



# ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SHOALHAVEN

📍 30 North St, Nowra

✉️ [nowra@dow.org.au](mailto:nowra@dow.org.au)

☎️ 02-44231712

🌐 [nowraparish.au](http://nowraparish.au)

**FOURTH  
SUNDAY  
OF  
EASTER**

**SUNDAY  
26TH  
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](mailto:damien.ellis@dow.org.au))

**Parochial Vicars:** Fr James Arblaster ([james.arblaster@dow.org.au](mailto:james.arblaster@dow.org.au))  
Fr Darren McDowell ([darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au](mailto: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](mailto: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 32: 5-6*

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made,  
alleluia.

## First Reading

*Acts 2:14. 36-41*

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

## Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 22*

**R: The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

## Second Reading

*1 Peter 2: 20-25*

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## Gospel Acclamation

*John 10: 14*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

**Alleluia !**

## Gospel

*John 10: 1-10*

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.'

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come

are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:

he will go freely in and out

and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life

and have it to the full.'

## Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

## Coming up this week

Tuesday- 28/04/26

**Rosary** after 5:30 pm Mass, Berry

**Adoration** at 7:30 am, Vincentia

**Rosary** at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Wednesday- 29/04/26

**Choir Practice** at 03:30 pm, Vincentia

**Adoration & Rosary** at 05:00 pm, Vincentia

Thursday- 30/04/26

**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

**Stella Maris Prayer Group** at 6:30pm, Culburra

**St Joseph's Mens Adoration Group**

8pm-6am, Nowra

Friday- 01/05/26

**Rosary** at 5:00 pm, Bomaderry

Saturday- 02/05/26

**The Man Walk** at 7:15 am for coffee before  
walk @Providence Blue Cafe, Sanctuary Point

## PRAY FOR:

Sick: **Bill Hilzinger, Kyri Pavlis,  
Margaret Broomhead, John Owen and  
Ian Cartledge**

Recently Deceased: **Walter Galbraith, Blake  
Marshall and Robert Luxford**

Death Anniversary: **Pope Francis, Bishop Peter  
Ingham, Deborah Davis, Klaudio Krstic and  
Voni Muller**

**Requiem Mass for Robert Luxford will be on  
Tuesday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am at St Michael's**

## Diocesan Events

### 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](http://dow.sh/familycamping26)



## Mary Help of Christians Walk for Life

**Friday 22 & Saturday 23 May**

Join walkers raising praying for Australia for all life  
issues - the elimination of abortion, euthanasia,  
suicide, family breakdown, and to pray for Australia's  
Government. We unite our prayer with sacrifice and  
entrust everything to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Day 1: Kiama Coastal Walk to Gerringong (13km)

Day 2: Gerringong to Shoalhaven Heads (16km)

For more information contact

- Sue Hill - 0435336195  
Email: [sueandpeterhill@gmail.com](mailto:sueandpeterhill@gmail.com)
- Gabriella De Battista - 0414 205 404

## Ephphatha: Be Opened!

**Calling young men 18-35 years old**

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is called  
"Good Shepherd Sunday" and is the  
World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

We take this opportunity to invite all  
unmarried young men aged 18-35

who are open to discerning God's call in their lives to  
join Bishop Brian Mascord, the priests of the  
Vocations Team and our Seminarians for lunch,  
formation, Q&A, one to one chats and Adoration.

Register as soon as you can!

**Where:** St Therese Parish, 2 Powell Street West  
Wollongong

**When:** Saturday 13 June, 12:30pm for 1pm lunch

**Cost:** Free, but registration is essential – through this  
QR code or go to [dow.sh/Ephphatha](http://dow.sh/Ephphatha)



## 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](mailto: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**.

### Men's Night Out

We meet on the first Friday of the month at the  
Bomaderry Bowling Club at **6:30pm**.

You are most welcome to join us on next **Friday,  
May 1st**.

For any enquiries please call Colin Blundell  
0412584364.



# ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SHOALHAVEN

## Parish Notices

### Paschal Candle Contributions

With grateful hearts, we invite parishioners to contribute towards the purchase of Paschal candles for our church. The Paschal candle is a beautiful symbol of the risen Christ, the Light of the World, and holds a central place in our liturgical celebrations, especially during the Easter season.

Contributions may be made according to the size of the candle selected. Previous Paschal candles will be given to those who contribute. We thank you for helping us continue to mark our worship with dignity, beauty, and reverence.

### Would you like to Become Catholic?

Have you been inspired by our celebration of Easter and would like to begin a journey into becoming Catholic. Our RCIA process begins again on the 4th May at 5:30pm here at St Michael's parish centre. We would love to hear from anyone who is interested in enquiring about becoming Catholic.

Please contact Fr Darren ([darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au](mailto: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. We look forward to supporting you on this exciting journey of faith and life.

### Sacraments

Please keep in your prayers the children preparing to receive the **Sacrament of Confirmation**, which will be celebrated by **Bishop Brian Mascord** on **Tuesday 28 April at 6.00 pm** and **Thursday 30 April at 7.00 pm**.

We have also begun registrations for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. The first orientation session will be held on **Sunday 10 May at 4.00 pm**, with an alternative session on **Monday 11 May at 4.00 pm**.

### Barbara Sweeny Poetry Collection

Barbara Sweeny was a faithful parishioner who died in September 2024.

She was blind and loved to compose poems and prayers, then type and give them as presents to many people.

Sue Delaney is looking for copies of Barbara's poetry and hopes to compile a book to honour her memory. Please leave poems at the Parish Office for Sue.

### Information for the Parish Bulletin

If you wish to have relevant information published in this Parish Bulletin please submit your notice to the Parish Office, [nowra@dow.org.au](mailto:nowra@dow.org.au) no later than 2:30pm, WEDNESDAY for the upcoming weekend bulletin.

### Liturgical Ministers Ongoing Formation Dates - Advance Notice

We give heartfelt thanks to everyone who serves our parish in the liturgy— acolytes, servers, sacristans, musicians, readers, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, collectors, welcomers, and more! Your generous service helps our community to worship God with reverence and joy.

To support and deepen these vital ministries, we will be holding a series of **Liturgical Formation Sessions**. These gatherings are an important opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the liturgy, grow in confidence in your role, and ensure that our celebrations remain faithful and unified, and to standardise best practices across our six churches. **All current ministers are strongly encouraged to attend**, and new volunteers are most welcome.

**Session Dates (9:30am–12:00pm, including morning tea):**

- **27 June:** Acolytes, Servers, and Sacristans
- **16 July** (10:00am -12:30pm): Communion to the Sick and Homebound
- **25 July:** Musicians
- **15 August:** Lectors/Readers
- **22 August:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

**Location:** Parish Centre, Nowra

Please register via the **QR code** provided, or contact the parish office.

