



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH NOWRA

30 North St, Nowra

nowra@dow.org.au

02-44231712

nowraparish.au

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A

SUNDAY
7TH
DECEMBER
2025



Parish staff

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

Emeritus Pastor: Mgr Patrick Faherty (pat.faherty@dow.org.au)

Priests: Fr Victor Vincent (victor.vincent@dow.org.au)
Fr Ronan Kilgannon

Parish Secretary/ Sacramental Coordinator: Asha Joy

Finance Secretary: Anne Gonzaga (nowrafinance@dow.org.au)

Catechist Coordinator: Veronica Passoni (Mon & Wed, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm)

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

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

Churches

St Michael's
Nowra



Our Lady Help of
Christians
Culburra Beach

Sacred Heart
Bomaderry



St Patrick's
Berry

St Joseph's
Kangaroo Valley



Holy Spirit
Vincentia

MASS TIMES

Saturday

5PM Culburra & Bomaderry

****Every first Saturday****
10AM Nowra

Sunday

8AM Berry

9.30AM Nowra & Vincentia

11AM Kangaroo Valley

5PM Nowra

Tuesday

9.30AM Nowra

5.30PM Berry

Wednesday

7.30AM Nowra

5.30PM Vincentia

Thursday

7.30AM Nowra

5.30PM Culburra

Friday

10AM Nowra

5.30PM Kangaroo Valley

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday

Berry- after 5.30PM Mass

Wednesday

Vincentia- before 5.30PM
Mass

Thursday

Culburra- before 5.30PM
Mass

Friday

Kangaroo Valley- before
5.30PM Mass

Nowra- 9AM to 10AM

First Saturday

Nowra- 9AM to 10AM

Entrance Antiphon

Isaiah 30

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in
the joy of your heart.

First Reading

Isaiah 11: 1-10

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion
thrusters from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord
rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of
counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the
fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances, he gives no
verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with
integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor
of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the
ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked.
Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness
the belt about his hips. The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to
lead them. The cow and the bear make friends,
their young lie down together. The lion eats straw
like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the
Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root
of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations and its home will
be glorious.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 71

**R: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of
peace for ever.**

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the earth's bounds.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name.

Second Reading

Romans 15: 4-9

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures
was meant to teach us something about hope from the
examples scripture gives of how people who did not
give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us
when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant
with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus,
so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to
the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each
other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you.
The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised
Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out
the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get
the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as
scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you
among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached
in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message:
'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'
This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he
said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for
the Lord, make his paths straight. This man John wore a
garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round
his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then
Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district
made their way to him, and as they were baptised by
him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But
when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees
coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers,
who warned you to fly from the retribution that is
coming? But if you are repentant, produce the
appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell
yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because,
I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from
these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the
trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit
will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in
water for repentance, but the one who follows me is
more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his
sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his
threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but
the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

Communion Antiphon

Baruch 5: 5

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God

Coming up this week

Sunday- 07/12/25

Monday

Mass at 7:30 am, St Michael's Nowra

Tuesday

Adoration at 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Sanctus Summit at 6:30 pm, Nowra

Wednesday

Craft group 9:30-12pm, Parish centre, Nowra

Choir Practice at 3:30 pm, Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary at 5:00 pm, Vincentia

Thursday

Adoration at 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary at 5:00 pm, Culburra

Stella Maris study and prayer group

starting with 5.30 mass, Culburra

Choir Practice at 6:15 pm, Nowra

St Joseph's Mens Adoration Group

8pm-6am, Nowra

Friday

Craft group 10am - 12pm, Vincentia

Rosary 5pm, Bomaderry

Soup kitchen fortnightly, Nowra School of Arts Annex, contact Shannon Chittick & Sue Hill

Saturday

The Man Walk at 7:30 am @Providence

Blue Cafe, Sanctuary Point

PRAY FOR:



Sick: Jessica Arnold and Kyri Pavlis

Death Anniversaries: Patricia O'Dwyer and Vincent Muller

Recently Deceased: Agatina Naivalu and Paul Ballemey

Diocesan Events

Stouthearted men's program - coming in 2026

Stouthearted is a new Jesus centred men's program designed to meet a desperate need in men. It's an 8-week program that draws from well-known experts, shares powerful teachings and models real world conversations.

In addition to the main sessions, there are short daily reflections that include video input, bible study, and self-reflection.

The Stouthearted program will be running in Wollongong will be beginning on **Monday 2 February and finishing on the last Monday of March.**

More about the program: stouthearted.com.

To register: dow.sh/stouthearted

Parish Notices

Parish Pastoral Council election this weekend!

