



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.

First Sunday of Advent- Year C
29th November 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: 9.30.a.m. Monday - No 7.00am Mass;
 Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am, Fri 7.00am and 11.30am.
 Sat. Mass 9..am.
 Berry: Tuesday 5.30p.m. Culburra: Thurs 5.30pm.
 Vincentia: Mon/Thurs/Fri 8.00am; Tues/Wed 5.30pm
 Kangaroo Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs. 9.00am. Wed 7.00am
 Shoalhaven Heads: Community Hall, Fri 3.30pm

Confession/Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 9.30-10.30am & 5.00-5.30pm
Culburra Sat 5.30pm
Vincentia: Sat 5.00-5.30pm

We prayerfully remember those who died this past week: **Meryl McCoy**, (Requiem Mass at St Michael's Tues. at 10.am.) **Michael Black, John Reid and Alan Walker. Nevenka Dijanosic** who died recently in Croatia. Also, **Joseph Gravino, Margaret Pryde, Frank Hall, Richard Brown**, whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*



Feastdays: Mon 30th St Andrew, Thur 3rd St Francis Xavier

CWL Nowra Branch Christmas Raffle.

Tickets available before and after all Masses at Nowra and Bomaderry this weekend (28th/29th Nov). Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. There are 9 prizes. 1st prize is a hamper including a fresh ham. **Raffle will be drawn on Tuesday 8th December.**



Our First Holy Communion Masses this year were especially prayerful, orderly, and reverent. A very sincere thank you to all Teachers, Catechists and music support people who together contributed to such prayerful and joyful celebrations.



End of Year Mass for Catechists will be celebrated this **Monday 30 Nov** at St Michael's Church at 9:30am. Please join us for this wonderful celebration of our year! Catechists are reminded that Morning tea will follow immediately after the Mass in the Parish Centre. Some may wish to bring a small plate to share. More information, contact Frances 4423 1712.

New Catechumens and Candidates for reception into the Church:

*We are blessed to have **seven Inquirers** this year; see their photos & names on the bulletin board of each of our Mass Centres:* At most Masses this weekend at St Michael's, we will experience a simple Ritual during Mass at which our Inquirers publically ask our prayers and support for their journey to Baptism or to full reception into our Catholic Church next Easter. (Kim was welcomed at Mass at Berry several weeks ago.) *Let us welcome them and support them!*

2016 Daily Mass Books, Cards and Gifts

Do you need a Daily Mass Book for 2016? (\$24). Please contact Suzie Alamango after 9.30am Sunday Mass at the Sacred Heart Church Piety Stall, Bomaderry or call 4448 6219 or 0419 249 008. Sacramental, Advent and Christmas items are also available at the stall and by special order from the catalogue (copy available at each Church).

Advent Reflection Day on 5th Dec at **Ss Peter & Paul Church, Kiama**, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary 8am, Reconciliation 8.30am. Reflection Day 9am – 3.30. The day will include opportunities to look at some of the Advent Scripture Readings, share our insights together, a time for Taize music, and Mass **WHAT TO BRING:** Bible, notepad & pens. Lunch. An open heart. RSVP & Info: Parish Secretary, Louise 4232 2081

First Saturday Marian Devotions ~ 5 December

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

YEAR OF MERCY BEGINS ~ Pope Francis officially opens the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy in Rome with the Opening of the Holy Door of St Peters Basilica on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Tues 8 Dec, 9:30am In the Diocese of Wollongong Bishop Peter Ingham will open the **Holy Door of St Francis Xavier's Cathedral Wollongong** on **Sunday 13 Dec**, 10:30am-12:00noon. Ref..the Diocesan website at <http://www.liturgydow.org.au/year-of-mercy.html>.

Pope Francis writes: *"Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him.."*

HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH VINCENTIA ~COME & CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY!! Morning Tea/Brunch, **SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER** After 9.30am Mass.

