



# St Michael's Parish Nowra

Incorporates the Church communities of St Michael's - Nowra, St Patrick's - Berry, Sacred Heart - Bomaderry  
Mary Help of Christians - Culburra, Holy Spirit - Vincentia & St Joseph's - Kangaroo Valley  
Telephone: 4423 1712 Email: [office@nowraparish.org.au](mailto:office@nowraparish.org.au) Web: [www.nowraparish.org.au](http://www.nowraparish.org.au)

*The Feast of the Epiphany (Year C)*  
**6<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

## The Epiphany on January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Vigil Masses:

**Nowra, Culburra and Vincentia all at 6:00pm**

**Shoalhaven Heads:** 6:00pm, 5<sup>th</sup> January only

**Sunday:** Nowra: 8:00am, 9:30am & 6:00pm

**Berry:** 8:00am **Bomaderry:** 9:30am

**Culburra:** 8:00am, Sun 6<sup>th</sup> January only

**Kangaroo Valley:** 11:00am

**Vincentia:** 8:00am on Jan 6<sup>th</sup>. (only) & 9:30am  
(Resumption of regular Mass timetable hereafter)

### Masses during the Week

Nowra: Mon 7.00am, Tues / Wed / Thurs 8:15am  
Fri 7:00 & 11:30am, Sat.: 9.00.a.m.

Berry: Tues - 5:30pm, Culburra: Thursday - 5:30pm

Vincentia: Mon/Thurs/Fri 8:00am, Tues/Wed: 5:30pm

Kangaroo Valley: Tues/Wed/Thurs. 9:00am

### Confession / Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 9:30am - 10:30am & 5:00- 5:30pm

Culburra: Sat 5:30pm

Vincentia: Sat 5:00 - 5:30pm

### Sunday next January 13<sup>th</sup>. The Baptism of the Lord.

We prayerfully remember **William (Bill) Price and June Perkins**, (Robyn Presdee's mother) who died this past week. **Also Ann Moses** ..... whose anniversaries occur.



The Culburra/Callala Conference of St. Vincent de Paul wishes to thank Parishioners and Visitors who contributed to their recent Annual Appeal. The amount collected was \$1,474.50.

Looking ahead: Ash Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>  
**Easter Sunday 2019 : April 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Proposed date for Confirmation Sunday May 26<sup>th</sup>



## The Epiphany

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different

than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. (**Loyola Press**)

**ALPHA 2019** - Already over 30 people are coming along to Alpha! A chance to explore the deeper questions of life, faith, and meaning, in a friendly, inclusive setting, over a meal. No cost, no commitment, "come and see" on **Friday February 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30pm St Michael's Hall**. Suitable for anyone at any stage of faith so consider who you may want to invite. For catering purposes please write details of those coming either on the sign-up sheets in church foyers or contact the Parish Office. Hope to see you there!

**Eric Genuis Concerts** at St Michael's Parish Hall, **21<sup>st</sup> Feb - 7pm** & Holy Spirit Vincentia, **28<sup>th</sup> Feb 6:30pm**.

A message of hope for all. Tickets: \$30 adult; \$25 pensioner/concession; \$70 family (parents with

dependent children under 18). Online tickets sales at [www.ericgenuistour.com](http://www.ericgenuistour.com) or at the parish office.

**The Feast of Santo Nino**- Saturday next January 12<sup>th</sup>



is the Filipino Annual Festival Mass - 9.00.a.m. at St. Michael's. Parishioners are encouraged to support this festive celebration. Filipino people have a strong family focus, are a hardworking and resilient people with a staunch commitment to their Catholic faith. The estimated population of the Philippines is over 100 million, with an estimated 10 million Filipino people living and working overseas. More than 80% of the population are Catholic; the 3rd most Catholic country after Brazil and Mexico - The country has 16 Archdioceses and 56 Dioceses. The Feast of Santo Nino which originated in 1565. is associated with the Christmas Season.

### World Youth Day (Week) 2019

World Youth Day 2019 will be held in Panama City, Panama from January 22nd to 27<sup>th</sup>. We are delighted that among the 22 young adults and teachers is Monique Hill from our parish. Monique has assisted with the Sunday Evening Mass at St Michael's for many years. We wish all pilgrims, a safe, joyful, and spiritually enriching experience.

