



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SHOALHAVEN

30 North St, Nowra

nowra@dow.org.au

02-44231712

nowraparish.au

**SIXTH
SUNDAY
OF
EASTER**

**SUNDAY
10TH
MAY
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

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

Coming up this week

Sunday- 10/05/26

Mother's Day Morning Tea at 8:30 am, Berry

Tuesday- 12/05/26

Rosary after 5:30 pm Mass, Berry

Adoration at 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Sanctus Summit at 6:30 pm, Nowra

Wednesday- 13/05/26

Choir Practice at 3:30 pm, Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary at 5:00 pm, Vincentia

Thursday- 14/05/26

Adoration at 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary at 8:00 am, Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary at 5:00 pm, Culburra

Stella Maris Prayer Group at 6:30pm,
Culburra

St Joseph's Mens Adoration Group 8pm-
6am, Nowra

Friday- 15/05/26

Rosary at 5:00 pm, Bomaderry

Saturday- 16/05/26

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

Leo's Lens by Nick Brodie

The Church, as Pope Leo XIV puts it, is called 'to be certain that the Holy Spirit guides us and teaches us all things.' Jesus calls us to 'remain in his love,' as the Pope reminds us, so that thereby 'he comes to dwell in us and our life will become a temple of God.' Yet this indwelling of Jesus is more than a personal fuzzy feeling. 'His love enlightens us,' the Pope adds, which 'influences the way we think and act.' In our attitudes and actions, Jesus' love 'spreads outwards to others and embraces every situation in our lives.' 'This dwelling of God within us,' the Pope continues, 'is precisely the gift of the Holy Spirit, who takes us by the hand and enables us to experience God's presence and closeness amid our daily lives, for he makes us his home.' With that great mystery in mind, the Pope implores us to 'walk in the joy born of faith, in order to become a holy temple of the Lord.'

'Let us resolve to bring his love everywhere,' the Pope encourages us, 'never forgetting that each of our sisters and brothers is a dwelling place of God and that his presence is manifested above all in the little ones, in the poor and the suffering.'

PRAY FOR:

Sick: **Maria Graham, Bill Hilzinger, Margaret Broomhead, John Owen and Ian Cartledge**

Recently Deceased: **Fr John Pickering, Elsie Crabb, Louis Sammut, Timothy Kennedy, Margaret King, Colin Prior and June Handley**

Death Anniversary: **Frank Padovan, Peg O'Riordan**



Mother's Day Blessing

This Mother's Day, we give thanks for all mothers and motherly figures, whose love, strength, and sacrifices reflect God's care for us.

We honour those who nurture, guide, encourage, and support their families each day. We also remember with love the mothers who are no longer with us, giving thanks for the memories and love they have left in our hearts.

May God bless all mothers today and always.
Happy Mother's Day.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

We live in hope because we have been blessed with the opportunity of participating in the exaltation of Jesus. This hope is based on promises: the promise that we will not be left orphaned when Jesus returns to his Father; the promise that we will be comforted by the Spirit whom Jesus will send. It is trust in God that enables us to live in this world as if the promises have already been fulfilled, for in fact, it is precisely such living that fulfils them.

We have not celebrated the Ascension, and yet all three readings speak of the Spirit. The same Spirit, who quickened the resurrected life of Jesus, enlivens us. This Spirit strengthens, comforts, guides and inspires us. Life in the Spirit requires that we conform our lives to the commandments of God, not in a legalistic or constraining way but out of love. The love that comes to us through the Spirit will then overflow into the lives of others, and we will be agents of God's love in the world.

The Spirit given by Christ is mediated through the laying on of hands. This still happens in our day in the gentle touch of friends, in the loving touch of parents, in the healing touch of those who cure both the body and the spirit. The liturgical year is preparing us for the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and Jesus is preparing us for life in the Spirit here on earth. This is the reason for our hope.

Parish Events

Catholic Women's League Nowra

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 19th May** in the Nowra Parish Centre, starting at **10:15 am**. Please note the date has been changed from 12th May to the 19th May.

Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes

Parishioners are kindly reminded to return their **Project Compassion boxes and envelopes** to the church by **Sunday, 10 May**.

Your generosity and support make a real difference in the lives of those experiencing poverty and hardship. Thank you for walking with us in solidarity with the poor and for helping bring hope, dignity, and practical assistance to communities in need.

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 Office Closure

With gratitude for your understanding, please note that the Parish Office will be closed on **Tuesday 12 May**. We pray this day brings peace and blessing to all our parishioners and families.

Celebrating 55 Years of Priestly Ordination

Solemn Pontifical Mass for the 55th anniversary of the Priestly Ordination of the Rev. Father Ronan Kilgannon, Hermit of the Diocese of Wollongong, will take place at St. Joseph's Church Kangaroo Valley on **Thursday the 14th of May at 11:30am**. The Mass will be offered by the Most Reverend Tony Percy Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Sydney. Father Ronan has spent many years in Kangaroo Valley living in quiet contemplation, praying for the church and assisting with the pastoral needs of the Shoalhaven and Diocese of Wollongong.

We wish him a very happy and blessed anniversary!



Parish Notices

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.

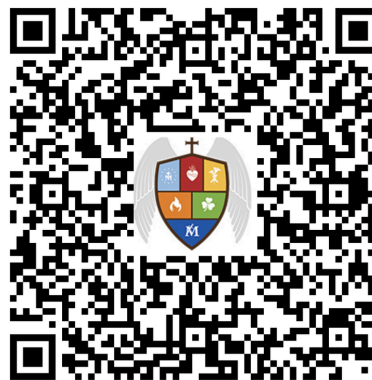
To support and deepen these vital ministries, we will be holding a series of **Liturgical Formation Sessions**. These gatherings are an important opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the liturgy, grow in confidence in your role, and ensure that our celebrations remain faithful and unified, and to 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.



A Grace-Filled Step Toward Reconciliation

This week, our children and their families begin the orientation session for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Our hope and prayer is that, through this sacramental journey, parents and children will grow as intentional disciples—with hearts eager to know, love, serve, and follow Jesus more deeply through the fruitful reception of the sacraments.

Please keep these children and their families in your prayers, and support them with encouragement as they take this important step in their faith journey.

Entrance Antiphon

Isaiah 48: 20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard;
proclaim to the ends of the earth:
The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 65

R: Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men.

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3: 15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear

conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong. Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel Acclamation

John 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia !

Gospel

John 14: 15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:
'If you love me you will keep my commandments.
I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments and
keeps them
will be one who loves me;
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my
Father,
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

Communion Antiphon

John 14: 15-16

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.