



## St. Michael's Parish, Nowra

Incorporating the Catholic Communities of St Michael's, Nowra - St Patrick's, Berry - Sacred Heart, Bomaderry  
- Help of Christians, Culburra – St Joseph's, Kangaroo Valley - Holy Spirit, Vincentia

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26th Sunday in Ordinary Time A

27th September

2020

Season of Creation

### St. Michael's Feast Day

Patron of our parish

Saint Michael the Archangel is the leader of all angels and of the army of God. This is the meaning of the title "Archangel".

St. Michael has four main responsibilities or offices, as we know from scripture and Christian tradition.

- The first is to combat Satan.
- The second is to escort the faithful to heaven at their hour of death.
- The third is to be a champion of all Christians, and the Church itself.
- And the fourth is to call the faithful from life on Earth to their heavenly judgment.

From the Scriptures:

In The book of Daniel, St. Michael is mentioned twice. The first time as one who helped Daniel, and the second time he is mentioned regarding the end times of the world when he will stand for the "children of thy people." His next mention comes in the Epistle of St. Jude, where St. Michael is said to guard the tombs of Moses and Eve and has contended with Satan over the body of Moses.

The final mention is in Revelation, where St. Michael and his angels, do battle with the dragon.

There are other scriptures where St. Michael is implied, but not mentioned by name, such as the angel, who defends the gate to Paradise, who defends against Balaam, and "who routed the army of Sennacherib."

Today, St. Michael is invoked for protection, especially from lethal enemies. He is also the patron of soldiers, police, and doctors.

**Masses to celebrate this feast will be at the usual Tuesday masses 8:00 am at Nowra and 5:30pm at St Patrick's at Berry.**

#### *REFLECTION ON THE MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS for the 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees 27 September 2020*

*Like Jesus Christ, forced to flee.*

*Welcoming, protecting, promoting and integrating internally displaced persons.*

While the focus in Ireland for centuries was on those who emigrated less is told of those who had to leave their native county and head to Dublin. Country people who lived in the city found ways of staying in touch with the home place. They had their own pubs, dance halls, and Churches. I remember the shelves full of 'provincial newspapers' in newsagents and observing the hurried way in which people opened up the deaths, the parish notes, and the local GAA reports as they made their way to the till in Eason's. Dublin was still Ireland but it wasn't home. Wherever in the world this happens, where people migrate within their country, they are technically known in the world of migration as 'internally displaced people' (IDP's).

There was no technical term for country people living in Dublin, many made their home there and were happy, but many others fell into lonely states and carried the cross and sadness of displacement. This year, for the 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September, Pope Francis has asked us to remember those who are displaced in their own country. When Covid-19 hit we heard stories from countries like India and China where large numbers of people living in the cities found it near impossible to return to their families and the security of their rural homes.

In China there are two classes of internal migrants. There are *hukou* migrants and non-*hukou* migrants. The former are urban and privileged and can live where they want. Like those who enjoy the comfort of first class travel or private jets in our world – every society has its elites! The latter, non – *hukou* migrants are, for the large part, domiciled in rural areas. Though they live and work in urban centres in low-skilled and low-paid jobs they do not

have access to urban welfare benefits as they are registered to their rural address. Research in 2010 China recorded between 17-20 million *hukou* migrants and over 150 million non-*hukou* migrants.

Not all displacements are for economic reasons. People are regularly forced to take refuge in another parts of their country due to violence. Between the 17<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> of February this year over 37,000 people were displaced in the Kabkabyia locality of Northern Darfur as a result of frictions between farmers and herders. In the year ending 2018 there were close to 26 million refugees worldwide and up to 41 million IDP's due to violence in their countries<sup>[1]</sup>. We hear a lot about refugees but little about IDP's even though they are a significantly higher number.

This year Pope Francis heightens our awareness of this often forgotten group in our discussions on migration. He is pleading for those who can't be at home even though they are in their own country. His letter for this year's World Day of Migrant's and Refugees appeals to us:

- To know in order to understand,
- To be close in order to serve,
- To be reconciled, we need listen,
- To grow, it is necessary to share,
- To be involved in order to promote,
- To cooperate in order to build.

He concludes his letter by exhorting us that 'Building the Kingdom of God is a duty common to all Christians, and for this reason it is necessary that we learn to cooperate, without yielding to the temptation to jealousy, discord and division... To preserve our common home and make it conform more and more to God's original plan, we must commit ourselves to ensuring international cooperation, global solidarity and local commitment, leaving no one excluded'. This short piece has hopefully allowed us to know a little more for the plight of IDP's so we can understand a little more.

