



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH SHOALHAVEN

Berry

Bomaderry

Culburra

Kangaroo Valley

Nowra

Vincentia

📍 30 North St, Nowra

✉️ nowra@dow.org.au

☎️ 02-44231712

🌐 nowraparish.au

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

6 Sep 2026



"Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them"

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

Property Manager: Donna Rainsford (nowra@dow.org.au)

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

Message from our Pastor

6th Week: Shared Responsibility



This week, the readings speak strongly about responsibility. Ezekiel is called to be a watchman. The Gospel reminds us that we are responsible for one another. St Paul tells us that love fulfils the law. So I need to speak plainly. Our parish is facing a serious and unsustainable financial situation. Maintaining our ministries, staff, sacramental life, buildings, administration, compliance, and pastoral care requires regular and committed support. At present, our giving is not enough to meet the real cost of parish life. If our situation does not change, we will need to explore every responsible option available to us so that the parish can become sustainable and continue its mission into the future. This is not a moment for fear or blame. It is a moment for prayer, honesty, and shared responsibility. This week, I ask you to pray:

Lord, what responsibility are you asking me to take for the future of this parish?



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 Berry
5.30pm Nowra



Wednesday

7.30am Nowra
5.30pm Vincentia



Thursday

7.30am Nowra
5.30pm Culburra



Friday

10am Nowra

First Saturday

10am Nowra



Tuesday

Nowra- 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

LITURGY

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 118:137,124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord
with your merciful love.

First Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 94

*(R.) O that today you would
listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.*

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord.
(R.)

Come in; let us bow and bend low;

let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand.
(R.)

O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel Acclamation

2 Corinthians 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!
God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself;
and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Communion Antiphon

Psalm 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for
running streams,
so my soul is yearning for you,
my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the
living God.

Renewed & Sent: Parish Renewal Summit

**St Gregory's College,
Campbelltown, 1-3 October
2026.**

Join clergy, religious, lay leaders,
ministry volunteers and
parishioners from across the
Diocese of Wollongong for three
days of inspiring keynote
presentations, practical
workshops, prayer, and
opportunities to connect with
others who share a passion for
the future of our parishes.

This opportunity aligns with
Bishop Brian Mascord's Come &
See, Go & Make: A Vision for
Parishes, helping us to grow as
communities where people
encounter Jesus, become his
disciples, and are sent to share
the Gospel.

For the full program and
registrations, visit
renewedandsent.com.au.

CWL Nowra

CWL Nowra branch will be
holding a toiletry drive for
Talbot House/John Purcell
House (accommodation for
homeless men) and Sassi
(Shoalhaven Homeless Hub)
crisis accommodation for
women and children).

Suggested items include
deodorants, shampoos,
conditioner, toothpaste
toothbrushes, soap, shaving
cream.

There will be a basket available
at **St Michael's Nowra, St
Patrick's Berry, Our Lady Help
of Christians Culburra and
Sacred Heart Bomaderry** on
12/13th September.

Thank you...Your support is very
much appreciated.... If you have
any queries please contact
Katherine on 0411 023943.

Catholic Chaplaincy at UOW

UOW students and staff are
warmly invited to become
involved with the UOW Catholic
Society.

Mass and lunch **12:30pm
Thursdays** during semester,
Building 11 Club Room

Marriage and Relationship Education

CatholicCare's Marriage and
Relationship Education support
couples to strengthen and renew
their relationship. Guided by
experienced facilitators, you'll
build connection through
practical tools and shared
learning. Choose Prepare for
couples planning marriage or
Enrich to deepen and strengthen
your bond.

To learn more or register, call
1800 967 894

Counselling at CatholicCare

Feeling overwhelmed or finding
things difficult? CatholicCare's
team of counsellors are here for
you. Our caring counsellors
support children, adults, couples,
and families through life's
challenges.

Appointments are available in-
person, online, or by phone on
1800967894.

Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass

Are you celebrating or have you
celebrated a significant
wedding anniversary this
year....25, 30, 40, 50, 60+
years?"

