



**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.

**Third Sunday of Advent - Cycle C**  
13<sup>th</sup> December 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: Monday..7.00am, Tues/Wed/Thurs 8.15am,  
 Fri 7.00am and 11.30am. Sat. Mass 9.00am  
 Berry: Tuesday 5.30pm 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 **John Evers, Julia Denton, and Ralph Peters** who died this past week. Also, **Tony Broomhead, Amy Edna Jones, Julie Johnson (King), Jo Hillyard, Wesley Rodrick, Dallas Carberry, Michael Chang**, whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*



**Catechists:** Congratulations on your extraordinary work this year! Please return all spare books, teaching manuals and resources for redistribution in the coming year. Merry Christmas! Frances

Bishop Peter Ingham has announced that Deacon Michael Dyer will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday 23 April 2016, 10.00am in St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong. Please continue to pray for Michael as he prepares for this sacred and joyful occasion.



**CWL Nowra Branch** members would like to thank all those who supported their Christmas Raffle. Congratulations to the winners. The members wish all parishioners a Happy and safe Christmas Season.

**The Second Rite Of Reconciliation in Preparation for Christmas – St Michael's Wed 16<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm. Parishioners are encouraged to avail of this opportunity as an appropriate Sacramental preparation for Christmas.**



**Wanted ~ Angels & Shepherds!** Would your child like to take part in the Christmas story recreation as part of Christmas Vigil Mass, 7pm, 24 December? If you have a primary school age child (sorry no pre-schoolers) who would like to participate, **practice will be held on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec at 3.p.m. and Wed Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11.a.m.** in St Michael's hall. **Enq: Sophie Pavlis, 0439 018374** Parents must stay to supervise their children.

**SVdP Christmas Appeal** ~ reminding parishioners that they can still contribute to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal this weekend. Please return envelopes at your earliest convenience. Our Conference members will be at the doors as they were last weekend to collect any further contributions....*Thankyou.*

**A practice for singers and musicians for the Christmas Vigil Mass** will be held **next Wed 16 Dec at 6pm** in the Parish Hall. Any musicians and singers are most welcome. Contact Mark 44231019

**LMC Soup Kitchen** ~ sincerely thank everyone who has contributed to the soup kitchen over the year. It's truly been a blessing and a privilege to see God's providential hand at work through your generosity! Fr Pat will be offering a Mass for you & your intentions. All our volunteers and supporters are invited to our final kitchen for the year - a Christmas party, 18th December, 11.30am at the committee room, the showground. If anyone would like to help with running this event - especially Christmas food - please contact Shannon 0414521404 / Sue 44470990. Thankyou & God bless!

**The Christmas- New-Year Parish timetable is now available. The Reverse side has some beautiful quotations from Pope Francis on the Year of Mercy**

**Jubilee Year of Mercy:**

**Why the Year of Mercy is relevant** - (by Michael Sean Winter). "Everywhere we look, there is poverty and war and brokenness. The divisions within our societies have their counterparts within the Church. Original sin remains the one doctrine of the Church that requires no faith to be believed, as the evidence is all around us. If we are honest, sin is not merely "out there," perpetrated by others, but inside our own lives and hearts, in our thinking, our words, deeds and omissions,. Yes, we need a Jubilee of Mercy...."

As Chief Pastor of the Church, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St Peter's on Tuesday to welcome pilgrims from across the world. Bishop Peter will open the Holy Door at the Cathedral on Sunday, to receive pilgrims from the local Church. In order to facilitate the convenience of the faithful on a more local basis in terms of the blessings and graces of the Year of Mercy, the bishop designates other regional Churches. And so it is that St Michael's has been designated as a place of pilgrimage. **We will celebrate this Rite at St Michael's at the 9.30.a.m. Mass on Sunday next 20<sup>th</sup> December**



**Lenten 2016 message** ~ Organisers would like to hear from prospective Group Leaders. Please contact Francene 44215962, Tina 44229250, Bernie 44212968.

**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,

**The Diocesan Magazine Journey is available this week-end at all Churches**



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A remote reminder – a bit unseasonable- **Lent 2016** is very early - Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. Organisers would like to hear from prospective Groups Leaders...**Please contact: Francene- 44 215962, Tina 44 229250, Bernie 44 122968.**

**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](mailto: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](http://www.catholicyouthservices.org/ylfc) or contact [ylfc@catholicyouthservices.org](mailto: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](http://www.jcr.org.au) or [www.itunes.jcr.org.au](http://www.itunes.jcr.org.au) where you can listen anytime and subscribe to weekly shows by email.

**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 veil