

St Michael's Catholic Parish Nelson Bay

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Corrigan

Parish Office: 12 Sproule Street (PO Box 7) Nelson Bay Phone: 4981 1069 Fax: 4984 9612

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm

Parish Email: stmichaelsnb@mn.catholic.org.au www.nelsonbaycatholicchurch.com

St Michael's Primary School Principal: Ms Helen Bourne Phone: 4981 1111

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 14 January 2018 (Year B)



Monday:	7.00am Mass
Tuesday:	No Mass
Wednesday:	12.00 Midday Mass
Thursday:	9.15am Mass
Friday:	9.15am Mass
Saturday:	9.15am Mass 5.00pm Reconciliation 6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	8.30am Mass

NEXT WEEK: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 2nd Reading: 1Cor 7:29-31

Gospel: Mk 1:14-20

Next week's readers: Sat: T Campbell & C Crowe

Sun: **Reader Needed** & F Manouk

(A first reader is needed next Sunday, if you are able to assist please contact the Parish Office)

Please pray for...

Deaths: Janice O'Donnell, Mervyn Lynch

Anniversaries: Edward Beyer, Norma Meek,
Victor Meek, Bruce Fennan, Joseph Nguyen

Holiday Reminder



As the tourist season is upon us, it is even more important that everyone leaves the church car park through the school gates. Please do not exit via Sproule Street. We are also reminded to be mindful of the residents in Sproule St. Thank you.

Christmas Time/New Year 2017-18 In The Parish

The first Christmas Vigil Mass at 6.00pm had a congregation of about 850 people. The majority were young families. Despite the intense humidity, the sense of joyful participation - in the prayer responses, and singing was clear. That sense of joyful participation characterised all the Christmas Masses. There was a special Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 6.00pm Christmas Vigil which attracted about 90 of the 160 youngsters at that Mass! (Other Christmas Masses - 8pm - 368 people, Midnight - 120 people and 8.30am - 450 people).

Our sincere thanks to our parish secretarial staff and those involved in helping in any way in assisting with the Christmas and early New Year Masses. The preparations ensured that the holiday congregations felt welcomed, and were able to express the grace of Christmas joy in the celebration of the Eucharist. We perhaps do not know how the Spirit is able to touch and bless people in their needs on these occasions.

Our parish is blest to have a good representation of Sydney Maronite Catholics holidaying in Port Stephens and joining in both weekend and weekday Masses. They clearly treasure their Faith, and love to express that Faith in participation in Eucharist, and in personal prayer. It is encouraging to see how they are also proud to share with others how they see their Catholic Faith as a precious gift. Perhaps this fervent Faith can be traced back to Saint Maron (Feb 9), and the 1600 year old history of the Maronite Catholic tradition in Lebanon. This Faith has been lived down the centuries, and has withstood the suffering of persecution. The reader will remember too, that many parishioners of Croatian background have also inherited a deep Faith forged strong by withstanding persecution. In a very real way, the diverse Faith backgrounds of our holiday visitors are indeed a gift to us. They encourage us, and, I think, their presence challenges us all to see what we all could do during 2018, to stir afresh that sense of gratitude and fervour for our Faith.

The Parish 'Poor Boxes'

The Parish 'Poor Boxes' are situated near doorways. Each year our Parish nominates an International and National Charity to support by contributing to the Poor Boxes over the year. This year the International Charity is a new project to help provide some essential needs to those poorest families whose child attends the Lavalla Boarding School for children with disabilities. This school has about 110 pupils, and is situated in Takhmuu, south of Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The National Charity for this year is the DARA Van together with Orange Sky Laundry which is located in Anna Bay and provides a nutritious hot meal, toiletries, shower facilities and an opportunity to have clothes washed and dried for those in our community who are experiencing "homelessness" in all its forms. The service is weekly on a Monday night from 6pm - 8.30pm.

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The **Catholic Development Fund** advises that as a result of the regulatory changes that have impacted on our retail business from 1 January 2018, we can no longer allow transactions at our Agencies. We would like to thank our Agent, O'Meara Property Nelson Bay, for their long standing commitment to the CDF and the service they have so generously given to our members. Please contact the CDF directly if you have any concerns or need any assistance in the future. The CDF is always committed to providing excellent service to our members.

