



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SHOALHAVEN

📍 30 North St, Nowra

✉️ nowra@dow.org.au

☎️ 02-44231712

🌐 nowraparish.au

**EASTER
SUNDAY**
RESSURECTION
OF THE LORD

SUNDAY
5TH
APRIL
2026



MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil
4PM Bomaderry
5.30PM Culburra
6PM Vincentia

Sunday
7.30AM Berry
9.30AM Nowra
10AM Vincentia
11.30AM Kangaroo Valley
6PM Nowra

Monday
9.30AM 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

First Saturday
10AM Nowra

Parish staff

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

Parochial Vicars: Fr James Arblaster (james.arblaster@dow.org.au)
Fr Darren McDowell (darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au)

Retired Priests: Mgr Patrick Faherty (Emeritus Pastor)
Fr Ronan Kilgannon

Parish Secretary/ Sacramental Coordinator: Asha Joy
Finance Secretary/Catechist Coordinator: Veronica Passoni
Finance email: nowrafinance@dow.org.au

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 10:30 am to 2:30 pm

Parish Schools: St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Nowra (Ph: 02 4421 3630)
St John the Evangelist Catholic High School, Nowra (Ph: 02 4423 1666)

Churches

St Michael's
Nowra

Sacred Heart
Bomaderry

St Joseph's
Kangaroo Valley



Our Lady Help of
Christians
Culburra Beach

St Patrick's
Berry

Holy Spirit
Vincentia

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday
Berry- before 5.30PM Mass

Wednesday
Vincentia- before 5.30PM
Mass

Thursday
Culburra- before 5.30PM Mass

Friday
Nowra- 9AM to 10AM

First Saturday
Nowra- 9AM to 10AM

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 138

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia

First Reading

Acts 10:34. 37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 117

**R: This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

Second Reading

Colossians 3: 1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation

1 Corinthians 5: 7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia !

Gospel

John 20: 1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Communion Antiphon

1 Corinthians 5: 7-8

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened
bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

Coming up this week

Tuesday- 07/04/26

Adoration at 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Wednesday- 08/04/26

Choir Practice at 03:30 pm, Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary at 05:00 pm, Vincentia

Thursday- 09/04/26

Adoration at 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary at 05:00 pm, Culburra

Choir Practice at 6:15 pm, Nowra

St Joseph's Mens Adoration Group

8pm-6am, Nowra

Saturday- 11/04/26

The Man Walk at 7:30 am @Providence Blue

Cafe, Sanctuary Point

Diocesan Notices

Sanctus- Rosemeadow

Join us for Sanctus Summit at our **Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow on Wednesday 15 April 2026**.

Sanctus Summit is a monthly adoration night, bringing together youth and young adults from different parts of the Diocese! Eucharistic Adoration from 6.30 – 7.30pm (Reconciliation will be available), followed by dinner at Ambarvale Hotel.

Come along to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and connect with other young people from the area!

Diocesan Youth Sports Festival

Young people from ages 15 to 35 are invited to come together for the very first Diocesan Youth Sports Festival- a huge day of sport, faith and community.

When: **Saturday 18 April 2026**

Time: **9.30am – 3.30pm**

Where: **Holy Spirit College, Bellambi**

Cost: **\$50 per team | \$10 per person**

Morning tea and a **BBQ lunch** are included, and the day will finish with Mass celebrated by **Bishop Brian Mascord at St Columbkille's Church in Corrimal**.

Register here: dow.sh/youthsportsfest

PRAY FOR:

Sick: **Kyri Pavlis, Andrea Mullins, Margaret & John Broomhead, John Owen and Ian Cartledge**

Recently Deceased: **Max Watt, Patricia Downes and Maria Vicencio**

Death Anniversary: **Tom Guthrie, Jim Colnan and Marie Crocker**

Parish Events

Community Group Meeting in Vincentia

Sunday 12th April

Following 10:00 am Mass in the Church Hall.

All welcome to attend and participate. Coffee, tea and nibbles will be available

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Stella Maris Prayer and Study Group

Stella Maris Prayer and Study Group Meets on Thursdays during school term at 6.30pm, after Holy Hour Rosary and Mass.

All welcome for prayer, talks and a shared meal.

(please BYO plate to share.)

