



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.

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time-Yr B 18th January 2015

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: Mon. 7.00am, Tues/Wed/Thurs. 8.15am.
 Fri. 7.00am and 11.30am, Sat. 9.00am.
Berry: Tues. 5.30pm.
Culburra: Thursday 5.30pm.
Vincentia: Mon/Thurs/Fri 8.00am, Tues/Wed 5.30pm.
Kangaroo Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs 9am, Wed 7am.

Confession / Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 9.30am–10.30am and 5.00–5.30pm
Culburra: Sat 5.30pm
Vincentia: Sat 5.00–5.30pm

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

We prayerfully remember: **Mary Zammit, Frank Lawrence, Lew Martin and Gening de Ramos (USA)** who died this week. Also **John Standen, Stanley Bright, Ken Harris, deceased members of the Simons family, Emilia and Gaudencio Coloma** whose anniversaries occur at this time., May they rest in eternal peace.



Feastdays: Wed. 21st St Agnes- martyr
 Sat 24th. St Francis de Sales - bishop

LOST: A pearl drop earring was lost recently at Berry Church or in the vicinity there of. If found, please contact the Parish Office.

First Saturday Marian Devotions – 7 February

Mass at 9am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Reconciliation, Rosary and Benediction at 10.30. Morning tea is available in the Parish Centre. *Everyone is most welcome.*



♦ LOOK THERE IS THE LAMB OF GOD!

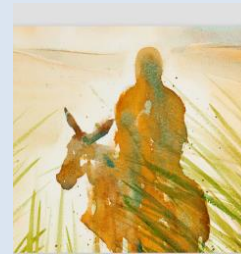
Before taking up readings from the Gospel of Mark for Year B, we remain for one more Sunday with the Gospel of John which focuses on the introduction to Jesus' public life. In the Gospel John the Baptist acts as mentor. When Jesus comes to him for baptism, he recognises him and begins to perform his role as witness by pointing Him out to his own disciples as the **'Lamb of God'** (a messianic title the full meaning of which will only be apparent when Jesus dies on the cross as Passover Lamb, effecting salvation for the world). It brings to mind the Lamb being sacrificed in atonement for sin, an integral aspect of Old Testament religious life.



The Church has long since included this same title into the Mass- where we profess our faith **in Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away our sins**. It is a title that speaks of the enormity of the Mission of Jesus and the incomprehensible intensity of His person suffering for our salvation.

"ARISE" ~ LENT 2015

Lent is rather early this year. – Ash Wednesday being Feb 18th. Our Lenten Program **"Arise"** begins the week of Feb 16th. Lists for groups in Nowra/Bomaderry are now in the foyers of both churches. This year's Diocesan program looks up to last year's standard. So please join us in preparing for the great feast of Easter. *Important date for your diary:* The Parish Paschal Meal, Palm Sunday, 29 Mar, 7pm for 7.30pm. Enquiries: Francene 4421 5962; Tina 4422 9250; Bernie 4421 2968.



Contact for Berry; Greg Troy 4464 1770, Callala; Theresa Vella 4446 5184, Culburra Beach; Harry Ray 4447 2941, Currarong; Connie Heap 4448 3157 / Noel Reid 4448 3215, Vincentia/Bay & Basin; Fr Leo Duck 4441 5571.

Saint Vincent de Paul ~ Piety Stall (Berry St, Nowra) is well worth a look for your religious gifts. Items can also be ordered from the catalogue in store.

Colombo, Sri Lanka, Jan 13th,

Pope Francis stressed again that believers must unite in condemning violence and insist that religion never be used to justify warfare. "For the sake of peace, religious beliefs must never be allowed to be abused in the cause of violence and war," the Pope told Buddhist, Hindu, Islamic and Christian leaders. Pope Francis visited a former war zone in northern Sri Lanka, preaching forgiveness to tens of thousands of followers at a Catholic shrine which was shelled during the country's long ethnic conflict. It was the first visit by a pope to the predominantly-Hindu region which contains a large Catholic minority and was the scene of fierce fighting between Tamil Tiger rebels and the Sri Lankan army for 26 years. It suggested that as many as 100,000 people may have died before the war ended in 2009.