BOX under Xmas tree for children's gifts (Vinnies)
Music sing-along
Bring plate to share
Encourage & assist other parishioners to attend
 Contact: Judy 4441 7456

An Advent Hymn: COME, LORD JESUS



Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, Come Lord Jesus, Come and be born in our hearts.

Come, O Prince of Peace, Come, O Prince of Peace, Come, O Prince of Peace, Come, and be born in our hearts.

Our hearts are open, Our Hearts are open, Our Hearts are open, Come and be born in our hearts.
 Come, Emmanuel, come Emmanuel, come Emmanuel, Come and be born in our hearts,

BELOVED, is a series of *daily reflections* for the Advent and Christmas period (29 Nov to 10 Jan), are still available on request – cost \$2.00.)



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The ordination to the Priesthood of Joseph McKay OFM, (Franciscan Friar) will take place at St Therese's Church, West Wollongong on Friday 11 Dec, at 7.00pm.

A cook required by the Jesuit Community holidaying at Gerroa from Dec 28th – Jan 21. Hours 3.00.p.m. - 7.p.m. Contact Fr Ian 0431549554

POSITIONS VACANT Do you want to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate than yourself? Perhaps you should consider becoming a **St Vincent de Paul** Conference member or volunteer. The rewards are many and the benefits are spiritually uplifting. All enquiries welcome! Phone Wendy, 0405 095 455.

DIOCESAN CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL LITURGY ~ Pastoral Associates - Liturgy Coordinators - Liturgy Committee Members - Music Coordinators - Choir Directors - RCIA Coordinators - Sacramental Coordinators....This course is for you!

2016 units include the Core Unit "Eucharist in the Liturgical Assembly" (March - June), the elective Unit "Initiation in the Liturgical Assembly" (July - September), and the alternate Elective Unit "Music in the Liturgical Assembly" (July - September). Those who commence in 2016 will complete the certificate course in 2017 with the remaining two units. Go to website for application, or Paul Mason 4222 2462, or liturgy@dow.org.au

YOUTH LEADERS' FORMATION COURSE 2015

From 23 Nov to 19 Dec 2015 the 9th *Youth Leaders' Formation Course* (YLFC) will take place at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Richmond. The YLFC is a unique opportunity for 20 young adults from around Australia to live in community while being immersed in spiritual, pastoral & intellectual formation. The month includes over 30 presentations from dynamic speakers, daily Mass and prayer, silent retreat, parish mission, social outreach & life changing friendships! More info: www.catholicyouthservices.org/ylfc or contact ylfc@catholicyouthservices.org.

THE JOURNEY CATHOLIC RADIO PROGRAM – AIRS 29 NOVEMBER 2015

This week on *The Journey* Fr Stephen Varney reflects on the Gospel of Mark 13:24-32 for the beginning of Advent; Sr Hilda Scott OSB reminds us about "The Comfort of God" and Bruce Downes tells us about the importance of "Sharing Faith". Tune into PULSE 94.1 FM on Sun at 11am or go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

Uniting or Dividing? Christians and Muslims in our Globalised World - Gleeson Auditorium, Australian Catholic University (ACU), 25A Barker Rd Strathfield, **Wednesday 2 Dec**, 7:30pm–9:00pm (followed by light refreshments). Keynote Speaker Prof John Esposito Cost: \$20 pp. This public talk is ideal for teachers, students, studies of religion, catechists, priests, pastoral associates, interfaith activists and concerned citizens. Acquire credit hours for professional development! For registration please phone (02) 9649 9040 or email info@isra.org.au

Sacred Heart Church, Piety Stall Bomaderry has a range of cards and gifts, or order from the catalogue. *Christmas catalogue now available.* Open Sundays (9.30am Mass at Bomaderry), or call Suzie 4448 6219 or 0419 249 008.

SVdP ~ Piety Stall (Berry St Nowra) is well worth a look for religious gifts. Items can also be ordered from the catalogue in store. Also available to order, handmade First Holy Communion veils. Ph: 4421 7244.