



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH NOWRA

30 North St, Nowra NSW 2541

02 4423 1712

nowra@dow.org.au

www.nowraparish.au



27th Sunday in Ordinary time

05 October 2025

Pastor: Fr Damien Ellis (damien.ellis@dow.org.au)

Priests: Fr Victor Vincent (victor.vincent@dow.org.au)
Fr Ronan Kilgannon
Mgr Patrick Faherty (pat.faherty@dow.org.au)

Parish Secretary/ Sacramental Coordinator: Asha Joy
Finance Secretary: Anne Gonzaga
Catechist Coordinator: Veronica Passoni

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 09:30 am to 01:30 pm

Parish Schools: St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Nowra
St John the Evangelist Catholic High School, Nowra

Churches

Holy Spirit, Vincentia 23 St George Ave, Vincentia NSW	Our Lady Help of Christians, Culburra 126 The Lake Cct, Culburra Beach NSW	Sacred Heart, Bomaderry 46 Bunberra St, Bomaderry NSW
St Joseph's, Kangaroo Valley 130 Moss Vale Road, Kangaroo Valley NSW	St Michael's, Nowra 24 North St, Nowra NSW	St Patrick's, Berry 15 Albert Street, Berry NSW

Mass Times

Weekend Masses

Saturday

05:00 pm Culburra 05:00 pm Bomaderry

Sunday

08:00 am Berry 11:00 am Kangaroo Valley
09:30 am Nowra 05:00 pm Nowra
09:30 am Vincentia

Every First Saturday

10:00 am Nowra

Weekday Masses

Tuesday

08:00 am Vincentia 05:30 pm Berry

Wednesday

08:00 am Nowra 05:30 pm Vincentia

Thursday

08:00 am Vincentia 05:30 pm Culburra

Friday

08:00 am Vincentia 10:00 am Nowra

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Tuesday

In Berry after 05:30 pm Mass

Thursday

In Culburra before 05:30 pm Mass

Friday

In Vincentia after 08:00 am Mass
In Nowra from 09:00 to 10:00 am Mass

Every First Saturday

In Nowra from 09:00 to 10:00 am Mass

Entrance Antiphon: Esther 4:17

Within your will, O Lord, all things are
established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and
the earth, and all that is held within the circle
of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

First Reading: Habakkuk

How long, Lord, am I to cry for help
while you will not listen;
to cry 'Oppression!' in your ear
and you will not save?
Why do you set injustice before me,
why do you look on where there is tyranny?
Outrage and violence, this is all I see,
all is contention, and discord flourishes.
Then the Lord answered and said,
'Write the vision down,
inscribe it on tablets
to be easily read,
since this vision is for its own time only:
eager for its own fulfilment, it does not deceive;
if it comes slowly, wait,
for come it will, without fail.
See how he flags, he whose soul is not at rights,
but the upright man will live by his faithfulness.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 94

**If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

- 1) Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.
- 2) Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.
- 3) O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1

I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift
that God gave you when I laid my hands on you.
God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the
Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So
you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to
the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his
prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the
sake of the Good News, relying on the power of
God. Keep as your pattern the sound teaching
you have heard from me, in the faith and love
that are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted
to look after something precious; guard it with
the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

Gospel Acclamation: 1 Peter 1:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

The word of the Lord stands for ever;
it is the word given to you, the Good News.

Alleluia!

Gospel : Luke 17: 5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, '**Increase our faith.**' The Lord replied, '**Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.**
"Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, "Come and have your meal immediately"? Would he not be more likely to say, "Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards"? Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, "We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty."

Communion Antiphon: Lam 3:25

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.

Reflection

How much faith does one have to have? How much faith is enough? How is it possible to measure one person's faith against another? When the disciples asked Jesus to increase their faith, what exactly were they asking of him? These fishermen and nobodies chosen as disciples by Jesus must surely have had moments of realisation that they were not the sorts of young men normally chosen by Rabbis to be disciples. They must have looked around at the disciples of other teachers and seen that, by comparison, they weren't really in the same league. So they ask Jesus to increase their faith. What they're saying is: make us more like the sorts of people we think we should be. Jesus counters their request by telling them that if they had faith the size of a tiny mustard seed they could accomplish great things. It's not a matter of how much faith one has but what they do with it. How much faith does it take to do great things? Jesus says that it only takes the tiniest scrap of faith. Jesus follows up this statement by pointing out to the disciples that no matter how small the amount of faith, it carries with it a responsibility and duty to act upon it. One shouldn't be looking for acclaim and special treatment when one acts out of faith as that is simply what is expected. The gift of faith carries with it a duty to live that faith and act upon it.



