

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish



PARISH CHURCHES

Church of the Sacred Heart

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

River Street, South Murwillumbah

St. Brigid's Church

Broadway, Burringbar

St. Columba's Church

Convent Lane, Uki

PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest

Fr. Anthony Lemon

Parish Manager

Mary-Ann Thackray

Parish Secretary

Beth Gorton

Pastoral Associate

Barbara Grant

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm

Phone: 02 6672 1118

Website: www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au

Email: shpmbah@norex.com.au

Mail: PO Box 45

Street: Queensland Road,
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

PARISH SCHOOLS

Mt. St. Patrick College

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 2340

mspcmbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Paul Clohesy

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

murp@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

smurp@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR B
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - YR B
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY
& JOSEPH - YR B**

**Welcome to the Christmas Season
at the Sacred Heart Parish,
Murwillumbah.**

Dear Friends,

I found this story and the following beautiful message in my homily notes for Christmas. It struck a note with me as I recalled the Kindy Nativity Play at St. Joseph's South Murwillumbah. After a year of devastating floods and difficulty this story lends us a bright spot.

The small children's school nativity play ended in total confusion. It had started so well with Joseph proudly setting out for Bethlehem assuring Mary that all would be well when they got to their own kingly town. After all, was not he himself one of the royal family! In the crowded census town he played his part superbly as he pleaded for lodgings from the harassed innkeeper played by a neighbour's child. Then the play collapsed. As the budding shepherds waited to scamper to the cave and the ox and the ass grew evermore impatient, the innkeeper, overcome with compassion, invited the expectant mother in to share the crowded house. What now!

As she explained later, her own mother never turned anyone away from their door, so she could not do so to the mother of Jesus nor to the boy next door. Her heart proved to be bigger than her expected role and her world was totally disconcerted as a result. This is the essence of the Christmas message and experience. The almighty God who keeps all creation in the palm of his hand, steps beyond that role and out of love, sends his only Son to share our human life. He does it so that we will experience energising and reassuring love in the fibre of our beings. Stepping out beyond the expected, love was made real for the whole human race at the first Christmas.

So it can be at every Christmas. Each time any one of us surprises ourselves by extravagant generosity, uncharacteristic forgiveness or heroic service, we step out of our conventional role and create oases of love in our desert world. In doing so, we risk respectability, ridicule and rejection. Without risk, we cannot imitate a God who, in sharing his own divine life, kept nothing for himself exclusively. To live like him is to risk letting in the stranger, welcoming the poor, trusting in God for tomorrow, keeping nothing for oneself or one's family exclusively. It is a challenge that does not bear thinking about. It could be so frightening and so demanding. But the birth of Jesus reassures us that God is with us now and always. His presence within and among us enables us to step beyond our limited selves again and again and so bring true love to everyone whose lives we touch this Christmas.

Fr. Knowles is a renowned American Priest and homilist. He sums up exactly what this beautiful Christmas season is about.

May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts and in our homes at Christmas and always.

Fr. Anthony Lemon PP

TWO WEEKS IN THE PARISH

24 DECEMBER - 7 JANUARY

Sunday	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B	
	8:00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	No 10am Mass today	
	<u>CHRISTMAS VIGIL</u>	
	7.00pm	<u>Vigil Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Monday	<u>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY)</u>	
	8.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart
	There are No weekday Masses, Adoration, or Rosary in the Sacred Heart Church this week. There is No Nursing Home Communion Services this week.	
Saturday	6.00pm	<u>Vigil Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday	The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year B	
	8.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	No 10.00am Mass today (5th Sunday)	
Monday	MARY, the HOLY MOTHER of GOD	
	9.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Tuesday	9.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Wednesday	9.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Thursday	9.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Friday	10:00am	<u>Mass</u> - M'bah Nursing Home - Fr Anthony
	10:00am	Communion Service - Heritage Lodge - L Hosking
	<u>No 12.15pm Mass today</u>	
Saturday	9.00am	Rosary - Sacred Heart Church
	6.00pm	<u>Vigil Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday	The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year B	
	8:00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	10am	<u>Mass</u> - St Columba's, Uki

LITURGY ROSTERS: THE HOLY FAMILY & THE EPIPHANY

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	Saturday Vigil 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am
Acolyte	R Daley	P Hyde
Readers	L Dusi (C)	M Roberts (C)
	K Mumford	MA Thackray
Prayer of Faithful	ME Mumford	F Wright
Extra Ordinary Ministers	C Anderson (C)	P Sharp (C)
	R Anderson, L Hosking	M Chiesa, J Morgan
	D & B Guinea	P & R Marr
Hospitality	M Reynolds, _____	M Zambelli & N Feltham
Procession of Gifts	_____	F & B McGrouther
The Epiphany of the Lord	Saturday Vigil 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am
Acolyte	P Egan	T Zambelli
Readers	U O'Grady (C)	K Ryder (C)
	B Nolan	C Wightley
Prayer of Faithful	D Banner	K Malone
Extra Ordinary Ministers	R Daley (C)	M Roberts (C)
	R Nihill, K Mumford	L Green, B Gorton
	M Reynolds, ME Mumford	M & M Cooper
Hospitality	_____	S Lemon & B Cook
Procession of Gifts	_____	Heanes/Dusi family



This Jewish boy baby is the body language of God. This baby is the sonburst of God entering our dark world. This baby shows us that God is not impossibly remote but, rather, God is as intimately close as a vulnerable infant. This child who will be a light for the nations, 'What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.'