Pope Francis departed Sri Lanka Thursday for the Philippines, Asia's most populous Catholic nation,

(estimated at 76 million), where ecstatic crowds await the first papal visit in 20 years. The government has declared national holidays during the Pope's visit, which runs through Monday. He will be in the bustling capital of Manila and eastern Leyte province, where he plans to meet survivors of **Typhoon Haiyan** that left thousands dead and destroyed entire villages in 2013

CHRISTMAS APPEAL: We are most grateful for the generous response to the Christmas Day Collections from all regions of the Parish. As promised most of our Christmas Day 2nd Collection has been disbursed as follows:

- \$3,500 – Aged care in the Shoalhaven
- \$1,000 – Shoalhaven Cancer Care Centre
- \$1,500 – Melkite Catholic Eparchy (to help persecuted Christians especially refugees from Iraqi, Syria and the Middle-East)
- \$1,500 – Caritas Africa Response Fund (to be used in particular for Ebola victims)
- \$1,000 – Caritas Australia.- overseas aid.



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CatholicCare: Poppy Playgroup ~ For mothers with mental health issues, and their children age 0-5 yrs. At *Poppy* you can play with your children, enjoy the company of other parents & explore different parenting issues in a relaxed & supported environment. Five Friday mornings 10am-12.30pm. 30 Jan; 13,27 Feb; 13 & 27 March at CatholicCare, 68 Shoalhaven St, Nowra. Cost: No Fee. Bookings: 4421 8248

CatholicCare: Rollercoasters 8-12 yrs. An 8 week program developed to assist children who are experiencing parental separation, divorce, or parents who have re-partnered. *Rollercoaster* helps children to understand change and loss; develop strategies for anger management & problem solving. Eight Thursday afternoons 4pm-5pm. 12,19,26 Feb, and 5,12,19,26 March, and 2 April. CatholicCare, 68 Shoalhaven St, Nowra. Cost: \$15 per session, per family.

GIVING FAMILIES A SAY – Preparation Questionnaire 2nd Synod on the Family

The Second Synod on the Family is being held in October in Rome. Pope Francis, through the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference (ACBC), invites you to offer input into the preparation documents for this important gathering. To assist you in this task a simplified questionnaire has been developed which can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/familysurveydow>

You are invited to **offer input by 8 February 2015**. It is preferred that responses to this questionnaire are made online, however, written responses can also be submitted by completing the printed version and sending responses to: Synod Responses, PO Box 1239, Wollongong 2500.

CatholicCare: 123 Magic & Emotion Coaching ~ This time tested workshop provides easy to follow steps for disciplining children aged 2-12 years without yelling, arguing or hitting. Three Tuesday mornings 11.30am-1.30pm. 17,24 & 31 March. Sanctuary Point Connect, Sanctuary Point Primary School, Idlewild Ave, Sanctuary Point. Fee: \$15 per session. Bookings: 4421 8248

LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING: ACOLYTES, ALTAR SERVERS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION.

**Saturday, 7 Feb, Xavier Centre, W'gong (10am-4pm).
Saturday 21 Feb, St John the Evangelist Parish Hall,
Campbelltown (10am-4pm).** This training is essential for those who wish to become acolytes within the Diocese of Wollongong and especially important and useful for those desiring to bring Holy Communion to those who are sick or housebound. To register contact Helen Bennett **by 5 Feb (Illawarra venue) & 18 Feb (Macarthur venue)** at helen.bennett@dow.org.au or 4222 2403. Any enquiries to Paul Mason at paul.mason@dow.org.au or 4222 2462.

CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL LITURGY – NOW OPEN

It is with great pleasure we seek expressions of interest for enrolment in the Certificate in Pastoral Liturgy commencing in February. This course provides practical knowledge, skills & approaches, in liturgy for people who take active roles in preparing, coordinating and leading liturgy & liturgical music in parish and school. This course is modelled on the Certificate of Pastoral Liturgy previously offered through the Catholic Institute of Sydney. Expressions of interest to Darren McDowell, 4222 2463 or cfl@dow.org.au

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY COURSE

**Tuesday, 10 Feb, St Columbkille's Parish Meeting
Room, Corrimal (9am-3:30pm).**

Are you keen to develop personal knowledge, understanding and skills in developing caring relationships? Are you caring for someone who is frail, aged or living with a disability? Are you interested in becoming part of a pastoral care ministry team within their community? This basic training in pastoral care provides a comprehensive introduction for people to develop their understanding and ability to care for those in their communities who are aged, grieving, frail, housebound, living with a disability or generally in need of pastoral support.

Registration essential by **Friday 7 Feb** to: Darren McDowell on 4222 2463 or cfl@dow.org.au

DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY – SATURDAY 7 MARCH

Our first Diocesan Assembly for 2015 will be held on **Saturday 7 March** from 10am-1:30pm at St Mary's Star of the Sea College Hall, W'gong. The focus for this assembly will be our revised Diocesan Pastoral Plan. More information will follow soon but please keep this date in your diary.