If so please consider celebrating
your significant milestone at **St
Michael's Church Nowra** on
Saturday 17th October 2026
commencing with Mass at 10am
followed by light luncheon in
the parish hall...hosted by CWL
Nowra Branch

This is a wonderful occasion for
the parish community to
honour and celebrate the gift of
Christian marriage.....please
RSVP to Katherine 0411023943
by **10/10/2026**

Coming up this week

Tuesday- 8/09/26

Adoration 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary 8:00 am, Vincentia

Craft Group 9:00 am, Berry

CWL Meeting 10:00 am,
Nowra

Faith Circles 2:00 pm,
Vincentia

Sanctus Summit 6:30 pm,
Nowra

Wednesday- 9/09/26

Craft Group 9:30 am, Nowra

Choir Practice 3:30 pm,
Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary 5:00 pm,
Vincentia

Faith Circles 7:00 pm, Nowra

Thursday- 10/09/26

Adoration 7:30 am, Vincentia

Rosary 8:00 am, Vincentia

Adoration & Rosary 5:00 pm,
Culburra

Choir Practice 6:30 pm,
Nowra

Stella Maris Prayer Group
6:30 pm, Culburra

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

Friday- 11/09/26

Craft Group 10:00 am,
Vincentia

Rosary 5:00 pm, Bomaderry

Saturday- 12/09/26

The Man Walk 7:15 am for
coffee before walk

@Providence Blue Cafe,
Sanctuary Point



Parish Notices



Season of Creation

Pope Leo XIV said Mass at the Laudato Si' Village to mark the annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and the start of the Season of Creation—"an ecumenical journey of prayer and commitment to safeguarding our common home".

The pope said, "Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development". "Today, we are witnessing many crises and much human suffering. At the same time, it seems that the disruption to the harmonious balance of creation is accelerating, said the pontiff. "These phenomena are not unrelated; they are a single plea for healing and peace arising from a wounded world. "The God of life, revealed in Jesus Christ, offers a peace that the world cannot give: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you' (Jn 14:27). This peace is neither superficial nor fleeting; it flows from the enduring love of Christ and his care for every human person. "War leaves wounds that extend far beyond the battlefield. It claims lives, tears families apart and forces millions to flee their homes, thereby deepening fear, injustice and division. War also leaves behind social and ecological destruction that endures for generations."

The Vatican asks the Church and other Christian communities to renew their commitment to creation through prayer, conversion, and concrete acts of stewardship.

Shared Responsibility

This week's readings call us to responsibility. Ezekiel is appointed as watchman. The Gospel reminds us that we are accountable to one another. St Paul tells us that love fulfils the law. Our parish is facing serious financial pressure. The cost of maintaining our ministries, buildings, staff, sacramental life, administration, compliance, and pastoral care is greater than our current regular giving. If our situation does not change, we will need to explore every responsible option available to us so that the parish can become sustainable and continue its mission into the future. This is not about fear. It is about honesty, love, and responsibility. This week, please pray: Lord, what responsibility are you asking me to take?

Roof Repairs Holy Spirit Vincentia

Repairs to the church roof are scheduled to take place from **19th October to 27th November**.

During this time, masses will be held in the **Jervis Bay Baptist Church** on **Wednesdays** at the usual time of **5:30pm**, on **Saturdays** at **6:00pm** and on **Sundays** at **5:00pm**.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Wishing all fathers, a very happy day. The perfect opportunity for a dad joke!

A father was helping his young daughter with her homework. She asked, "Dad, what's the difference between confidence and wisdom?"

Her dad leaned back proudly and said, "Confidence is when you think you know the answer."

"And wisdom?" she asked.

"Wisdom is when you ask your mother before saying it out loud."

Relics of St Carlo Acutis – 16 & 17 September

We are blessed to welcome the **Relics of St Carlo Acutis** to our parish on **Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 September**. The schedule for the visit has now been released, and we warmly invite parishioners to take this special opportunity for prayer and veneration.

The full timetable will be displayed in all churches this weekend.

Please note the following **changes to the weekday Mass schedule** during the relic visit:

- **Wednesday 16 September – Vincentia:** Mass will be celebrated at the usual time of **5:30 pm**. However, there will be **no Confessions before Mass**.
- **Thursday 17 September – Culburra:** There will be **no Mass at Culburra**.
- **Thursday 17 September – Nowra:** Mass will be celebrated at **5:30 pm at St Michael's, Nowra, in the presence of the relics**.

We encourage everyone to join us during this special visit and to ask for the intercession of **St Carlo Acutis**, especially for our young people and families.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:



Sick: Debbie Windsor, Bill Pride, Peter Moses, Audrey Knight, Irene Phillips, Peter Rose, Brenda Relf, Maria Graham, Margaret Broomhead *and* Ian Cartledge

Recently Deceased: Ernie Musgrove, Teresa Del Castillo, John Kendall, Sandria Griffiths *and* Inge Borg

Death Anniversaries: Emilia Labrador, Terry Power, Barbara Sweeny, Marcus Maguire, Christopher Delaney, Peter Delaney, Leonardo *and* Wilfredo Petillas