



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH NOWRA

30 North St, Nowra NSW 2541

02 4423 1712

nowra@dow.org.au

www.nowraparish.au



26th Sunday in Ordinary time

28 September 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)

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: Daniel 3

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.

First Reading: Amos 6

The almighty Lord says this:

Woe to those ensconced so snugly in Zion and to those who feel so safe on the mountain of Samaria. Lying on ivory beds and sprawling on their divans, they dine on lambs from the flock, and stall-fattened veal; they bawl to the sound of the harp, they invent new instruments of music like David, they drink wine by the bowlful, and use the finest oil for anointing themselves, but about the ruin of Joseph they do not care at all. That is why they will be the first to be exiled; the sprawlers' revelry is over.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 145

Praise the Lord, my soul!

- 1) It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free.
- 2) It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down. It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger.
- 3) He upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age.

Second Reading: I Timothy 6: 11-16

As a man dedicated to God, you must aim to be saintly and religious, filled with faith and love, patient and gentle. Fight the good fight of the faith and win for yourself the eternal life to which you were called when you made your profession and spoke up for the truth in front of many witnesses. Now, before God the source of all life and before Jesus Christ, who spoke up as a witness for the truth in front of Pontius Pilate, I put to you the duty of doing all that you have been told, with no faults or failures, until the Appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who at the due time will be revealed by God, the blessed and only Ruler of all, the King of kings and the Lord of lords, who alone is immortal, whose home is in inaccessible light, whom no man has seen and no man is able to see: to him be honour and everlasting power. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: 2 Corinthians 8:9

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty.

Alleluia!

Gospel : Luke 16: 19-31

Jesus said to the Pharisees: *'There was a rich man who used to dress in purple and fine linen and feast magnificently every day. And at his gate there lay a poor man called Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to fill himself with the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even came and licked his sores. Now the poor man died and was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried.*

'In his torment in Hades he looked up and saw Abraham a long way off with Lazarus in his bosom. So he cried out, "Father Abraham, pity me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames." "My son," Abraham replied "remember that during your life good things came your way, just as bad things came the way of Lazarus. Now he is being comforted here while you are in agony. But that is not all: between us and you a great gulf has been fixed, to stop anyone, if he wanted to, crossing from our side to yours, and to stop any crossing from your side to ours."

'The rich man replied, "Father, I beg you then to send Lazarus to my father's house, since I have five brothers, to give them warning, so that they do not come to this place of torment too." "They have Moses and the prophets," said Abraham "let them listen to them." "Ah no, father Abraham," said the rich man "but if someone comes to them from the dead, they will repent." Then Abraham said to him, "If they will not listen either to Moses or to the prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone should rise from the dead."

Communion Antiphon: Psalms 118

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



St Michael, The Archangel- September 29th- Our Parish Patron

Both the Old and New Testaments teach us of the existence of Angels and Archangels reminding us that God's creation is more than what we see and observe in the world. The angels are by nature 'spirits'



created by God to communicate, to protect and to guide us. The Church frequently refers to the Angels in the Liturgy. The name Michael the Archangel is recorded four times in Scripture, – who is our patron, means 'the one who is like God'. The Archangel Michael in Christian tradition is invoked as the guardian of the Church and also as the patron saint of Police.

PARISH HISTORY IN BRIEF:

The Shoalhaven Mission was established in 1863, and extended from Broughton Creek in the north, south to include Ulladulla. However, Archbishop John Polding had made numerous pastoral visits to the region since his arrival in 1835. In 1865 an old slab chapel which stood adjacent to the Catholic Cemetery in North St., was reconstructed in cruciform style. Following the destructive floods of the 1860s and 70s in the Terara-Numbaa district plans for the main township of the Shoalhaven were transferred to Nowra.

On November 30th 1875 Archbishop Roger Bede Vaughan blessed the foundation stone for a new Church in Nowra. **On September 29th, 1877 the Feast of Michael the Archangel**, Archbishop Vaughan arrived by steamer at the Greenwell Point Wharf, and was given a rousing welcome by the delighted parishioners, he blessed and opened the Church next day Sunday September 30th.

