



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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
30th August 2020

Fr Pat's Retirement as Parish Priest

As you would have heard, Fr Pat will celebrate this weekend's Masses for the last time as Parish Priest. However, Fr Pat has kindly offered to continue to offer the usual schedule of Masses in our parish for the foreseeable future. (Fr Pat will reside in the Nowra area, but not in the Presbytery)

We are sure that all our parishioners will want to thank Fr Pat personally. Please be assured that you have ample opportunity to offer your thanks and well wishes, as you will see him at the usual Mass times.

To formalize our gratitude to Fr Pat, please check our webpage or Facebook page. You can send in your letters of appreciation via email or on cards that will be provided. These will be printed in a book form, including any photos. A suitable date in September will be chosen for a formal presentation.

We thank Fr Pat for his humble service to our Parish over the last 28 years. As a faithful servant of Christ, Fr Pat has imparted wisdom, comfort, prayerfulness and love to our parish for which truly grateful.

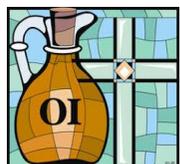
To Register for Masses in Nowra, Culburra, Berry and Bomaderry call

0477 427 396

Mon to Fri between 10am & 3:00pm

Mass at **Kangaroo Valley**, please email ronankangaroo1@gmail.com

Please note change for Mass at Vincentia
Please all 0435 862 156 or email -
holyspiritvincentia@gmail.com



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.

We prayerfully remember the recently deceased **Brian Parry, Laura Verney and Dr Col Shepherd. Also Frank Rouen, Terry Power, and Christopher Delaney** whose anniversaries occur. We pray for all who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and worldwide. May they rest in peace.



Sacred Heart, Bomaderry 1st Friday rosary  on 4 September. **Rosary will start at **5:00pm****, immediately prior to Mass at 5:30pm

Feast Day
Thursday 3rd September - St Gregory

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

Catholic Social Justice Statement 2020:

To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today. "People living with mental ill health are part of the Body of Christ - us and not them - and share equally in Jesus' promise of the fullness of life." You are encouraged to download the Statement from the Australian Bishops website for your reflection and conversation http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020

Would you like to join with a small group in the parish to reflect on what the Bishop's statement has to say about our response to the vital issue of mental illness in our society? Ring parish office to express your interest and leave contact details. 4423 1712

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. These resources include Liturgical Prayers, Faith Circles for Small Group, Course on Prayer and the Catholic Faith and much more.



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

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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A reading from the prophet Jeremiah:

Ch 20: 7 -9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;

you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.

My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.

For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**

3. So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**

4. For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans. 12: 1- 2

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart,
that we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. 16: 21 - 27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, for anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Gospel Reflection – by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom.

The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I', but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

"Christian discipleship is not Stoic indifference. Both Peter's remonstrance and Jeremiah's complaint will often find echo in our hearts in the daily struggle to go with Jesus along the costly prophetic way." Fr Brendan Byrne SJ