final gathering for this year.** Held in the school hall foyer every Monday from 9am. *All welcome.* Grateful thanks for the many donations of toys which have been received. Contact Frances 0413 539 370 or Sophie 0439 018 374.

**A gold chain lost by a visitor** to St Michael's last weekend, was found and handed in. It was later placed on a table at the side-door at St Michael's. It has since disappeared. Any information as to it's whereabouts would be much appreciated?

**Copies of the Christmas- New Year Mass timetable for the Parish are now available.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation for Christmas at St Michael's- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> at 7.00.pm.** We commend this Sacramental preparation to parishioners.

**Some thoughts from Pope Francis on the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession.**

Acknowledging a popular objection to the Sacrament of Confession, Pope Francis noted, *"someone can say, 'I confess my sins only to God.' Yes, you can say to God, 'forgive me,' and say your sins. But our sins are also against our brothers and sisters, against the Church. This is why it is necessary to ask forgiveness of the Church and of our brothers and sisters, in the person of the priest. Forgiveness is not something we can give ourselves,"* cautioned the Pope. *"One asks forgiveness, one asks it of another person, and in confession, we ask forgiveness from Jesus. "The sacrament of reconciliation is a sacrament of healing,"* he pointed out. The Holy Father reflecting on **'God's consolation'** in relation to the the parable of the lost sheep during the week remarked : ***"the greatest consolation is that of mercy and forgiveness."***

**Today is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday-** an invitation to **Rejoice.** Pope St Gregory the Great eased the fasting and penitential aspects of this season in the twelfth century. It is, literally, the 'rejoicing' Sunday when we look more directly at Jesus' coming at Christmas.

. ☐ ABC Television will provide live coverage of the Pope's Midnight Mass from St Peter's Basilica, Rome, at 11.00 am on Christmas Day in NSW.

**SVdP Columban calendars** for sale ~ great Christmas gifts, only \$9.

**Catechists and Helpers needed for 2015.**

With many wonderful teachers of our faith retiring at the end of this year, we are in great need of Catechists in our parish. If you are able to share your gift of faith by becoming a Catechist or a helper in one of the 20 Primary Schools in our parish, please contact Frances at the Parish office on 4423 1712. *Thank you in anticipation of your support*



In his message regarding the **Day of Solidarity** with persecuted Christians, last week, Bishop Peter also suggested a **financial offering** to help alleviate the suffering of Christians, especially the many Iraqi refugees. I suggest that we include this need in our Christmas day collection.

**Culburra Church ~ Christmas Cleaning** – Saturday 20 December, commencing 8.30am.

**Wanted ~ Angels & Shepherds!** Would your child like to take part in the Christmas story recreation held as part of the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at 7pm, 24 Dec? For primary school age children. Practice: Tuesday 23 Dec, 11am in St. Michael's School hall. Parents are required to stay to supervise their children. Enquiries: Annette Smith 0438 831 472.

**DIOCESE OF WOLLONGONG CATHOLIC/CHRISTIAN RADIO PROGRAM.**

This week on "The Journey" which airs on 14 December, Sr Hilda from The Abbey reflects on "The Heart", Fr Dave Callaghan from the Missionaries of God's Love reflects on "God's Embrace in the Midst of Suffering" and Marilyn Rodrigues in her segment - The Peaceful Parent, shares "Pray, Hope, Don't Worry". Tune into PULSE 94.1 FM on Sun at 11am, repeated Wed 10pm or listen in via podcast anytime at [www.radio.dow.org.au](http://www.radio.dow.org.au)

**Dates to note- 2015: Easter Sunday- April 5<sup>th</sup>. LENT 2015- Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> :** calling for hosts/leaders for groups, We warmly welcome anyone who is interested to contact: Francene 4421 5962, Tina 4422 9250, Bernie 4421 2968.  
**St John's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Silver Jubilee-May 23<sup>rd</sup> (t.b.c)**  
**Confirmation;** Sunday June 21<sup>st</sup> (t.b.c.)



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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Sun B Cycle, Weekday 1)**

**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.

**14<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

**SACRED HEART CHURCH, Bomaderry ~ Piety Stall.** If you would like a Daily Mass Book for 2015 (\$24), please see Suzie Alamango after 9.30am Mass on Sunday at Bomaderry, or call 4448 6219. First Holy Communion, Advent & Christmas items are also available at the stall & by special order.

**MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH, Culburra ~ Christmas Raffle.** Please leave donations at the church.  
*Thank you.*

**Magnolia Cottage Adult Day Centre** provides centre based respite for people living with memory loss, providing a break for their carer, or social interaction for those who are living alone. Groups operate 10<sub>am</sub>-2<sub>pm</sub> four days a week. Transport can be provided. Further info 4422 4161.

Each Sunday on ABC (1) TV. there is along running half hour programme – **Songs of Praise (BBC)**. The quality of Hymn singing is generally excellent; a very uplifting programme for the sick or house-bound.

**Do you consider yourself “new” to the Parish? Please introduce yourselves to us!** Blue cards are now available at the doors of each Church, for any new parishioners to fill in your details. These cards also provide the option of requesting a visit from members of the Parish. We hope you quickly feel at home here!