



# ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SHOALHAVEN

Berry

Bomaderry

Culburra

Kangaroo Valley

Nowra

Vincentia

📍 30 North St, Nowra

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

☎️ 02-44231712

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

**13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A**

**28 June 2026**



## 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

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

## Reflection - Fr Darren

*We Gather to Celebrate*

How we gather for mass is important, the way we gather prepares us for what we are about to do and receive. For instance, I'm sure you prepare very differently for a wedding, a small intimate dinner with a friend or two, or a day out at the footy or other sports event.

So, how do we prepare and gather for mass? Our gathering begins when we decide to come to mass. We begin by reflecting on our week with its joys, struggles, hopes and fears. We bring our intentions, for ourselves, our neighbours and the world. We realise that we come at Jesus' invitation, joining our lives together and to Christ himself in a real spiritual way in order to give thanks and praise to God.

After the Gathering Hymn we acknowledge our sins. We ask God's forgiveness in order that we can worthily give thanks as his priestly people. The gathering concludes with the Opening Prayer or Collect. At the beginning of this prayer the priest says 'Let us pray'. It is here, in this moment, that each of us offers the intentions we have brought to this mass. The priest then prays this prayer as a way of drawing all our prayers together into a unified prayer to God.



## Saturday Vigil

4pm Bomaderry

5.30pm Culburra

6pm Vincentia



St. Michael's  
NOWRA

## Sunday

7.30am Berry

9.30am Nowra

10am Vincentia

11.30am Kangaroo Valley

6pm Nowra



Sacred Heart  
BOMADERRY

## Monday

9.30am Nowra



St Patrick's  
BERRY

## Tuesday

9.30am Nowra

5.30pm Berry

## Wednesday

7.30am Nowra

5.30pm Vincentia



Our Lady Help  
of Christian's  
CULBURRA

## Thursday

7.30am Nowra

5.30pm Culburra



St Joseph's  
KANGAROO VALLEY

## Friday

10am Nowra

## First Saturday

10am Nowra



Holy Spirit  
VINCENTIA



## 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

Psalms 46:2

All peoples, clap your hands.  
Cry to God with shouts of joy!

## First Reading

2 Kings 4:8-11. 14-16

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

## Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 88

*(R.) Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.*

I will sing for ever of your love,  
O Lord;  
through all ages my mouth will  
proclaim your truth.  
Of this I am sure, that your love  
lasts for ever,  
that your truth is firmly  
established as the heavens. **(R.)**

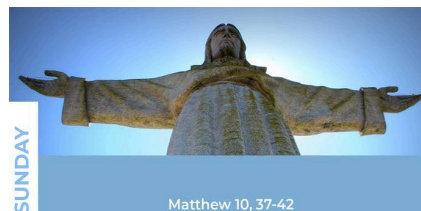
Happy the people who acclaim  
such a king,  
who walk, O Lord, in the light of  
your face,  
who find their joy every day in  
your name,  
who make your justice the  
source of their bliss. **(R.)**

For it is you, O Lord, who are  
the glory of their strength;  
it is by your favour that our  
might is exalted:  
for our ruler is in the keeping of  
the Lord;  
our king in the keeping of the  
Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

## Second Reading

Romans 6:3-4. 8-11

When we were baptised in  
Christ Jesus we were baptised  
in his death; in other words,  
when we were baptised we  
went into the tomb with him  
and joined him in death, so that  
as Christ was raised from the  
dead by the Father's glory, we  
too might live a new life.  
But we believe that having died  
with Christ we shall return to  
life with him: Christ, as we  
know, having been raised from  
the dead will never die again.  
Death has no power over him  
any more. When he died, he  
died, once for all, to sin, so his  
life now is life with God; and in  
that way, you too must  
consider yourselves to be dead  
to sin but alive for God in Christ  
Jesus.



## Gospel Acclamation

1 Peter 2: 9

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You are a chosen race, a royal  
priesthood, a holy people.  
Praise God who called you out  
of darkness and into his  
marvellous light.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 10:37 – 42

Jesus instructed the Twelve as  
follows: 'Anyone who prefers  
father or mother to me is not  
worthy of me. Anyone who  
prefers son or daughter to me is  
not worthy of me. Anyone who  
does not take his cross and  
follow in my footsteps is not  
worthy of me. Anyone who finds  
his life will lose it; anyone who  
loses his life for my sake will find  
it.

'Anyone who welcomes you  
welcomes me; and those who  
welcome me welcome the one  
who sent me.

'Anyone who welcomes a  
prophet because he is a prophet  
will have a prophet's reward;  
and anyone who welcomes a  
holy man because he is a holy  
man will have a holy man's  
reward.

'If anyone gives so much as a  
cup of cold water to one of  
these little ones because he is a  
disciple, then I tell you solemnly,  
he will most certainly not lose  
his reward.'

## Communion Antiphon

Psalm 102:1

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all within me, his holy  
name.