-John 1:4-5

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION:

Sacred Heart:

Saturday : 5.30pm - 5.50pm

Sunday: 7.30am - 7.50am

BAPTISM:

Sacred Heart Church - 12.00pm
2nd and 4th Sundays of each month

(At least four weeks notice required)

Baptism Preparation Meeting:

7.00pm Parish Administration Centre
on 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Next Meeting - Tues 13th February

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

John Schiller (brother of Bernard), Jamie Schirmer,
Diane Bianchetti, Michael Bailey, Tom Alder, Rita Gooley,
Glenn Dunne, Dot McDermott, Callum Yeo,
Wilma Byrne, Sr Clement PBVM, Mary Todd.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Martin O'Brien, Veronica Carroll, Ken Gillespie,
Doss Dodds, Vera Paine.



NOTICE BOARD

WITH THANKS AND APPRECIATION

Fr. Anthony would like to thank everyone
who has contributed to the life of the Parish
during the past twelve months.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

CALENDAR

~JANUARY 2018 ~

01 **MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD-YR B**

01 **Meals on Wheels - Roster 2**

07 **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YR B**

10am Mass - St Columba's, Uki

08 Baptism of the Lord

08 Parish Office Opens for 2018

14 **2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B**

10am Mass - OLPS, Sth Murwillumbah
Baptisms

MIDNIGHT MASS FROM THE VATICAN.

His Holiness Pope Francis will celebrate Midnight Mass in St Peter's Basilica on Christmas Day. This will be telecast on ABC 1 commencing 9.30am (EST) on Christmas Day.

It can also be viewed live on the internet, through the websites of Vatican TV and The Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN).

MEALS ON WHEELS - ROSTER 2

1-5 JANUARY

Monday: G Bewes

Tuesday: K & C Kerr

Wednesday: H & K Gooley

Friday: C Dennis & B McGrouther

Cowper Appeal:

The St. Joseph's Cowper Christmas Day Appeal is being held as usual this Christmas.

Donation envelopes can be found on the table at the Church entrance. Please return by placing on the collection plates at the weekend Masses.

BISHOP'S ANNOUNCEMENT

News of Great Joy...

Bishop Gregory has approved the Ordination to the Diaconate of Wilber Tobe, Anselm Okeke and Emmanuel Okparanaku.

Their Ordination will take place on Monday 29 January at St. Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore.

Roger Delmonte has chosen to undertake further time in preparation.

CHRISTMAS PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Administration Centre will be closed until **9am Monday 8 January 2018**. If there are any urgent matters during this time, please phone the Presbytery: 6672 1118.

BEQUESTS to the PARISH

Do you wish to see your Faith transferred to the next generation? Please consider the Sacred Heart Parish Murwillumbah when making your Will. Your generosity will help in keeping the Faith alive.

Readings for the coming weeks:

The NATIVITY of the LORD - Year B

(Christmas Eve) Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

(Christmas Day) Is 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20

The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year B

Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year B

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

*May Christ give to you
At this time and for always
His peace in your soul,
His presence in your heart,
His power in your life.*



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 85)

R: Come, O Lord, and set us free.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS DAY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 95)

R: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Good news and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour.

Alleluia!

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 104)

R: The Lord remembers his covenant for ever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his son.

Alleluia!

Every Christmas the Christ Child in the manger at Bethlehem invites us to stop - and pay attention to the things that are especially important in our lives: our loved ones, our family and friends - and our loving God who holds us in existence, 'in the palm of his hand'.



When Christmas is over, an excellent way to grow in faith and to develop one's relationship with God is to be part of our community as we celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays. You will be most welcome!

**Wishing you and your family a happy
and holy Christmas!**

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Christmas
and a Peace filled New Year to all
Fr Anthony, Wilber, Mary-Ann,
Beth, Barbara, & Belinda.

May the peace of Christ
find a home in your heart.

CHURCH BANNERS

Luke connects Jesus' birth to the world-wide stage. The Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus was praised as saviour and bringer of peace, which he accomplished by defeating his enemies. Luke contrasts Augustus's accomplishments with Jesus the Saviour. While the world looks to the political centre for peace, Luke tells us to look at the outskirts of the empire.

Jesus is born in humble circumstances. He is wrapped in swaddling clothes as a sign of his humanity. Jesus is laid in a manger, a feeding trough for animals, as a sign that Jesus is to be food for the world. The Gospel of Luke is especially concerned for the poor, the outcast, those on the margins of society. This concern is never more apparent than in the proclamation of the Saviour to the shepherds. Shepherds lived on the margins and were not well respected by society, yet they are the first to hear of the Messiah. They were also the first to step out in faith to celebrate his birth.

When we celebrate Jesus' birth this Christmas season, we will be following in the footsteps of the shepherds. Like Mary, we will have much to reflect upon in our hearts. Our Jesse Tree banners depicting our Advent journey will stay up in the Church during the Christmas Season to remind us to make room in our hearts for Jesus in whatever form he may appear in our lives.



INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND www.dif.org.au Phone 1800 802 516

Paying 2.15%

Agents: Egan Simpson Solicitors: 15 Prince Street, Murwillumbah.
(Office re-opens Monday 8th January 2018)