



# 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)

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd August 2020

### For Masses in Nowra, Berry, Bomaderry & Culburra

When you attend the Saturday Vigil or Sunday Mass you can record your contact details with the Attendance Monitor for the following weekend Mass.

It is important that if you register and are unable to attend Mass, that you call 0477 427 396 and let us know.

Registering remains essential for ALL WEEKEND MASSES.

To Register for Weekend Masses call 0477 427 396  
Mon to Fri between 10am & 3:00pm

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 Church in the parish has a limited seats.

\* Persons with coughs and/or flu like symptoms, are urged not to attend.

\* Social distancing is required when entering and exiting the Church.



**First Reconciliation** a parent and candidate meeting will be held for those in our state schools (including NAC and NCS) on **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August, 4pm – 5pm**, in St Michael's Church. Please register for the meeting via the Parish Office 4423 1712.

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased **Joe McIntyre, and Kevin Doyle. Also, Mark McGee, John and Marie Stalgis**, whose anniversaries occur. We pray for all who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and worldwide. May they rest in peace.



**Mass with Bishop Brian will recommence on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August.** For all the online Mass options - please visit the DOW website <https://dow.sh/dailymass>

**Planned Giving Envelopes – Are you using Planned Giving envelope number 312?** If so, would you kindly contact the parish office. Thank you in advance.



Have you returned to Mass and getting the bulletin delivered? Please call the Parish office if you no longer need the bulletin delivered and we will remove you from the delivery list.

### 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  
**Vincentia:** Saturday 4pm

Social Justice **Sunday is being observed on 30 August.** This year, the Social Justice Statement is titled: **To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today.** The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support. Download the Statement at [http://bit.ly/SocialJustice\\_2020](http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020).

Parishioners are encouraged to get in touch with the parish should you have a family member or know of a fellow parishioner who is seriously ill at home, in hospital, or in aged care, and in need of the Sacraments.

### Faith Resources for use at Home

There are some new adult online faith formation opportunities available on the Diocesan website [www.dow.org.au/covid-19/nourish-your-faith-at-home](http://www.dow.org.au/covid-19/nourish-your-faith-at-home). These resources include Liturgical Prayers, Faith Circles for Small Group, Course on Prayer and the Catholic Faith and much more.

### Feast Days

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – St Bartholomew  
Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> – St Monica  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> – St Augustine

## 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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### 23rd August 2020

### A reading from the prophet Isaiah. 22: 19-23

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,  
I remove you from your post,  
and the same day I call on my servant  
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.  
I invest him with your robe,  
gird him with your sash,  
entrust him with your authority;  
and he shall be a father  
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and to the House of Judah.  
I place the key of the House of David  
on his shoulder;  
should he open, no one shall close,  
should he close, no one shall open.  
I drive him like a peg  
into a firm place;  
he will become a throne of glory  
for his father's house.

### Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,  
you have heard the words of my mouth.  
Before the angels I will bless you.  
I will adore before your holy temple. (R.)
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love  
which excel all we ever knew of you.  
On the day I called, you answered;  
you increased the strength of my soul. (R.)

3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly  
and the haughty he knows from afar.  
Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands. (R.)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading -St Paul to the Romans: 11. 33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church; the gates of hell will not hold out against it.  
Alleluia!

### The Gospel -according to Matthew: 16. 13-20

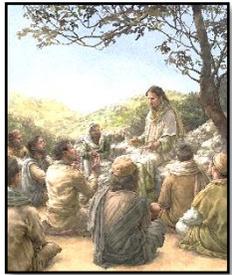
When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

### Gospel Reflection – Greg Sunter

This week's story takes place in Caesarea Philippi, a region that was outside predominantly Jewish territory. It is intriguing that Matthew's gospel chooses such a site as the location for such a significant revelation of faith.

Jesus asks the disciples who people say he is. They report that people associate Jesus with one of the great prophets of Jewish tradition. The expectation of a messiah was running very high at the time of Jesus and everyone had their own idea about what that messiah would be like – usually aligned with some previous leader. They didn't seem to understand that Jesus was breaking the mould and was not going to fit in with any of those expectations. To see him as one of the great prophets come again is always going to be an inadequate understanding of Jesus as messiah.

When Jesus pushes the disciples for their own ideas, it is Simon Peter who speaks up and identifies Jesus as being the Son of the living God. Making a play on Peter's name), Jesus states that hereafter, Simon Peter will be known as Peter and upon the rock of his profession of faith the church will be built.



### A Word from Fr Brendan Byrne

"The gift of keys along with the subsequent reference to 'binding' and 'loosing', has to do with authoritative teaching: ..Jesus, the Interpreter of the Torah *par excellence* (Matthew 5-7) leaves his community with a structure of interpretation and assures it of 'heavenly', that is, divine ratification. In this way, the Church, as both expression and foretaste of God's reign (the 'Kingdom of Heaven') on earth, is equipped to discern and live God's will in the changing circumstances that will, in the course of history, confront it..."