



# 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)

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
26th July 2020

**Under the NSW Public Health Act 2020** - the number of worshippers attending Mass is limited by congregational space of one person per 4 square meters. 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](http://www.dow.org.au), [YouTube Channel](#) or [Facebook page](#).

## Thinking of becoming Catholic?

Do you wonder what it might entail? OR

**Do you know someone whom you could invite?** Join our new **Inquiry session** ... no commitment needed to attend.

**Tuesday evening 28<sup>th</sup> July 7.30 p.m. St. Michael's Parish Centre**

For more information ring: 4423 1712 or Sue 4421 2260



## Mass Registration Number 0477 427 396

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

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased; **Walter Briggs** OAM (Young, Jim's brother), **Aldrin Balanag** (Philippines, nephew of Pina). Also, **Frank Wall**, and **Albert Muller** whose anniversaries occur. We pray for all who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and worldwide. May they rest in peace.



**Caritas Internationalis** is part of the Commission for Covid-19 created by Pope Francis. Aloysius John, Secretary General (Caritas) says, Caritas is at the forefront in responding to COVID-19.

We try to be quick and agile to continue serving the most vulnerable. This is what the Holy Father asked us a few days ago, when we presented him our work against Covid. He said: *'Be agile and quick and continue to carry on your work. If you don't do it, who will?'*

The Fund will prioritise the provision of health care services in areas such as: prevention & control of infections, access to clean water & sanitation, procurement of PPE (masks, gloves, etc.). The Fund will also consider proposals that aim to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, which include raising awareness and disseminating information to prevent contagion, as well as reinforcing community services, including ensuring food security.

Nowra/Bomaderry Meals on Wheels are looking for more help. If you have a couple of spare hours and would like to volunteer to be a driver or delivery person, a cook, assist in the kitchen, have admin or other skills and you can help, please contact 4422 5111 for an application information pack. *"More than just a meal"*. Many thanks **Sue O'Brien - Director North Shoalhaven Meals on Wheels.**



- 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](mailto: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 29<sup>th</sup> St Martha  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> St Ignatius of Loyola  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> Alphonsus Liguori

## 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 5:30 pm	8:00 am	8:00 am 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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## 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### 26th July 2020

### A reading from the first book of the Kings 3.5, 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.' **The Word of the Lord.**

### Responsorial Psalm: 118

**(R.) Lord, I love your commands.**

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.  
The law from your mouth means more to me than silver and gold. (R.)
2. Let your love be ready to console me by your promise to your servant.  
Let your love come to me and I shall live for your law is my delight. (R.)
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.  
That is why I rule my life by your precepts: I hate false ways. (R.)
4. Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore, I obey it.  
The unfolding of your word gives light and teaches the simple. (R.)

### The letter of St Paul to the Romans. 8. 28 -30

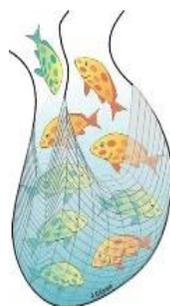
We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

### 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!**

### Gospel - A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew: 13. 44 – 52



Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Commentary by Fr Brendan Byrne SJ. Commentary – Fr Brendan Byrne SJ

The parables are not about what one 'ought' to do; they simply describe what happens in the lives of people who have caught a glimpse of the kingdom. While not yet within their grasp, it is already bringing joy, freedom, and hope to human lives. The outstanding historical example of such transformation would be St Francis of Assisi. His commitment to radical poverty did not come to him as a hard-moral demand. It flowed in complete freedom from the 'treasure' of divine love that he had come upon in such high degree.

The two brief parables encapsulate the essence of Christian spirituality. Christian life requires a measure of detachment. It requires freedom from being completely absorbed and immersed in the attractions, pleasures and concerns of the world – not because these are bad in themselves but because we have been 'captured' by a sense of God's love and God's future for us that relativises all these things and puts them in their place. We do not yet possess the treasure but the prospect of it, unseen but grasped in faith, is already working transformation.

Reflection: "It is worth noting that nowhere in the Gospels does Jesus call it his Kingdom; it is God's Kingdom. God's kingdom is not built on power, but through peace. It is not about conquest; it is about faith. God's Kingdom is built on justice, mercy, forgiveness, compassion, and concern for the poor. God's Kingdom is about relationships; God's relationship with us, and our relationship with each other. We are called to promote and build the Kingdom of God here and now as we prepare to enter the fullness of the Kingdom at the end of time. But the challenge and responsibility are for us to be people of light where there is darkness, and to be people good news where there is falsehood and negativity. The work of building God's Kingdom begins here and now." **Michael Moore OMI**