



St Michaels Community Groups

Newsletter- a supplement to the Parish bulletin to keep you informed.

April 18/19th edition

Anzac Day - Saturday 25th April

Family activity for Anzac Day: To show solidarity and our respects as a Parish Community, please create and bring poppies to the parish office or drop into the plastic containers at each Church (where the bulletins are collected from), before Anzac Day.

The poppies will be placed at the foot of the altar and Mass will be offered for all those who have given their lives in service of our nation and for all those in our Defence Force today.

Images of the Mass will be shared on our Facebook page and our website.

To make the poppies:

1. Cut out the individual cups of an egg carton.
2. Trim the egg cup to create petals.
3. Paint or decorate in red.
4. Use a black marker, paper or sticker to create the centre.



What a different Easter we have experienced! Did you feel in communion with our Diocesan community via the live-streamed Liturgies for Wollongong Cathedral? OR Maybe you took advantage of the televised Easter Mass from St Mary's Cathedral? OR Pope Francis in Rome? How blessed we are in this digital age to have access to such media.

Nevertheless, we are reminded that in the absence of our ability to gather, we are the domestic church. It is at home that we express our faith and our prayer. Remember our **website** and our **new Facebook page** offer supports worth exploring.

*If you are looking for other enrichments for your prayer at home, this might be a good time to explore the prayer of the **Divine Office** (Liturgy of the Hours) There is an easy link to it on our parish website. Many people pray the Liturgy of the Hours every day. It includes Psalms, Scripture readings, prayers of Intercession, with antiphons specific to each season.*

Many thanks to those people who volunteered to deliver bulletins and newsletters throughout the parish. Your efforts are much appreciated. If you know of someone in need of this service, please contact the parish office. We continue to update our parish email contact list. Send email addresses to office@nowraparish.org.au

All feedback & suggestions for this newsletter to-

Bernadette: bpullen@outlook.com.au

Sue: sbarker@goodsams.org.au

Fr Pat has provided a short Prayer Service which you might use at home (See next page >>>>>>>>)

A Commemorative Liturgy to pray at Home on ANZAC DAY

(Create a simple prayer space with a symbol of this national day)

Opening Prayer

Almighty everlasting God, who sent your Son to die, that we might live, grant, we pray, eternal rest to those who gave themselves in service and sacrifice for their country.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever **Amen**

From the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it.

anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me,

wherever I am my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**



Prayers of the faithful

Let us pray that God the Father, who graciously listened to the prayers of his beloved Son, may now be pleased to heed our sincere petitions.

1. For the shepherds of our souls, that they may have the strength to govern wisely the flock entrusted to them by the Good Shepherd; we pray to the Lord. (Response to each petition: **Lord hear our prayer.**)

2. For the whole world, in particular where there is conflict and violence, that it may truly know peace : We pray to the Lord. **R.**

3. For the human family worldwide currently affected by the coronavirus. May human lives be spared; and through medical expertise, and global cooperation may it be soon effectively controlled and eradicated. We pray to the Lord. **R.**

4. For the protection and wellbeing of all medical personnel at home and throughout the world who are being called on to minister to patients afflicted with the virus. We pray to the Lord. **R.**

5. For the well-being and contentment of the many war veterans who are sick or hospitalised throughout the land. We pray to the Lord. **R.**

6. For all who will pause and reflectively commemorate Anzac Day throughout the nation this day. May their prayers, and witness provide consolation to all who grieve those who died in war. We pray to the Lord. **R.**

7. We pray for all airmen, sailors, and soldiers, who served and bravely lost their lives in battle during times of conflict, especially members of the Australian and New Zealand service Corps. May they rest in the peace of Christ, and share in the glory of His Resurrection. We pray to the Lord. **R.**

AUSTRALIA LOST OVER 61,700 LIVES IN THE WWI (IN A POPULATION OF APPROX. 5 MILLION), NEW ZEALAND LOST CLOSE TO 17,000. THE WAR MEMORIAL IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL HAS MORE THAN 102,000 NAMES OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO DIED IN WAR TIME SERVICE. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT AUSTRALIA HAS MORE THAN 1,500 WAR MEMORIALS OF WW1.

The Ode:

**They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them
Nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun,
And in the morning,
We will remember them.**



**All. We will remember them.
Lest we forget!**

Close with the Our Father