Today we elect our new Parish Pastoral Council—a milestone moment for our parish community. Please take time after Mass to cast your vote at dow.sh/vote25 (paper ballots available where needed).

As we begin this next chapter together, I invite everyone to keep praying:

"Come, Holy Spirit. Fill the hearts of your faithful. Enkindle in us the fire of your love. Renew our parish in faith, hope, and mission."

Thank you to all who have prayed, nominated, and discerned with such generosity of spirit. May those called to serve on our new Council help us live the vision of a parish that is alive with the joy of the Gospel, faithful to Jesus, and eager to bring His love to the world."

Blessings,
Fr Damien
Pastor

Furniture Pick-Up & Delivery Help Needed

We are seeking assistance with the collection of nine (9) library chairs from St John the Evangelist Catholic High School Library and delivery to St Michael's Catholic Primary School Library. Pick-up and delivery must occur during school hours.

If you are able to help, please contact:

- Moira Anderson at St John the Evangelist – 4423 1666 or
- Karen Delany at St Michael's – 4421 3630

Your support is greatly appreciated!

Adoration Chapel

On Thursday some weeks ago, the Blessed Sacrament was adored for 24 hours straight due to rostered adorers and people popping in. SO GOOD! Please sign in when you visit the chapel, even if it's just for 2 minutes.

If Mass is being held in the church, please vacate the chapel.



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH NOWRA

Parish Events

Calling all Angels, Shepherds and Choir members!

All children of St Michael's Parish are invited to take part in the **Christmas Eve Family Mass** as Angels and Shepherds. If you would like to be involved, please come to the rehearsal on **Sunday 21st Dec at 4:30pm** in **St Michael's Hall**. The Christmas Eve Family Mass will commence with **Carols at 6:30pm**. If teenagers/adults would like to be a part of the choir or band for the Mass, please join the rehearsal on **Wednesday 17th Dec at 7pm** in **St Michael's Hall**. For more information, contact: Sophie Pavlis (0439 018 374) or Frances Fairs (0427 475 339).

Sacramental Program of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion & Confirmation

This weekend is Enrolment Weekend for the programme in 2026. If your child is in Year 3 or above and has been Baptised, then they may register in the Reconciliation & First Holy Program for this year after Mass. If your child is in Year 6 or above who have been Baptised, received their Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, may register for the Sacrament of Confirmation. There is an expectation that the Candidates will attend Mass on a weekly basis and attend the scheduled lessons with their parents/carers.

Soup Kitchen donations for Christmas

The Soup Kitchen has their annual Christmas Party on **12th December**. We are in need of non perishable small gift donations to make the patrons a small gift each. For some of these people it will be the only Christmas gift they will receive. If you have anything small, toiletries, socks, etc for men or women please leave them in the basket in the foyer of the church. Or see Sue and Shannon

Guadalupe: Mother of Humanity Screening

There is an ENCORE screening at Empire Cinema Bowral on **10th December at 10 am**. For more details, please refer to the Church Notice Board.

Carols Practice

There will be practice for Christmas Carols on **Thursdays, at 6.15 PM** in the **Nowra Parish Hall**. For details, please call Andrew: 0412133761

Christmas Carol & Christmas Party

Holy Spirit Vincentia Christmas Carol Celebration will be on **Saturday 13th December at 5pm**, before our first Vigil Mass at 6pm. Our choir and Sing Australia will lead us on a joyful musical experience.

Annual Christmas party at Holy Spirit Vincentia will be on **Sunday 14th December** following 10am Mass. Come and enjoy the festive spirit

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A special Mass will be celebrated on **Monday at 7:30 AM** in **St Michael's, Nowra** in honour of the Solemnity of the **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. All parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

Important Parish Notice: Upcoming Changes to Weekend Mass Schedules

(Will begin from the Weekend of 13–14 December 2025)

Saturday Vigils

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Bomaderry – 4:00 pm
Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church, Culburra – 5:30 pm
Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Vincentia – 6:00 pm

Sunday Masses

St Patrick's Catholic Church, Berry – 7:30 am
St Michael's Catholic Church, Nowra – 9:30 am
Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Vincentia – 10:00 am
St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kangaroo Valley – 11:30 am
St Michael's Catholic Church, Nowra – 6:00 pm

Carols by the Convent

The Young Adults of St Michael's warmly invite you to Carols by the Convent, a family-friendly carols evening on the beautiful lawns and in the church of St Patrick's, Berry. In the midst of the festive season's busyness, may we take a moment to pause - to reflect, to listen, and to recognise the quiet presence of God among us.

When: **Sunday, 14th December at 7:30pm**

Where: **St Patricks Church, Berry**

BYO Dinner from 6pm, on the St Patrick's Church grounds