



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

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12th July 2020

Under the NSW Public Health Act 2020 - the number of worshippers attending Mass is limited by congregational space. The maximum worshippers will vary for each of the parish Churches. [The Church is yet to open for private prayer.](#)



Each Sunday at 9am, the Diocese currently broadcasts Sunday Mass with Bishop Brian. You can view it on the Diocesan webpage www.dow.org.au, [YouTube Channel](#) or [Facebook page](#).



Weathering The Storms of Life Sharing Our Stories of Drought, Fire and Rain

- Providing a space for acknowledgement and connection for all those affected.
- Naming, claiming, and lamenting our individual and communal responses and reactions to the extraordinary events we have experienced and/or witnessed in recent times.
- Exploring ways to survive and thrive. Nourishment for mind, body, and spirit.
- Meeting will be held 'online'

Mass Registration Number 0477 427 396

For **Vigil** and **Sunday Mass** at Berry, Bomaderry, Culburra, and Nowra

- Registration is NOT required for weekday Mass. However, your contact details will be recorded on the day.
- Mass at Kangaroo Valley, please email ronankangaroo1@gmail.com
- Mass at Vincentia, please call 4441 5723.
- In compliance with the **1.5m social distancing rule** each of the churches in the parish has a **limited number** of seats available.
- Persons with coughs and / or flu like symptoms, are *urged not to attend*.

Feast Day: Thurs 16th of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased: **Bruce Davis, Fr Doug Rheinberger, and Leo Hackett (Jnr)**. Also **Colleen Timbs** and all whose anniversaries occur. We pray for all who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and worldwide. May they rest in peace.
Mass on **Tuesday morning July 14th at 8.00am** will be **a memorial Mass for Bruce Davis**, who died last week, and was a faithful Parish Acolyte for 30 years.



Rev Anthony Crook, who is being ordained to the priesthood Saturday July 11th at St John Vianney's Church, Fairy Meadow, has an impressive academic background including being Head of Applied Psychology and Chaplaincy Studies at Notre Dame, Sydney. We wish him a blessed and fruitful priestly ministry in our Diocese.

COVID-19: "God created us for communion, for fraternity, and now more than ever the pretense of betting only on one's self has proven illusory." **Pope Francis** warned against the temptation to slip back into self-centeredness and forget how much we rely on other people for courage and sustenance.

For enquiries / RSVP:
Patricia Thomas, Grief Care: 02 9646 6908,
care@griefcare.com.au

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/weathering-the-storm-tickets>

Sacred Heart - Bomaderry - thank you to the one person who volunteered to mow the grass. We still need 3 more volunteers. Please ring Ivor on 44210929 if you can help.



"Rev Deacon Peter and Robyn Presdee are very grateful for the fantastic response to our request for clothing to assist inmates from the Correctional Centre when they are released. If at any time in the future, you may have some spare winter or summer clothing we would appreciate if a message could be left for us at the parish office. Many thanks again for your generosity."

Mass Times

Saturday Vigils

Nowra	5:00pm
Culburra	5:00pm
Vincentia	5:00pm
	6:15pm

Sunday Mass Times

Nowra	8:00 am	9:30am	5:00 pm
Berry	8:00 am		
Bomaderry	9:30 am		
Vincentia	9:00 am	10:15	
Kangaroo Valley	11:00 am		

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Nowra	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00 am
			5:30 pm		11:30 am
Berry		5:30 pm			
Culburra				5:30 pm	
Bomaderry					5:30 pm
Vincentia	8:00 am	5:30 pm	5:30 pm	8:00am	8:00 am
Kangaroo Valley		9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	



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First Reading - from the prophet Isaiah (55: 10-11)

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.' **The Word of the Lord.**

Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 64)

(R.) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water,
you fill it with riches.
Your river in heaven brims over
to provide its grain. (R.)

2. And thus you provide for the earth;
you drench its furrows,
you level it, soften it with showers,
you bless its growth. (R.)

3. You crown the year with your goodness.
Abundance flows in your steps,
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. (R.)

4. The hills are girded with joy,
the meadows covered with flocks,
the valleys are decked with wheat.
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. (R.)



A reading from St Paul to the Romans (8:18-23)

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God;

but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation : Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

The Gospel of St Matthew (13:1-13)

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive.

For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes,

for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.

Gospel Reflection by Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

The parable is about the generosity and lavishness of God. In the face of so much opposition and growing indifference from the crowds, Jesus does not lose confidence in the worthwhileness of his message. When the word finds a generous response in the human heart, there is no limit to the riches of God's love and grace that can be channelled through such persons more widely into the world.

So the disciples—and, following them, teachers, preachers, catechists, and all concerned with the proclamation of the word and its understanding—should not lose heart. As the very brief First Reading insists, the word that goes forth from God's mouth does not return empty; it does not come back without succeeding in what it was sent to do.