According to 'a report on the mission' at that time, the Shoalhaven mission extended approximately 80 miles. Milton-Ulladulla was established as a separate parish in 1890. An additional 20 feet and the Choir loft were added to St. Michael's Church in 1921. St Michael's as the parent Church and parish Centre established and sustained other Mass centres within the parish. St Patrick's Berry c 1870, the present Church 1936. St Joseph's, Kangaroo Valley 1888. Sacred Heart Bomaderry 1962. Mary Help of Christians, Culburra 1977. Holy Spirit, Vincentia- 1983 (Mass had been celebrated at Jervis Bay periodically since 1890).

The Presbytery was built in 1887.

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan arrived in Nowra in 1893, and taught at St Michael's School. The Sisters of St Joseph came to Berry in 1891, and taught at St Patrick's School. (St Mary MacKillop visited Berry on at least two occasions.)

St John the Evangelist High School was established in 1990. The building known as the Convent School and Parish Hall opened in 1918, was renovated and redesigned at the Parish Centre in 2007.

In his Apostolic Exhortation, The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis wrote: (#28), "The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration..... The Parish is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach."

St Michael the Archangel: Pray for us.



We pray for:

Sick: **Jessica Arnold**

Death Anniversaries: **Judith Benson, Iris Rhodes and Susan Keenan**

Recently Deceased: **Max Bristow, Gail Dennison, Vince Stambuk, Helene Murphy and Bishop Patrick Power** (Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Canberra-Goulburn)

Saints/ Feast Days of the Week

28/09/2025

St. Wenceslaus, Duke of Boemia, Martyr
Sts. Lorenzo Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs
St. Eustachius, Virgin, daughter of St. Paula

29/09/2025

St. Michael, Archangel
St. Gabriel, Archangel
St. Raphael, Archangel

30/09/2025

St. Jerome, priest and Doctor of the Church
St. Simeon, Earl of Crépy
St. Francis Borgia, Jesuit

01/10/2025

St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Carmelite, Virgin Doctor of the Church, Patron of the Missions

02/10/2025

Sts. Guardian Angels

03/10/2025

St Candida, Martyr on the via Portuense

04/10/2025

St. Francis of Assisi, Founder of the Franciscan Order, Patron of Italy

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/fpoc2025>

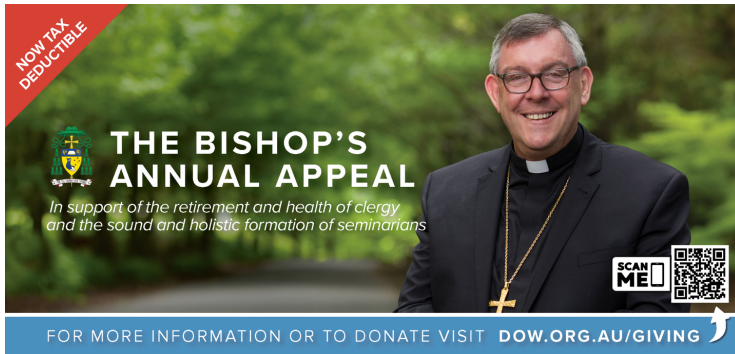
Cost: Free

"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.

Bishop's Annual Appeal



The Bishop's Annual Appeal will be promoted in our diocese during the month of September. A special collection will take place on the weekends of **20/21 & 27/28 September**.

To find out more or make a tax deductible donation please visit www.dow.org.au/giving, scan the QR code or call (02) 4222 2400 to make a donation over the phone.

"Our faith calls us to help one another through prayer and action. Offering dignified support and care for our retired clergy, who have always cared for us; and the sound and holistic formation of our Seminarians, our future priests, are my responsibilities as your Bishop. I seek your prayers and practical support to help me ensure that I can do this. Your donation to this appeal is very much appreciated."

Blessing of Animals

As usual, the Blessing of Animals will take place at **the Parish of Saint Michael, 325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul on the Monday of the long weekend, 6 October at 9:30am**. The blessing takes place in the courtyard next to the church. All animals under 800kg and their carers/handlers are welcome, though please keep the larger pythons on a tight leash. The feast of St Francis of Assisi is on Saturday, 4 October, and there will be a special Mass at 9:30am – animals are welcome at that Mass.

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

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

Changes in MASS

This week there will be a mass on **Monday 29th September 2025** for the feast of St Michael (Archangels) at **08:00 am** in **St Michael's Nowra**.

Also since the clergy retreat starts this week, there will not be any weekday masses this week except for the **10:00 am** Mass on **Friday** at **St Michael's Nowra**.

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!

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.