



**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.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time-Yr B**  
**1<sup>st</sup> February 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.  
**Shoalhaven Heads:** Community Hall, Fr Feb 6<sup>th</sup>i. 3.30pm

**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 those whose anniversaries occur at this time; **Mary Brady, John Edward and Tony Longhurst.** May they rest in eternal peace.



**Feastdays: Monday Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> The Presentation of the Lord**

Thur Feb 5<sup>th</sup> St Agatha;  
Fri Feb 6<sup>th</sup> St Paul Miki and companions

**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 available in the Parish Centre. *Everyone most welcome*

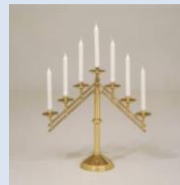
**Volunteer – Flower arranging at St Michael's Church (for April & May) –** with Robbie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month for the weekend Masses. Ph: 4423 1464 / 0407 013 551.

**CATECHISTS' CORNER: Important Catechists' Meeting Mon 2 Feb 10.00am** in the Parish Centre.

This is an important meeting as it is the first for 2015 and offers Catechists the opportunity to have a conversation with Frances Fairs as the new Parish Co-ordinator, and to assure her of your cooperation and assistance. The children's activity books, introductory letters to parents & cards will be distributed. I do encourage Catechists from all regions of the Parish to attend. There are still a number of vacancies to be filled. So we would be delighted to hear from prospective Catechists. Please contact the Parish Office. (Fr Pat).



**The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord: Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>.**



This Feast celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple at Jerusalem on the 40th day after His birth according to Jewish law and tradition. The Feastday is also referred to as **Candlemas day**. In the Western Church, it was customary to

bless candles and have a procession with lighted candles as a feature of the celebration. Parishioners then took a blessed candle to their homes, which they lit in times of illness, special need, or severe weather conditions. The lighted Candle symbolised Christ, the Light of the world. The Feast in our Catholic tradition is also associated with the 'vocation to the consecrated life.'

**CWL Bay & Basin ~** Next monthly meeting: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. Meet in the hall at 12 noon for lunch, followed by meeting at 1pm. *All welcome.* Contact Fay 4443 2837.

**Holy Spirit Vincentia ~ Please** join us for tea, biscuits and birthday cake on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb, after the 9.30am Mass to celebrate Fr Leo's 60th birthday. Enquiries: Judy Lenehan 4441 7456, Sharon Johnson 0431 457 441.

**"ARISE" ~ LENT 2015**

Our Lenten Program "**Arise**" begins Feb 16<sup>th</sup>. Books are soon for sale at \$5.00. Enquire: 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.

**Date for your diary** ~The Parish Paschal Meal, Palm Sunday, 29 Mar 7pm for 7.30pm.



**YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE**

Pope Francis has designated 2015 as a "Year to prayerfully focus on Consecrated Life." During this year the Pope is asking all dioceses to encourage this vocational call within the life of the Church..



Congratulations and our prayerful best wishes to **Ivor and Carole Davies** (Bomaderry) who are celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary.

**LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING: Saturday 7 Feb:**

**Xavier Centre, W'gong (10am–4pm).** This training is essential for those who wish to become **Acolytes, Adult Altar Servers & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** within the Diocese of Wollongong. The day is a pre-requisite for the training course on Holy Communion to the Sick (run Sat 13 June at the Xavier Centre). Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea provided. Fee \$10 to cover costs would be appreciated. Registration: [helen.bennett@dow.org.au](mailto:helen.bennett@dow.org.au) OR 4222 2403 **by 5 Feb Interested parishioners please contact the Parish Office .Ph 44 231 712**

**(Statistics according to the Official Catholic Directory)-**

This year c 56,000 teachers will be engaged in the teaching apostolate in Catholic Schools throughout Australia. The Church has currently enrolled approx.. 742,984 students in its schools. ( 409,339 in primary schools, 333,645 in high schools)



**Pope listens to tearful account of former street children.**

Speaking in Tagalog, two former street children shared the challenges they've faced growing up in the streets of the Philippines. Despite their young age, they've seen poverty, abuse and crime. Speaking to the Pope, 14 year old 'Jun' shared that he left his home and family, because there was no money for him to go to school. He ate whatever he could find in the trash and slept out in the streets. Before receiving help from **a particular foundation fund**, he saw fellow street children use drugs, steal and become victims of sexual abuse.

12 year old Gyzelle, also a former street kid, talked about the hardships she endured early in life. Moved to tears, she asked the Pope **'Why does God allow this kind of suffering, even when kids are not to blame?'**

*"She Gyzelle, is the only one who has posed a question for which there is no answer. She wasn't even able to express it in words, but rather in tears. I invite each one of you to ask yourselves: 'Have I learned how to weep, how to cry? Have I learned how to weep for somebody who is left aside? Have I learned to weep for someone who has a drug problem? Have I learned how to weep for someone who has suffered abuse? Unfortunately, many of those who cry, do so because materialistically, they want more."*

The Pope then challenged everyone, urging them to learn how to love. But it's not just about giving, but also receiving. He added that one of the most difficult things to do, is allowing oneself to be loved.

**Encounter Mission & Development.**

Encounter Love and Justice, Encounter humble volunteers, Encounter faith, Encounter God. Palms Australia will be conducting a guided tour of the communities in which their global volunteers are working in East Timor from April 6 - 18. There are limited places. **Enquires need to be processed by Feb 28<sup>th</sup>** so call 02 9518 9551 or register interest online: [www.palms.org.au/Encounters](http://www.palms.org.au/Encounters)



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**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

**Lets be proud of the Church's contribution to the life of the Nation!**

- 1,238 primary schools
- 333 secondary schools
- 131 primary/secondary schools combined
- 10 special schools
- 82,000 staff, 55,287 lay teachers and specialist staff
- This week c 56,000 teachers will be engaged in the teaching apostolate in Catholic Schools throughout Australia. The Church has currently enrolled 742,984 school children are in the Catholic sector. ( 409,339 in primary schools, 333,645 in high schools)
- There are also at least 3,200 volunteer catechists in Australian public schools.

**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.

**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

**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.

**First CCD COORDINATORS MEETING for 2015:**  
**Illawarra – Shoalhaven Co-ordinators: Friday, 6 Feb 10.00–11.30am.** Venue: **Xavier Conference Centre**, 38 Harbour St, W'gong. RSVP Cindy Oliver 4640 8550 or email [cindy.oliver@dow.org.au](mailto:cindy.oliver@dow.org.au) by 2 Feb.

**DIOCESAN CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL LITURGY – ENROLMENTS CLOSING SOON**

**Enrolment closes on the 6 February** for the Certificate in Pastoral Liturgy commencing in February 2015. This course provides practical knowledge, skills and approaches, in liturgy for people who take active roles in preparing, coordinating and leading liturgy and liturgical music in parish and school. This course is modelled on the Certificate of Pastoral Liturgy previously offered through the Catholic Institute of Sydney. A flyer is attached with further information on course content and duration. Expressions of interest in enrolling in the course are invited by contacting Darren McDowell, 4222 2463 or [cfl@dow.org.au](mailto:cfl@dow.org.au)



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#### **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 info to follow. Please keep this date in your diary.

#### **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](mailto:cfl@dow.org.au)