



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 Epiphany 5th January 2020



Sunday Masses: (Regular timetable)

Nowra: Vigil 6:00pm, 8:00am, 9:30am & 6:00pm
Berry: 8:00am Bomaderry: 9:30am
Culburra: Vigil 6:00pm
Vincentia: Vigil 6:00pm ; and 9:30am
Kangaroo Valley: 11:00am
(Sunday next Jan 12th -The Baptism of the Lord.)

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: Thurs - 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
Berry, following the 5.30.p.m. Mass on Tuesday
Culburra : Sat 5:30pm Vincentia: Sat 5:00 - 5:30pm



The Feast of Santo Nino- Saturday next, January 11th 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

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased, deceased family members, those whose anniversaries occur. At this time we are especially mindful of those who have died as a result of bushfires. May they rest in peace.



THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY:
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.

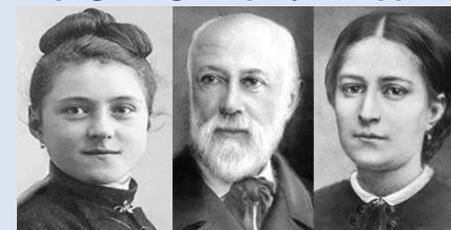
Reflection of Pope Francis *"The Magi teach us that people can come to Christ by a very long route. Men of wealth, sages from afar, athirst for the infinite, they set out on the long and perilous journey that would lead them to Bethlehem.. Great joy comes over them in the presence of the Infant King. ...Kneeling before him, they understand that the God who with sovereign wisdom guides the course of the stars also guides the course of history, casting down the mighty and raising up the lowly. Upon their return home, they would certainly have told others of this amazing encounter with the Messiah, thus initiating the spread of the Gospel among the nations."*

Peace and God Bless for 2020.

As we enter this New Year we all share the anxiety, and sorrow of the region, the State, and the Nation at the massive destruction caused by the bushfires. The loss of life is especially heart-breaking; also the agonising loss of stock, homes and property. We continue to hold all affected in our prayers and Masses. The parish will be happy to support and promote recommended appeals for victims of the disaster as we receive greater clarity on appropriate action in the days and weeks ahead.

As an expression of appreciation and gratitude, for the support and generosity of so many parishioners throughout the past year, and especially at Christmas time, a Triduum of Masses have been offered for your intentions and needs.

A pilgrimage of prayer supported by Catholic Missions.



The relics of St Therese of Lisieux, one of the most popular saints of modern times, will visit

Australia this year on a four-month pilgrimage with those of her parents, saints Louis and Zelig Martin who were canonised in 2009. Within the itinerary for the Wollongong Diocese, we are delighted that according to the suggested timetable, St Michael's will be included for the afternoon of Monday March 23rd. In the words of Fr Brian Lucas (Cath. Missions) : " the togetherness of the family is an important feature of the pilgrimage. I think the connection between the relics of St Therese and [those] of her parents gives us an opportunity to consider the importance of relationships and family life."



Urbi et Orbi-To the City and the World.....An Extract from the Christmas Message of Pope Francis.

...
May Emmanuel bring light to all the suffering members of our human family. May he soften our often stony and self-centred hearts and make them channels of his love. May he bring his smile, through our poor faces, to all the children of the world: to those who are abandoned and those who suffer violence. Through our frail hands, may he clothe those who have nothing to wear, give bread to the hungry and heal the sick. Through our friendship, such as it is, may he draw close to the elderly and the lonely, to migrants and the marginalized. On this joyful Christmas Day, may he bring his tenderness to all and brighten the darkness of this world."



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5th January 2020



Parish Playgroup - Monday

mornings (during school term) 9:00am – 10:30am in foyer of St Michael's School Hall. Parents, grandparents and carers all welcome!

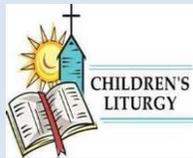
Please bring your child's snacks and drinks and a gold coin donation. **Contact Bernadette Pullen 0402136691** or bpullen@outlook.com.au



Craft-Tea Characters Wednesdays

9:30am to 12:00pm - There's more to it than craft you'll see; like coffee, laughs, community, conversation and 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. Enquiries: **Louise 0438 218 728.**



Children's Liturgy Sundays -

9:30am (during the school term) St Michael's Church - children aged 4 and up gather with our volunteer teachers to receive God's Word in a fun and interactive way.

Parish Staff

Fr Patrick Faherty: Parish Priest – 4423 1712

Fr Leo Mifsud: Assistant Priest Nowra – 4423 1712

Fr Tiziano Torresan: 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 44231712

Mrs Michelle Marshall: Parish Secretary (Fri)

Mrs Melissa Mazzo: Parish Secretary (Mon-Thurs)

Parish Office: 4423 1712

Email: office@nowraparish.org.au