



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 Web: www.nowraparish.org.au

The Feast of the Baptism of The Lord 13th January 2019

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Those of you familiar with St Michael's Church, would be aware that on the Baptismal Font is a little 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.

Our Lord's baptism is a vital moment in our story of salvation, where he joined with humanity in the humble outreach to God, and where the Father and the Spirit are seen and heard to be there with him. The Gospel says that "the heavens were opened," a powerful statement of the point of contact between heaven and earth. Today's Gospel has Jesus beginning a journey which each of us is asked to travel. It is a journey full of purpose, a journey of intent. We need a sense of purpose and pattern to our living. Peter summarised the purpose and pattern of Christ's life when he said, "he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." We are each invited, personally, to make this purpose our own.

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

Mrs Liz Nimmo: PT Parish Secretary

Mrs Melissa Mazzo: PT Parish Secretary

Sunday Masses:

Nowra: Vigil 6:00pm, 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

Weekday Masses

Nowra: Mon 7:00am, Tues / Wed / Thurs 8:15am

Fri 7:00 & 11:30am – (Holy Hour – 10:30am)

Sat. : 9.00.a.m. Berry: Tuesday – 5:30pm Culburra:

Thursday – 5:30pm Vincentia: Mon/Thurs/Fri 8:00am,

Tues/Wed: 5:30pm K. Valley: Tues/Wed/Thurs. 9:00am

Confession / Reconciliation

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

Culburra: Sat 5:30pm Vincentia: Sat 5:00–5:30pm

Berry: following Mass on Tuesday c 6:00pm

We prayerfully remember: **Normando Penna, William (Bill) Price and June Perkins,** (Robyn Presdee's mother) who died recently. **Also Ann Moses, Remedios Paliza, and Bob Woods** whose anniversaries occur. May they rest in peace



Eric Genuis Concerts at St Michael's Parish Hall, 21st Feb 7pm, and Holy Spirit Vincentia, 28th Feb 6:30pm.

The 'Opera House' is coming to our parish! Eric is a world class pianist, with world class accompaniment, who brings an immersive and interactive concert to our Parish, with an inspiring message of hope for all. Ticket costs will cover the expenses of the musicians, and any remaining revenue will go towards our Parish. Tickets: \$30 adult; \$25 pensioner /concession; \$70 family (parents with dependent children under 18). Online tickets sales at www.ericgenuistour.com or at the Parish Office.

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>



ALPHA is a chance to explore the deeper questions of life, faith, and meaning, in a friendly, inclusive setting over a meal. It's perfect for anyone who may be seeking a deeper meaning and direction in their lives. Who among your friends or family may benefit from this? It may change their lives – or yours. Why not "come and see" and invite someone to come with you, on **Friday February 1st at 6:30pm St Michael's Hall.** For catering purposes please either write details of those coming on sign-up sheets in church foyers or contact the Parish Office. We hope to see you there!

Alpha Catering: A big thank you to the 10 people who have put their names down to help with catering. Just a few more helpers for catering would be most appreciated! If you can help, please contact Fr Duane, Parish Office.

Our prayerful best wishes to the Filipino Community on the occasion of their national Feastday Santo Nino- The Feast of Santo Nino which originated in 1565. is associated with the Christmas Season

Culburra Sausage Sizzle next Saturday 19th January, after 6pm Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians, Culburra, thanks to the Culburra Community Group. All welcome!

Holy Spirit Catholic Church - call for choir members. If you have an interest in singing and would like to assist at the 9.30am Mass on Sundays, please have a word after Mass or ring Deirdre on 44437825.

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

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



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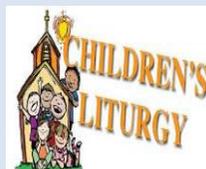
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St Michael's Playgroup – St Michael's School Hall Mondays 9:00am to 10:30am. Playgroup is held each Monday, *during the school term.* Parents, grandparents, carers, all welcome! Please bring your child's snack and drink. Gold coin.



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. Families in the are encouraged to utilise these resources at home to share faith with their kids.

The Journey Catholic Radio Program – Airs weekly. Go to www.jcr.org.au or www.itunes.jcr.org.au where you can subscribe to weekly shows.

World Youth Day (Week) 2019

World Youth Day 2019 will be held in Panama City, Panama from January 22nd to 27th. 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.