## PRAY FOR:

Sick: **Kevin Owens, Peter Rose, Brenda Relf, Maria Graham, Bill Hilzinger, Margaret Broomhead, John Owen** and **Ian Cartledge**

Recently Deceased: **Marcia Ellis** and **Charles Tabone**

Death Anniversary: **Anton Slatina**

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## Coming up this week

Tuesday- 30/06/26

**Adoration** at 7:30 am,

Vincentia

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

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

Berry

**Reconciliation** at 4:30 pm,

Berry

**Reconciliation** at 6:30 pm,

Nowra

Wednesday- 01/07/26

**Craft Group** at 9:30 am,

Nowra

**Choir Practice** at 3:30 pm,

Vincentia

**Reconciliation** at 4:00 pm,

Vincentia

**Adoration & Rosary** at 5:00

pm, Vincentia

**Faith Circles** at 7:00 pm,

Nowra

Thursday- 02/07/26

**Adoration** at 7:30 am,

Vincentia

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

**Adoration & Rosary** at 5:00

pm, Culburra

**Stella Maris Prayer Group**

at 6:30 pm, Culburra

**St Joseph's Mens Adoration**

**Group** 8pm-6am, Nowra

Friday- 03/07/26

**Craft Group** at 10:00 am,

Vincentia

**Rosary** at 5:00 pm,

Bomaderry

Saturday- 04/07/26

**The Man Walk** at 7:15 am for

coffee before walk

@Providence Blue Cafe,

Sanctuary Point

**Baptism** at 11:00 am, Nowra

## Catholic Care Cross + Gen Technology

Calling Senior parishioners from all mass centres.

Don't miss the opportunity to update your tech knowledge. Its FREE!

### Session Dates & Times

Mondays 9:30am - 11am

- 27 July
- 3 August
- 10 August
- 17 August
- 24 August

**Location:** St John the Evangelist  
31 John Purcell Way, Nowra  
NSW 2541

Refreshments provided at each session.

### To book your place:

Contact Jane Hollier

0417 018 152

janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au

## Parish Event

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### Winter Appeal- Nowra SVDP

The St Michael's Nowra Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society will be conducting its Winter Appeal at the Sacred Heart Church, Bomaderry and at St Michael's Church, Nowra on the weekend of 4/5 July. Please give what you can to enable us to continue to assist some of the most vulnerable members of our society.

## Parish Notice

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### Faith Circles - Scripture Reflection

The scriptures, especially our Sunday readings, are an important way of coming to know the person of Jesus and grow in our faith. We have two groups currently in the parish:

- Fortnightly on Wednesdays, 7pm in the St Michael's Parish Centre. Next will be on Wednesday 1st July
  - Weekly on Tuesdays, 2pm at Holy Spirit Vincentia
- Everyone is most welcome to attend.

## Prayer at Council

Shoalhaven City Council recently passed a motion to reintroduce a formal Opening Prayer at the start of meetings, replacing the current policy of silent reflection. This motion passed by a narrow margin and the proposal is now on public exhibition for community feedback as part of the draft Code of Meeting Practice.

Visit the Council's Documents on Exhibition page to comment

(<https://www.shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au/Council/Publiclyavailable-information/Documents-on-exhibition>).

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World Day  
for Grandparents  
and the Elderly  
2026

6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly will be celebrated on **Sunday July 28th 2026**.

I will never forget you (Is 49:15)  
Dear brothers and sisters,  
Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord

promises that he will never forget any of us. He assures us that he has engraved our faces on the palms of his hands (cf. Is 49:16) and that his love is greater than a mother's love for her child (cf. Is 49:15). **Pope Leo**

# Parish Notices

## Liturgical Ministers Formation Dates

Our upcoming **Liturgical Formation Sessions** are important opportunities for all our liturgical ministers to grow in appreciation for Mass, and to standardise best practices across our parish with its six churches. **All current ministers are expected to attend the session relevant to their ministry.** New volunteers are very welcome. If you cannot attend, please contact Fr James so alternative arrangements can be made for you.

**Session Dates (9:30am–12:00pm. Morning tea included):**

- **16 July:** Communion to Sick and Housebound (10am–12:30pm)
- **25 July:** Music Ministry (incl Choir Members)
- **15 August:** Lectors/Readers
- **22 August:** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- **31 October:** Welcomers & Collectors

**Location:** Parish Centre, Nowra  
Please register via the **QR code** provided, or contact the parish office.



## Sacrament of Reconciliation

Please keep in your prayers the children who will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the following dates:

### Tuesday 30 June

4:30pm — St Patrick's, Berry  
6:30pm — St Michael's, Nowra

### Wednesday 1 July

4:00pm — Holy Spirit, Vincentia

May God bless them as they take this important step in their faith journey.

## RCIA Group Gathering

Are you interested in becoming Catholic, or have been away from the Church for a long time? We are beginning a second RCIA group on Thursday mornings beginning 9th July at 10am at St Michael's Parish Centre. If you are interested please contact Fr Darren on 0403544938 or [darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au](mailto:darren.mcdowell@dow.org.au)



## A Message of gratitude and appreciation: Fr Pat

I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the many parishioners who helped prepare my Diamond Jubilee Mass, and Morning Tea on Friday June 19th. It was a very communal, joyful and indeed memorable occasion. Thank you to the many parishioners across the parish who participated and also to many people who came from elsewhere. I am most grateful to the many parishioners who have sent your sincere and prayerful good wishes. What priesthood is all about obviously means so much to each of you! Thank you to the priests of the parish for facilitating and supporting the celebration. I have offered Mass for the intentions and well-being of all. May the Lord continue to bless and protect you, your families, and all near and dear to you.



## Thank you to the Nowra branch of the CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE

A huge thank you to the Nowra Branch of CWL for undertaking the enormous task of setting up, decorating the hall, preparing food, serving and then cleaning up as the parish celebrated Fr Pat's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood last Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June.

Thanks also to all the parishioners for your generous support with the morning tea.