The Ordination of Bishop Elect Brian Mascord - There are a number of arrangements for those who wish to attend the ordination of Fr Brian Mascord as Bishop of Wollongong and to gain entry into the Entertainment Centre. The full details are on the back noticeboard.

Special Religious Education (SRE) teachers are parishioners who freely give of their time and provide instruction, encouragement and share prayer with Catholic Children in our Local Government Primary Schools. **Theirs is a work of love!** If you would like to find out more information about becoming an SRE teacher or would simply like to attend a class to see if you think it is for you, please see Fr Kevin.

Australia Day Mass is on Friday, 26 January at 9.15am. Australia's National Day evokes a lot of emotions, it is a day of patriotism and national pride. Come along and join us as we praise and thank God for the blessing of our unique land and all it's people and pray for His guidance as we move forward as a Nation.

The **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord** is on Friday, 2 February. Bring your candles with you to Mass and join in the Blessing of the Candles.

Ash Wednesday Rosters - on the back middle table are sheets for the 7.00am and 10am Masses. If you are currently on our rosters and you can assist, please write your name on the sheet. Thank you.

Christian Meditation is on every Friday at 10.30am in the Presbytery. Everyone is welcome.

Weekend Rosters: The new weekday and weekend Rosters are now available.

Computer Operators are needed for Saturday nights - full training is provided. If you can assist, please contact Alison in the Parish Office.

Visitors: we hope you enjoy your stay with us.



Your participation in our community gives us **life and joy**. As such we would invite you to make a contribution in the visitors envelopes provided on the seats and place them on the second collection. Your assistance with this request is gratefully appreciated.

St. Michael's Parish Finance Committee

Volunteer Document Requirements - The more recent Government Legislation has required all Institutions to provide greater accountability for matters relating to safety and child protection issues. The **Diocesan Volunteer Coordinator, Brodie Clark** will be available at our Parish on Sunday, 18 February from 9.45 am - 11.30am. We encourage all parishioners who assist the parish in any volunteer capacity to attend on this morning. Brodie will begin with a short explanation of the volunteer forms and relevant checks that are required to be completed by parish volunteers and can answer any questions you may have. Brodie will then be available to assist you to complete the forms. If you wish to complete your forms on this day, you should bring with you a Working With Children Check **if you have one**, and 100 points of ID. We strongly urge you to make the time on the day to stay and complete the forms and ID check. A morning tea will be provided.

World Day of Prayer is on at St Michael's Church on Friday, 2 March at 10.30am. The World Day of Prayer is a world-wide movement led by Christian women of many traditions who call the faithful together to observe a common day of prayer each year. More than 170 countries participate in this annual day of celebration which brings together people of various races, cultures and traditions sharing together in God's word and worship. The annual theme for 2018 is "All God's Creation is Very Good - Suriname". If you are interested in being involved with the preparations for this day, please see Sr Cath.

Chrism Mass on Tuesday 27 March at Sacred Heart Cathedral - a mini bus will be available to take parishioners to the Chrism Mass. We will be stopping at Williamstown McDonalds on the way for dinner. The bus will leave St Michael's Church at 4.45pm and return approximately 9.30pm after the Chrism Mass in Newcastle. **Numbers are limited!** If you are interested in joining us to attend the Chrism Mass, please add your name and details to the sheet on the back middle table. The bus is free. Attendees will purchase dinner for themselves at McDonalds if they wish. Dinner will be purchased for any children who attend.

The Year of Youth 2018 "Open New Horizons for Spreading Joy" - The Australian Bishops have identified the liturgical year of 2018, as a national Year of Youth. Our Parish had four young people attend the national launch at the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in December last year. The Year of Youth invites the Church into prayerful discernment about the importance and life-giving presence of young people in the local Church and society. It calls for a dialogue and active engagement focused on the reconnection and renewal of a new generation of young people in the life of the Church.

This week's church roster reminders: Readers: 13th H Bourne & J Busch 14th H Sertori & J Eves Ministers of Communion: 13th T Howe, J Howell, K Locke, D & T Maricic, C McCarthy, L McIntosh, M Monin, S Pasquale, M Robinson, M Stedman 14th K & MT Schiemer, P Sinclair, S Timbs, P & T Tobin, M Went, A Young, S & T Burgin, A Cunningham