



**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.

## New Year's Day 2017 (Yr.A)

### The Feast of Mary Mother of God

#### New Year's Day – World Day of Prayer for Peace - The

#### Feast of Mary, Mother of God.



The divinity of Christ coupled with the title 'Mary Mother of God' caused much theological controversy in the early centuries....The Eastern Churches used the theological term "*theotokos*" meaning: 'God-bearer', to describe Mary; therefore 'Mother of God', because the one she bears is God. The title Mother of God -

had been given to Mary in popular devotion from the second century onwards; and it was confirmed by the Council of Ephesus in 431 AD. which sought to assert the full divinity of Christ. **"Mary is Mother of God from having borne in His humanity, a son who is personally God."** This woman of faith responded in trust and generosity to the call of God to participate most personally in the mystery of the Incarnation,

#### MASS TIMETABLE for New Year

##### Vigil Masses - Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>

Nowra: 6.00pm  
Culburra: 6.00pm  
Vincentia: 6.00pm  
Shoalhaven Heads: \*6.00pm

**# Shoalhaven Heads Community Centre-- Mass on Saturday Dec 31<sup>st</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> 2017 only.**

##### Sunday Mass

Nowra: 8.00am, 9.30am & 6.00pm  
Berry: 8.00am Bomaderry: .9.30am  
Culburra: .8.00am (on Jan 1<sup>st</sup> & Jan 8<sup>th</sup> only)  
Vincentia: 9.30am  
Kangaroo Valley: 11.00am

We prayerfully remember **James Dunn** (Ashfield) who died this week, and all parishioners and relatives who died over the past year. May they rest in peace.

#### Masses during the Week

**Nowra:** Monday: 8.00 am. Tue/Wed/ Thurs. 8.15 am  
Fri. 7.00am & 11.30am Sat 9.00am  
**Berry:** Tuesday 5.30 pm

**Culburra:** Thursday 5.30 pm

**Vincentia:** Mon/Thurs/Fri 8.00 am, Tues/Wed 5.30 pm

**Kangaroo Valley:** Mon/Tues/Thurs: 9.am; Wed 7 am

**Culburra – Callala Conference of St Vincent de Paul will hold their *Annual Appeal* on the weekend of 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. /1<sup>st</sup> Jan. Donations will be genuinely appreciated to assist the work of the Conference**



**Reg Thompson** has been a dedicated member of the St Vincent de Paul Society for over 50 years and will be presented with a Papal Blessing on **Sunday 1 January at the 6pm Mass**, St Michael's in Nowra. Please join us to celebrate this wonderful milestone with Reg.

**St Vincent de Paul Nowra needs YOU!** A local bakery very generously provides free bread to SVde P in Nowra 3 nights/week, however the bread needs to be collected. Can you help us? Many helpers make light work. **Please** call Phil Reid 4422 6002 ASAP.

The next **Rosary at Sacred Heart Church, Bomaderry** will be held on **Friday 6 January at 3pm** followed by afternoon tea. *All welcome!*

**Saturday January 14<sup>th</sup> The Feast of Santo Nino** - The Filipino Annual Festival Mass – 9.00.a.m. at St. Michael's

**We bid a very fond and grateful farewell to Ron and Cecily Trevillion who are leaving the parish after approx.. 47 years, to relocate at Hervey Bay.** They have had a long and committed association with St Michael's Parish, School, and St John's over the years. We wish them both good health, happiness, and contentment in their new home.

**Feastdays: Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Sts Basil and Gregory Nazianzen  
**Sunday Jan 8<sup>th</sup>: The Epiphany**

**Nonviolence: a Style of Politics for Peace**  
(Brief extracts from the Peace Day Message of Pope Francis 2017)



*"On this occasion, I would like to reflect on nonviolence as a style of politics for peace. I ask God to help all of us to cultivate nonviolence in our most personal thoughts and values. May charity and nonviolence govern how we treat each other as individuals, within society and in international life.*

*(The concluding paragraph)*  
*In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and to building nonviolent communities that care for our common home. "Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be an artisan of peace"... Pope Francis*

#### Caritas network continuing to support Syrian families. (Caritas News....)

*"Caritas Australia and the wider Caritas network are continuing to provide support to those in the Middle East as the crisis in Aleppo, Syria continues. As of 23 December, the Syrian Government is now in control of Aleppo. **How Caritas is responding?** Caritas Australia and the wider Caritas network are continuing to support through funding programs for Syrian families. Caritas Australia is helping those who have fled from Syria to Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey through our Emergency Appeals. We have contributed \$5.58 million through these appeals."*

We are most grateful for the generous response to the Christmas Day Collections from all regions of the Parish. As promised a significant portion of our Christmas Collections will be disbursed to Aged Care facilities run by Churches; \$1,000 to the local Cancer Clinic, and \$3,000 to Caritas Australia to assist with Syrian refugees as mentioned above..



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*The Feast of Mary Mother of God*

Parish Staff – Parish Office: 4423 1712

**Fr Patrick Faherty:** Parish Priest, Nowra

**Fr Duane Fernandez:** Assistant Priest, Nowra:

**Fr Leo Duck:** Vincentia; 4441 5571

**Fr Ronan Kilgannon:** Kangaroo Valley.

**Deacon Peter Presdee** - Chaplain to Corrective Services

**Sisters Beverley Caffery and Sue Barker SGS.**

**Mrs Frances Fairs:** Catechist Coordinator, 4423 1712

**Mrs Liz Nimmo:** Part-time Parish Secretary 4423 1712

**Mrs Melissa Mazzo:** Part-time Parish Secretary