



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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
19th 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](#).

A challenging task, but with an inspiring response - I'm so proud to be a nurse! The North Melbourne Housing towers. (A report in summary)

“On Wednesday, we began at the North Melbourne towers, where we attended three different buildings. The lift in the first one was broken, we were meant to start on the 18th floor. On the first day, 10 teams of us agreed to stay on beyond the end of our shift to try and get through all the testing (we swabbed until 9:00pm).



We were invited into many homes, and even offered tea & coffee. I went into a few rooms with elderly, frail people, and young children (this was optional & only if we felt safe). We felt like guests. I saw dozens of boxes of food & supplies. I left that day with a full heart thanks to all the "thank yous" and "I love yous" from the residents.

I have so many wonderful memories of the past few days, all positive. I'd like the broader community to understand that sometimes media portrayals of what goes on are not necessarily true. Despite suggestions otherwise, wheels are in motion to support these people — maybe things moved slowly at first, but from what I saw, lots of help is now on hand. We have supported each other & together have made an incredible difference to many people's lives & served our community to the best of our ability. *"I'm so proud to be a nurse". (by a participating Nurse).*

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 Days: Wednesday 22nd St Mary Magdalene
Saturday 25th St James

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased: **Alex Gomes** (Calcutta) and **Thomas (Tom) Robertson, Roland Tudor** (January). Also, **Maree Fazzolari, Alma Ellison, Maureen Burns, Ursula Duncan, Albert Muller, Glen Frohling and Janet Walsh** whose anniversaries occur. We pray for all who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and worldwide. May they rest in peace.



The “Pope Francis Hospital Ship” brings medical equipment and assistance to coronavirus-hit communities along the Amazon river. This Hospital Ship has been sailing the Amazon River for a year, delivering medical aid and assistance to some 700,000 members of coastal populations – many of them indigenous communities - in Brazil's Amazon Rainforest. Their situation is exacerbated due to lack of access to decent medical care and sheer distance from the nearest intensive care units.

Brother Sousa revealed that the medical and logistical team aboard the ship got reorganized to specifically fight the pandemic. “This ship has already worked miracles, bringing healing and hope to river populations,” said Brother Joel Sousa, a member of the ship's coordination team. Therefore, he continued, there is even more reason to do so in times of a medical emergency.

Confessions/ Reconciliation

Nowra: Saturday: 9.30 – 10.30am
Berry: Tuesday following 5.30pm Mass
Culburra: Saturday prior to Vigil Mass at 5.00pm
Bomaderry following Friday Mass at 5.30pm

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
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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A reading from the book of Wisdom: 12. 12-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good Hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm 85

(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. (R.)

2. All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. (R.)

3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. (R.)

Second Reading--Rom 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God. **The Word of the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth.

You have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!



The Gospel according to Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is

the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Commentary by Fr Brendan Byrne SJ.

The main parable can apply to the world as a whole, to the Church, to any smaller community within the Church or even to an individual person's own moral and spiritual life. So often a person's or a community's good qualities spring from the same source as their reprehensible ones. An irascible person may be vigorous in struggling for justice; a laid-back character a good listener—and so on. Christianity's long history of intolerance—the Inquisition, etc.—shows the tragedy and folly of being more zealous to root out evil than to encourage good. Jesus seems to suggest that God can cope for quite a time with the continuing existence of evil in order to preserve or promote a wider good.

Traditionally, the parable has been interpreted as bearing upon the continuing prevalence of evil as well as good in the Church. But the primary identification of the "field" in the parable is with "the world" rather than the Church. The interpretation would, then, address and account for the situation whereby "the children of the kingdom" (= "the church") continue to suffer at the hands of evildoers. In this case, the final judgement, rather than a threat hanging over members of the Church, will be their vindication; persecution will not last for ever; evildoers will eventually suffer the fate their behaviour deserves....This complex parable, then, presents comfort as well as challenge to the church.