Contact 0435 336 195

Mary Help of Christians Feast Day Luncheon

Celebrate the Feast Day of Mary Help of Christians with a luncheon at **Culburra Bowling Club** on **Sunday, 31 May 2026 at 12 midday**.

Cost: \$30 per person.

For bookings or enquiries, please contact **Kerrie** on **0411 787 449** or **Daphne** on **0448 963 573**.

Parish Notices

Anzac Day Ceremony

St John's High School warmly invites parishioners to attend the **ANZAC Day Ceremony** on **Thursday, 30 April 2026**. Guests are asked to be seated by **9.30am** for a **9.45am** commencement.

Please **RSVP** by **28 April** to info@sjedow.catholic.edu.au. Defence personnel are requested to attend in **ceremonial uniform**.

Anzac Day Mass

ANZAC Day is about commemoration and tradition.

St Michael's Parish will once again commemorate the day with the traditional ANZAC Day Mass at **8.00am**.

This year is special for the Parish as it is the 70th anniversary of the first ANZAC Day Mass celebrated in the Parish. Whether you are going to the Dawn Service or planning to attend the March, the Mass fits in well to that timetable.





ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

SHOALHAVEN

Parish Notices

Feast of the Divine Mercy

There will be a Divine Mercy holy hour to celebrate the feast of Divine Mercy - **12th April** (the Sunday after Easter) from **3 - 4pm** at **Saint Michael's Nowra**. There are wonderful blessings attached to celebrating this feast given to us by both Jesus himself to saint Faustina and through the church. You are encouraged to join us on this special day. There will be prayers, songs, confession, adoration, and veneration of the Divine Mercy image. If possible please bring a small plate to share for a time of fellowship following the holy hour in the foyer of the church. Thank you

RCIA - Becoming Catholic

It is wonderful news that our parish has 20 people becoming Catholic this coming Easter. Please keep them in your prayers. How about you or your friends / family? Do you feel God calling you or someone you know to become Catholic? Perhaps you are Catholic and would like to complete your initiation within the Catholic church? We would love to hear from you and support you in this exciting journey of faith and life? If you are interested in having an initial discussion please contact Fr Darren (darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au) or calling the Parish Office on 4423 1712.

Join Our Parish Counting Team

Are you available on Mondays between 10:30am and approximately 12:30pm to assist at the Nowra Parish Office? Do you feel called by the Holy Spirit to serve our community? Are you comfortable handling and counting money? If you answered "yes" to these questions, we warmly invite you to join our parish team in counting the weekly collections. No prior experience is required—full training will be provided. If there is strong interest, we can organise a fortnightly or monthly roster—what a blessing that would be! To express your interest and register your availability, please contact Veronica Passoni, Finance Secretary on nowrafinance@dow.org.au or call on 02 44231712

Easter Message



The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:5

This Easter, in 2026, we pause and find ourselves in a world that faces uncertainty, rapid change, and moments that are testing our resilience. Across our world we see challenges that remind us how interconnected we truly are, but also how strong we can be when we stand together.

Easter is the story of resurrection, the triumph of life over death, of hope over despair, a story of renewal. It reminds us that through the risen Christ, we are reminded that no darkness is too great for God's light, and no burden is beyond God's power to redeem. What seemed like an ending became a new beginning, offering us a living hope that endures through every season. Even after the darkest moments, light can return, hope is not fragile, it is enduring—that new beginnings are always possible, even when they seem distant.

In a time when many feel weary or uncertain, this promise calls us back to faith: that God is still at work, bringing renewal where it is needed most. The resurrection assures us that suffering is not the final word, love is. Grace is. Life is.

At Easter, we celebrate not just tradition, but the quiet courage of people everywhere: those who keep going, who care for others, who choose kindness when it's easier not to. These everyday acts are what shape a better future.

As we reflect this Easter, may we open our hearts to that hope, not as wishful thinking, but as something we actively build in our communities, in our conversations, and in the way we show up for one another. May we be renewed in spirit, strengthened in faith, and inspired to share Christ's love through compassion, kindness, and unity with those around us.

I wish you a blessed Easter filled with peace, joy, and the enduring hope found in the risen Lord. He is risen, bringing light to our world and hope to every heart and a sense of purpose this Easter. Brighter days are ahead, and we will reach them together.

Yours in Christ

Most Rev Brian G Mascord DD
BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG