



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SHOALHAVEN

30 North St, Nowra

nowra@dow.org.au

02-44231712

nowraparish.au

**SECOND
SUNDAY
OF
EASTER**

**SUNDAY
12TH
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

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



Our Lady Help of
Christians
Culburra Beach

Sacred Heart
Bomaderry



St Patrick's
Berry

St Joseph's
Kangaroo Valley



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

1 Peter 2: 2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 2: 42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone. The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed. They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 117

R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love has no end.'

I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.

The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1: 3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a

short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

John 20: 29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia !

Gospel

John 20: 19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon

John 20: 27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Coming up this week

Sunday- 12/04/2026

Community Group Meeting after 10:00 am
Mass, Vincentia

Tuesday- 14/04/26

Adoration at 7:30 am, Vincentia
Rosary at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Wednesday- 15/04/26

Choir Practice at 03:30 pm, Vincentia
Adoration & Rosary at 05:00 pm, Vincentia

Thursday- 16/04/26

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- 18/04/26

The Man Walk at 7:30 am @Providence Blue
Cafe, Sanctuary Point

PRAY FOR:

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

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

Death Anniversary: **Salvina Pulis**



Divine Mercy Sunday

This Sunday, the Church celebrates Divine Mercy Sunday, established by Pope Saint John Paul II and inspired by St. Faustina Kowalska.

It is a day to remember God's infinite mercy and His desire to forgive and bless all who turn to Him with trust.

The Church offers a Plenary Indulgence under the usual conditions:

- Reconciliation
- Holy Communion
- Prayer for the Holy Father
- Freedom from attachment to sin

Parishioners are encouraged to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, especially at 3:00pm, the Hour of Mercy.

"Jesus, I trust in You."

Diocesan Events

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 day of sport, faith and community.

When: **Saturday 18 April 2026**

Time: **9.30am – 2pm**

Where: **Holy Spirit College, Bellambi**

Cost: **\$50 per team | \$10 per person.** Lunch included

More details + registration: dow.sh/youthsportsfest

If you'd like to join the Nowra team, contact Aidan Villadolid on 0481 137 393 by Tuesday 14th April.

Compass Catholic Family Camping Weekends

Registrations are now open for our next CCFC Weekend planned for **Friday 15 - Sunday 17 May**.

Join with families from across the Diocese for a relaxed weekend of family fun, faith and food!

For more information and to register go to: dow.sh/familycamping26

Formation Pathway | Leading People Well

Our next Formation Pathway evening will focus on the practical side of leading people well. The session will explore several areas that often determine whether teams thrive or struggle.

If you are involved in any form of leadership or ministry, this evening will offer practical help for one of the most important parts of leadership: caring for and guiding people well.

All are welcome.

- **CAMPBELLTOWN Tuesday 21 April 7-9pm**
- **WOLLONGONG & ZOOM Wednesday 22 April 7-9pm**

To register: [Dow.sh/fpaprill2026](https://dow.sh/fpaprill2026)

Parish Events

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**.

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**.



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH

SHOALHAVEN

Parish Notices

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.

RCIA - Becoming Catholic

Over Easter we welcomed over 20 people into our Catholic faith.

How about you? Do you feel God calling you or someone you know to become Catholic? Our RCIA process begins on the 4th May at 5:30pm here at St Michael's Parish Centre.

If you are interested in enquiring about becoming Catholic we would love to hear from you and support you in this exciting journey. Please contact Fr Darren (darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au) or call the Parish Office on 4423 1712, for an initial discussion and confirm that you can come along on the 4th May.

Catholic Women's League Nowra

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 14th April** in the Nowra Parish Centre, starting at **10:15 am**.

Please note the later start to our meeting is to accommodate those who would like to attend the 9:30 am Mass at St. Michael's Church

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

Pastor's Update



Dear Parishioners,

As the planning process continues, I believe it is important to emphasise that the restoration of the presbytery is not simply a building matter in isolation. It is closely connected to the pastoral life of our parish and to the practical needs of the priests who serve across our six church communities.

Through consultation and planning, it has become clear that suitable, centralised accommodation for our priests is an important part of the future functioning of the parish. Temporary arrangements have enabled us to manage in the short term, but they are not a suitable long-term solution. A restored and functional presbytery at St Michael's would provide a central base for priestly ministry, support the daily pastoral needs of the parish, and allow other parish properties to be used more effectively.

The work undertaken so far with architects and advisers has helped us move from a general awareness of problems to a clearer understanding of what is required. While there is still more work to do before final decisions are reached, the parish is steadily progressing through the necessary stages. I am grateful to the Finance Council and to all those assisting with this process. I ask you to continue to pray for our parish, that we may make wise and prudent decisions for the good of both the present and the future.

Fr Damien Ellis

Anniversary Mass

Mass to celebrate the first anniversary of the death of our Deacon Peter Presdee will be held on **Saturday, April 18 at 10am in St Michael's Church, Nowra**.

Morning tea will follow in the Parish Centre.

All are most welcome

St Joseph's Adoration Group - Men praying for their wives

Are you single, married or widowed, and willing to sacrifice one hour to pray for your wife/future wife?

All you need to do:

- 1) Choose one hour between Thursday evening 6pm and Friday morning 6am.
- 2) Contact Patrick 0435 364 403