*from Sacred Heart Messenger (Ireland), September 2020 issue. By Fr Alan Hilliard, priest of the Archdiocese of Dublin.*



**DIOCESAN CLERGY CARE IN ACTION 2020**

**Caring for those who have cared for us— support the retirement and health of our clergy**  
It is the responsibility of our diocese to fund the support and care for the retirement and health of our diocesan clergy who have dedicated their lives in service of the Church. Each year, this support is partly funded by the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

It has been a turbulent year and our parishes have responded to the important need of staying connected with their communities in new and exciting ways through the provision of online Masses, digital faith resources and greater connection via social media platforms. Accordingly, this year, the Bishop's Annual Appeal will also support local parish ministries.

- Accommodation for 14 retired clergy:** 11 live on their own, 2 in retirement villages, 1 in aged care facilities
- 13 retired clergy receive domestic assistance.
- Clergy Care Coordinator, Sue Daniels** assists 4+ diocesan clergy with **Health care coordination - Holistic health & wellbeing support and education - Transport assistance - Short-term health care crisis advocacy - Long-term aging support**
- Priests never retire from their calling:** 10 retired priests provide sacramental ministry in parishes when the parish priest is on leave or unwell. 3 retired priests celebrate the sacraments for the residents in their retirement/ aged care facilities
- 4 additional clergy will retire in the next 5 years

**LOCAL PARISH MINISTRIES**

**Staying connected in 2020**

Online Masses - digital faith resources - social media connection

Your donate will  
Support for the retirement and health of our clergy, Support for local parish ministries OR Split 50/50  
**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO DONATE, VISIT [DOW.ORG.AU/GIVING](http://DOW.ORG.AU/GIVING)**

# 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	5:30 pm		11:30 am
Culburra				5:30 pm	
Bomaderry					5:30 pm
Vincentia	8:00 am	5:30 pm	5:30 pm	8:00 am	8:00 am
Kangaroo Valley		9:00 am	9:00 am	9:00 am	

To Register for weekend Masses in *Nowra, Culburra, Berry and Bomaderry*

**please call 0477 427 396** (Mon to Fri between 10:00am & 3:00pm)

To register for Mass at **Kangaroo Valley**, please email [ronankangaroo1@gmail.com](mailto:ronankangaroo1@gmail.com)

To register for Mass at **Vincentia**, please call 0435 862 156 or email [holyspiritvincentia@gmail.com](mailto:holyspiritvincentia@gmail.com)

**\*\*\* IF YOU HAVE REGISTERED FOR MASS AND ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND,  
PLEASE CALL TO CANCEL YOUR BOOKING.\*\*\***

## Confessions / Reconciliation

**Nowra:** Saturday: 9.30 – 10.30am

**Culburra:** Saturday prior to Vigil Mass at 5.00pm

**Vincentia:** Saturday 4pm

**Berry:** Tuesday following 5.30pm Mass

**Bomaderry:** Friday following 5.30pm Mass

This week includes the following celebrations:

**Sunday:** Mass of the **Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**. The gloria is said or sung. The creed is said.

**Monday:** The Optional Memorial of **Saint Wenceslaus**, Martyr,

**Tuesday:** The Feast of **Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**, Archangels. The gloria is said or sung.

**Wednesday:** The Memorial of **Saint Jerome**, Priest and Doctor of the Church.

**Thursday:** The Memorial of **Saint Therese of the Child Jesus**, Virgin and Doctor of the Church.

**Friday:** The Memorial of the **Holy Guardian Angels**.



We prayerfully remember the recently deceased and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially **Sarah Leban**. We pray also for all who have died from Covid-19 in Australia and worldwide. May they rest in peace.



**TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL**

FEEDBACK FROM MENTAL HEALTH GATHERINGS 21 September

Participants who attended the discussions on Mental Health, held in response to the recently released statement from the Australian Catholic Bishops, expressed appreciation for the opportunity provided.

Those in attendance came from a variety of areas of concern and discussed support, advocacy and awareness. It was resolved that we continue this initiative and you are invited to be part of this venture.

**“In our parish communities, our institutions and throughout the Church in Australia, we have a duty to break through the stigma of mental illness.”**

Contact Bernadette Pullen 0402136691

### **Entrance Antiphon**

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

### **A reading from the prophet Ezekiel** Ez 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

### **Responsorial Psalm** Ps 24:4-9.

**Response.** Remember your mercies, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.  
Lord, teach me your paths.  
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,  
and the love you have shown from of old.  
Do not remember the sins of my youth.

In your love remember me,  
because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright.  
He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians** Phil 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people’s interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia!

### **A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew** Mt 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, “My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not go,” but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, “Certainly, sir,” but did not go. Which of the two did the father’s will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’

### **Communion Antiphon**

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.