We pray for:

Sick: Jessica Arnold

Death Anniversaries: Eduardo Paliza

Recently Deceased: Vivian Haywood, Mary Bell, Nadia, Max Bristow, Gail Dennison and Vince Stambuk

Saints/ Feast Days of the Week

05/10/2025

**Sts. Placidus and Maurus
St. Faustina Kowalska**

06/10/2025

**St. Bruno of Calabria, priest, Founder of Certosini
St. Mary Francis of the Five Wounds, Virgin, Franciscan**

07/10/2025

**St. Mark, Pope
Sts. Sergius e Bacchus, Martyrs of Syria**

08/10/2025

St. Pelagia, Virgin and Martyr of Antioch

09/10/2025

**St. John Henry Newman
Sts. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs of Paris
St. John Leonardi, Founder of the Clerics Regular of the
Mother of God
St. Abraham, Patriarch**

10/10/2025

**St. Paulinus, Bishop of York, Disciple of St. Gregory the
Great
Sts. Daniel, Samuel and Companions, first Franciscan
Martyrs**

11/10/2025

**St. Philip, Deacon
St. Alexander Sauli, Bishop of Pavia
St. John XXIII, Pope**

Anointing Mass in Berry

On Tuesday, 21 October at 10.30am. St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Berry will be hosting its annual Anointing of the Sick Mass.

Mass will be followed by lunch in the hall. Please bring a plate to share.

This Sacrament continues Jesus' healing ministry for physical, emotional and spiritual healing and provides spiritual comfort, forgiveness of sins and hope. It is also appropriate for the elderly to receive an Anointing. Everyone most welcome to this most important Mass.

Note – There will be no 5.30pm. Mass that afternoon.

Annual Public Rosary for Peace

When: Saturday 11th October at 10am

Where: Marriott Park Nowra

Why: public prayer is a powerful witness and an opportunity to pray for the needs of our world, countries, communities and families. We join with thousands of other groups around the world praying for the same intentions. We strongly encourage you to join us and bring someone with you for about an hour. Light refreshments served afterwards.

For more information please contact Shannon
0414521404

You can directly come in, **No Registration required**

HOLY SPIRIT COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING

Date: 12 October 2025

Following the 09:30 am Mass

Fr Damien will be attending

All parishioners are encouraged to attend to keep up to date on various matters affecting our Holy Spirit Community

HOLY SPIRIT PASTORAL COMMITTEE MEETING

19 October 2025 after 09:30 am MASS

ST VINCENT DE PAUL NOWRA

The Nowra Conference of St Vincent de Paul is urgently seeking volunteers to join it in providing emergency assistance to vulnerable members of our community in Nowra, Worrigea and Bomaderry. Our mission is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor. We assist upwards of 60 people each week. If anyone is interested in volunteering for a few hours each week or fortnight please contact Judith on 0447 480 253.

Sacramental Program of First Holy Communion

During the Spring break - 27th September to 12th October 2025 the Sacramental Leaders are also on break and will not be available. Parents and Carers are strongly encouraged to still bring their children to Mass over this period. The Programme resumes again on 18/19 October 2025. See you then.

Holy Hour + Fellowship

You are invited to join us for Sanctus Summit-regular adoration & fellowship nights, primarily for youth and young adults, at **St Michael's Nowra**, starting at **6.30pm** in the Church.

The night consists of a Holy Hour which includes Vespers (Divine Office prayers), Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction followed by a supper and fellowship in the Parish Centre afterwards.

These nights are held on every **2nd & 4th Tuesdays** of **each month**. Sanctus Summit in September:

Next: **14th Oct.**

Bring a friend along and feel free to bring a plate to share for supper. See you there!

Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Catholic Women's League Nowra will be hosting a Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass on Saturday the **25th October at 10am at St Michael's Nowra** followed by a light lunch.

If you are celebrating or have celebrated a Significant Wedding Anniversary this year or last year (40, 50, 60 years and over) and would like to join us please call Katherine Brandon on 0411023943.

RSVP by the end of September. Thank you.