### From New Year's Peace Message by Pope Francis. "Peace be to this house"

Bringing peace is central to the mission of Christ's disciples. That peace is offered to all those men and women who long for peace amid the tragedies and violence that mark human history. The "house" of which Jesus speaks is every family, community, country and continent, in all their diversity and history. It is first and foremost each individual person, without distinction or discrimination. But it is also our "common home": the world in which God has placed us and which we are called to care for and cultivate.



So let this be my greeting at the beginning of the New Year: **"Peace be to this house!"**



# St Michael's Parish Nowra

Incorporates the Church communities of St Michael's - Nowra, St Patrick's - Berry, Sacred Heart - Bomaderry  
Mary Help of Christians - Culburra, Holy Spirit - Vincentia & St Joseph's - Kangaroo Valley  
Telephone: 4423 1712 Email: [office@nowraparish.org.au](mailto:office@nowraparish.org.au) Web: [www.nowraparish.org.au](http://www.nowraparish.org.au)

*The Feast of the Epiphany (Year C)*  
**6<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Our Parish Church, St Michael's has on the Baptismal Font a statue of Jesus being baptised by John the Baptist. Whilst we can relate the implication of Jesus being baptised to every baptism, Easter with the symbol of the Paschal Candle is however the Feast that is directly related to Christian Sacramental Baptism. Jesus had no need of baptism, He is rather identifying with those He came to save. "On that day He began His public ministry during which He gave Himself fully in the service of God and all of God's people. On that day Jesus launched forth as the one who came not to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. As He set out on that momentous journey for all of us, He was assured of God his Father's favour, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on You', and He was empowered by the Holy Spirit, who descended upon Him like a dove." Today is an appropriate Feast to reflect on the fact that through Baptism we are 'grafted unto Christ'. At each baptism the baptised is anointed with Chrism and referred to as participating in the offices of being priest, prophet and king. Since Christ is the fulfilment of the priest, prophet, and king, that means that all the baptized participate in these ministries as well. Although this statement may seem odd since we do not naturally think of ourselves this way, we must become more conscious of what it means to be 'grafted' onto Christ. Understood in the biblical sense: Priest- one who intercedes for others, praying for others, especially in the Liturgy. Prophet: one who speaks for God, speaks the Word of God, giving evidence to the centrality of God in one's life. King: ..anointed one.. leading others to God, enabling others to find their mission; good counsel, leading to holiness.. To-day's Gospel is a very appropriate Gospel indeed to be read at every baptism. "Each and every Christian has the right to hear, You are my beloved son, my beloved daughter, in whom I take delight', personally addressed to him or her by God". {Fr Brendan Byrne SJ}

: Celebrated on January 1<sup>st</sup> each year, **the World Day of Peace** is accompanied by a message from the Pope which is sent to all foreign ministers around the world. This New Year it is entitled **Good politics is at the service of Peace:** ".... Political office and political responsibility thus constantly challenge those called to the service of their country to make every effort to protect those who live there, and to create the conditions for a worthy and just future. If exercised with basic respect for the life, freedom, and dignity of persons, political life can indeed become an outstanding form of charity.



### An extract from The Christmas Message of Pope Francis

".....By his incarnation, the Son of God tells us that salvation comes through love, acceptance, respect for this poor humanity of ours, which we all share in a great variety of races, languages, and cultures. Yet all of us are brothers and sisters in humanity! May the child Jesus allow the beloved and beleaguered country of Syria once again to find fraternity after these long years of war..... My thoughts turn to Yemen, in the hope that the truce brokered by the international community may finally bring relief to all those children and people exhausted by war and famine..... May the little child whom we contemplate today in the manger watch over all the children of the world, and every frail, vulnerable and discarded person. May all of us receive peace and consolation from the birth of the Saviour and, in the knowledge that we are loved by the

one heavenly Father, realize anew that we are brothers and sisters and come to live as such!"

### Eric Genuis Concerts at St Michael's Parish Hall, 21<sup>st</sup> Feb - 7pm & Holy Spirit Vincentia, 28th Feb 6:30pm.

Looking for a Christmas gift for the person who has everything? Why not buy them tickets to an experience you can share as well as help your Parish community? The 'Opera House' is coming to our parish! A message of hope for all. Tickets: \$30 adult; \$25 pensioner/concession; \$70 family (parents with dependent children under 18). Online tickets sales at [www.ericgenuistour.com](http://www.ericgenuistour.com) or at the parish office.



### Annual Christmas Appeal by - SVdP Culburra and Holy Spirit Church - Vincentia this weekend 29th/30<sup>th</sup>

December. All contributions will be greatly

appreciated

A very big 'thank you' to St. John's & St. Michael's Schools for their amazing Christmas Hampers, which have been delivered to 77 smiling households. The SVdP Christmas appeal raised an incredible total of \$7,376! Thank you everyone for your wonderful generosity. A very happy Christmas to you.

The Bomaderry 2019 roster, for Flowers and Cleaning is available for collection by the generous team volunteers at the church.

Thankyou from the LMC Soup Kitchen for all the gifts we have received for our Christmas party. Thankyou! God bless and wishing you a blessed Christmas season.

**Prayer Basket, Nowra Church:** The Alpha Team and Nowra Community Group have arranged a Prayer Basket in the side foyer. There are prayer cards where you can write a prayer intention and place it in the



# St Michael's Parish Nowra

Incorporates the Church communities of St Michael's - Nowra, St Patrick's - Berry, Sacred Heart - Bomaderry  
Mary Help of Christians - Culburra, Holy Spirit - Vincentia & St Joseph's - Kangaroo Valley  
Telephone: 4423 1712 Email: [office@nowraparish.org.au](mailto:office@nowraparish.org.au) Web: [www.nowraparish.org.au](http://www.nowraparish.org.au)

*The Feast of the Epiphany (Year C)*  
**6<sup>th</sup> January 2019**

basket. An Alpha Team member will take the prayer intentions to the altar during the entrance procession

**Our first Alpha was a great success in 2018** – with many stories of changed lives and renewed faith for people of all ages and backgrounds. Our next Alpha begins on **Fri Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**. The key to its success is **personal invitations** to people in our families/social circles. Pope Francis writes that “in all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers”. There are sheets available in the foyers of the Churches to guide you in “**Ways to invite Guests to Alpha**”, as well as invitation cards you can give. Please prayerfully consider who you may invite. *Another important means of support is help with catering – thank you to those who have already volunteered; if anyone else can help please contact Fr Duane.*



## Craft-Tea Characters – St Michael's The Parish Centre Wednesdays

**9:30am to 12:00pm.** There's more to it than craft you'll see. Like coffee, laughs, community, conversation and there's more. If you'll just walk in through the door. Give it a go and then you'll know, all

you need to do is show. All Welcome. Contact Louise 0438 218 728.



## Children's Liturgy Sunday 9:30am

St Michaels - children aged 4 and up gather together with our volunteer teachers to receive God's Word on their own level, in a fun and interactive way.

CatHFAMILY brings you a selection of activities, prayer rituals, crafts and recipes for free from their website [www.cathfamily.org](http://www.cathfamily.org). Families in the are encouraged to utilise these resources at home to share faith with their kids.

**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 Caffrey and Sue Barker SG**  
**Mrs Frances Fairs:** Catechist Coordinator 4423 1712  
**Mrs Liz Nimmo:** PT Parish Secretary 4423 1712  
**Mrs Melissa Mazzo:** PT Parish Secretary 4423 1712



**Plenary Council 2020** - Remember that there are three ways to give feedback:  
1. Attend a small group discussion, 2. Complete a feedback form, 3. Make a submission on-line.

<http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/have-your-say>

The Plenary website has resources in 10 languages.



## St Michael's Playgroup – St Michael's School Hall Mondays 9:00am to 10:30am.

Playgroup is held each Monday, *during the school term*. Parents, grandparents, carers, all welcome! Please bring your child's snack and drink. Gold coin.

The Journey Catholic Radio Program – Airs weekly. 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 subscribe to weekly shows.