

St Michael's Catholic Parish Nelson Bay

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Corrigan

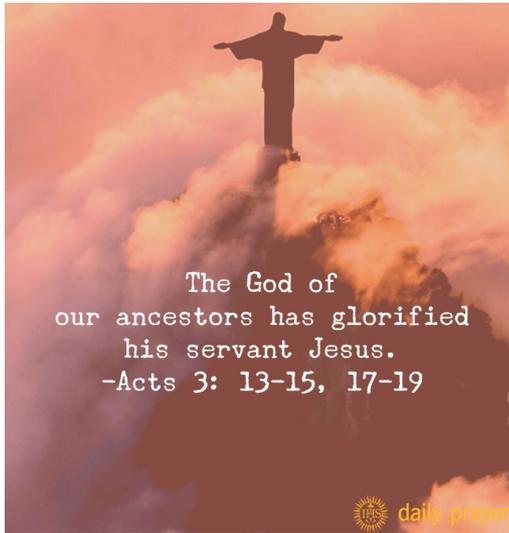
Parish Office: 12 Sproule Street (PO Box 7) Nelson Bay Phone: 4981 1069 Fax: 4984 9612

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

Third Sunday of Easter, 15 April 2018 (Year B)



The Gospel reading today insists on the reality of the risen humanity of Our Lord.

Our faith does not rest on fables, nor is the risen Jesus a phantom. Graciously, to strengthen their faith, to bring them peace, and to give them great joy, Jesus shows his followers his now glorious sacred wounds. And we, who inherit that faith and peace and joy, pray, 'Lord, let your face shine on us' (psalm response) - for the Father's glory is reflected in the face of his Christ. 'Look towards him and be radiant', the psalmist urges us.

Jesus' first words to his apostles were, 'Peace be with you'. He is the God of peace and he himself is our peace, and he was once again with them. As he speaks, there falls a great calm - be it upon the troubled sea or the troubled human spirit. What we deeply desire for ourselves we pray for others - that the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard their hearts and their thoughts in Christ.

Peace be with you

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Daily Mass Time Changes - These are necessary because of trades people's ongoing works to renovate the toilets at the back of the Church. The women's toilets will be the first to be repaired. It will take about two weeks. The toilet in the sacristy is available for women during this time. The toilet may be accessed via the internal sacristy door on the right of the altar. The back door to the sacristy (opening into the carpark) will also be unlocked for access.

Mass Times

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

Please pray for...

Deaths: Mark Ryan, Gary Buqna, Shaun Angus Hall

Anniversaries: Barry Brigg, Edward McLeod, George Clark

Good Shepherd Sunday 2018

Next Sunday is the World Day of Vocations. In his letter for this Day, Pope Francis reminds us:

'God comes silently and discreetly, without imposing on our freedom. Thus it can happen that his voice is drowned out by the many worries and concerns that fill our minds and hearts.'

You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

Let us all offer one prayer this week for the young people that we know. Let us pray that they will hear the voice of the Good Shepherd amidst the daily events of their lives.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Fourth Sunday of Easter
1st Reading: Acts 4:8-12 2nd Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-2
Gospel: Jn 10:11-18

Next week's readers:
Sat: M Stedman & R Tucker
Sun: K Winslow & P Tobin



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Immediate Preparations for First Holy Communion

Preparations commence on the 2nd of May, with a Parent Information/Formation Night. The preparations our parish have provided have been very good. Overall the approach has been to be “family-centred, parish-based and school/SRE supported”.

Our ‘parish-based’ element is shifting focus this year. During the weekend Masses on Sunday 6th, Saturday 12th and Sunday 20th of May, the children will attend a preparation time during the first half hour of Mass. They will rejoin their parents/family at the Lord’s Prayer/Sign of Peace time at Mass. These three sessions will serve to reinforce the preparation done at home with parents and children. Also, the parent participation in Masses will be an occasion of blessing, and faith encouragement for them, as these Sundays include both the Feast of Ascension and Pentecost.

What is a hoped for outcome of this moment for the families and children in particular? This could be answered by one word: “**friends**”. “**Friends**” is how the risen Jesus, when speaking to his demoralised and lost followers on the lake shore said, “**Friends**, have you caught anything yet?” (John 21:5) It is interesting to note earlier in the Gospel Jesus said to his followers “I no longer call you servants... I call you **friends**” (John 15:15). We pray for the grace of that “**friendship**” to grow in the children, and their families.

“I will call you...**friends**” (Jn 15:15) is in fact the Gospel we have for the first weekend (5th/6th May) of immediate preparation for the children and their parents.

Much is said about the pressures people, including families, feel in these times. It is important then, that little messages of encouragement and warm support are extended to the parents of the 33 families who are presently preparing. Remembering in our daily prayer to pray for God’s blessing upon each of the families in this preparation time will also be an invaluable help to them. Thank you, Fr Kevin.



Praying for the sick - We do this as an important way of caring for each other. We usually include a prayer for the sick every Sunday. Some parishes mention the names of the sick whom we are praying for. The request is that we commence this practice here at St Michael’s. So those who are sick/infirm are welcome to request their names be included. Family members could make such a request on the sick persons behalf, as well. Simply ring the Parish Office with details. Thank you from the Parish Caring Group.

Planned Giving/Direct Debit Did you know you can pay into our planned Giving program via direct debit? This would mean no more envelopes to remember. We are finding it is more convenient for some to pay their planned giving by direct debit. If you are a new parishioner and would like to join up to the Planned Giving Program or if you would like to change from the envelopes to direct debit, kindly see Anne after Mass on Sunday, 29th April and Anne will be able to assist you.

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

On Saturday, 5 May from 9.30am to 12.00 noon at the Chapel of Newcastle Parish Centre, 25 Farquhar Street, The Junction there will be **Christian Meditation: The Spirit in the Desert**. Morning tea provided. RSVP annecuskelly@hotmail.com.

This week’s church roster reminders:

Readers: 14th R Ryan & S Ryan 15th H Sertori & K Schiemer

Ministers of Communion:

14th C McCarthy, L McIntosh, M Monin, S Pasquale, M Robinson, S & R Ryan, M Stedman, B Tubman, N Tucker, J Villanueva

15th A Basti, S & T Burgin, J Eves, J & H Hope, S Hughes, C Klum, G Mann, H Noble and one needed

SRE Training for Catechists on Monday, 30 April at 10am at Newcastle West or Monday, 7 May at 9.30am at Glendale. To attend register at olaf@mn.catholic.org.au. There are still some spots to fill in our local Schools, if you would like further information please see Fr Kevin.

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, 20 April.

The Catholic Weekly - copies available on the table near the Church doors for \$2 each.

St Michael's Primary School
NELSON BAY

St Michael's experienced and committed teaching staff are dedicated to the academic, social and faith development of every child who attends the school.

Technology is a major aspect integrated in all curriculum areas with a strong learning focus on literacy and numeracy.

St Michael's is your local choice for a first class education in a peaceful bushland setting.

NOW ENROLLING

Contact us today to meet the principal and tour the school
4981 1111 www.nelsonbay.catholic.edu.au



We have a parish facebook page!

Search:
“St Michael’s Catholic Parish Nelson Bay”
and like our page for regular parish updates!

YOUTH IGNITE

CHILDREN'S LITURGY IS ON AT WEEKEND MASSES DURING SCHOOL TERMS. ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!