Foundations: Moving in the Power of the Holy Spirit

- CAMPBELLTOWN Tuesday 14 October, 7–9 pm
- WOLLONGONG & ZOOM Wednesday, 15 October, 7–9 pm

Registration: <https://dow.sh/fpocht2025>

Cost: Free

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses..." (Acts 1:8)

When we try to do things in our own strength, we can quickly become burned out, resentful, or lose hope. Parish renewal is too big a task for any one of us. As St Paul reminds us, "we can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13). It is God's Church, God's mission, and God's power that we need.

This formation will explore how we can grow in openness to the Spirit's presence, learn to recognise His promptings, and move confidently in His power. Together we will reflect on how the Holy Spirit equips us to persevere with joy, sustain hope, and bear fruit that endures for the renewal of our communities and the transformation of the world.

Vocaris: Testimony Night! Saturday, 4 Oct (6 - 10pm) Wilton Community Centre: Main Hall, 20 Broughton Street

Inviting all young adults (over the age of 18) to our next VOCARIS, a testimony night – a powerful evening of faith, testimonies, and community, brought to you by the Vocations Promotions Team! Whether you're a regular at events or brand new, you're so welcome here.

What's for Dessert? HOT CHOCOLATE STATION

For more details and registration visit: dow.sh/4mlVvrD

Mission Mindset Retreat

Saturday, 18 October 2025 12pm St Mary Star the Sea Parish Centre, Gerringong

We are all called to mission, wherever we are and whatever we are doing. We are missionaries of the everyday. Join NET Ministries Australia & New Zealand as they dive into what it means to have a mission mindset. Whether you're interested in mission or wondering what it looks like in our church, come along and bring a friend. We hope to see you there atop the beautiful hill overlooking Gerringong!

RSVP by Thurs 16 October via email to

youth@dow.org.au or register

dow.org.au/events/mission-mindset-retreat

Milton Overnight Young Adult and Families Pilgrimage

Young Adults around the diocese are invited to join a special overnight pilgrimage at St Mary Star of the Sea, Milton as we conclude this Year of Jubilee. Experience festival vibes: camping on the hill behind the church, live music, food truck, late night adoration, talks, a pilgrimage walk up to the Church, and Mass with Bishop Brian Mascord.

Details:

When: Saturday 15 November, 1pm arrival to Sunday 16 Nov 12pm

Where: St Mary Star of the Sea, Corks Lane Milton

How to get there: Carpooling is highly recommended. Buses will be available (numbers depending) from Wollongong and Campbelltown

Cost: Free! Dinner available for purchase on Sunday night.

For more details, including schedule and registration: visit dow.sh/miltonp. Don't forget your pilgrim passports to get stamped as you record your journey and receive guidance for reconciliation and how to gain a plenary indulgence. Gather your friends, bring your swags or tents and come as Pilgrims of Hope!

Diocese of Wollongong Men's Prayer Breakfast Launch

Friday, 28 November 6:30am-8am

Xavier Conference Room, 38 Harbour St Wollongong

Guest Speaker: Peter Abela

Enjoy a breakfast buffet, prayer and inspiring guest speaker input.

Be supported and inspired by other men, seeking to be authentic disciples on mission.

RSVP: Monday, 17 November dow.sh/mpb25

Cost: \$20

The Men's Prayer Breakfast Series is organised by the Office of Renewal and Evangelisation and menALIVE in the Diocese of Wollongong

Save the Date – Formation Opportunities in Liturgy

Two Formation Opportunities in Liturgy will take place on Saturday 1 November at Holy Family Parish, Ingleburn. Following Mass for All Saints at 9am, the first session for Lectors will run from 9.45am to 10.30am.

After a break for morning tea, the second session will focus on Lay Leadership in the absence of a Priest and the ministries involved, finishing around midday.

Registration details will be available next week.

What's on around the Diocese?

Check out upcoming formation courses, youth events, walks, camping and jubilee events – too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit

dow.sh/weeklybulletin

to see everything that is on around our Diocese!

NATIONWIDE MARCH FOR PALESTINE IN NOWRA

STARTING AT

HARRY SAWKINS PARK

OPP COUNCIL CAR PARK

Sunday 12 Oct

12 noon

2 years of a calculated Genocide in Gaza

For more info;

Insta: [shoalhavenfriendsofpalestine](https://www.instagram.com/shoalhavenfriendsofpalestine)

FB: ShoalhavenfriendsofPalestine SFOP

