

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

Principal: Mr. Paul Clohesy

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- YEAR C

2 December 2018

Taking up a challenge

Many generations have experienced terrible disasters that seemed like signs of the apocalyptic end times. There was the Black Death in the 14th century that killed 50 million people in Europe or some 60 percent of the population; the First World War followed by the influenza epidemic; and the destruction wrought by the Second World War.

When we hear Our Lord in Luke's Gospel warning of "signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony ... people dying of fear as they await what menaces the world," we may think of the threat of nuclear war, followed by a long nuclear winter destroying most life on earth.

Or perhaps we recall the warnings of scientists, echoed by Pope Francis in his document *Laudato Si'*, about the imminent catastrophe from global warming and climate change. This is no longer science fiction. As many farmers know, we are facing longer droughts, more severe flooding, more extreme weather events and fiercer storms. Rising sea levels will displace hundreds of millions of people from low-lying areas, including the major river deltas which produce much of the world's food.

Jesus knew nothing about these frightening new threats to life on earth. But he knew a lot about the trauma and tragedy that had occurred in Jewish history over hundreds of years, and he knew what his followers would encounter.

Despite all this anguish, curiously Jesus' message is one of incredible hope, not of despair. Jesus says to stand tall and be confident when the Son of Man comes "with power and great majesty", since our "liberation is near at hand." We can barely imagine what this mysterious "liberation" implies as the Reign of God transforms the universe.

Neither Jesus nor Luke are claiming to be futurologists, forecasting the future. Rather, they are affirming hope in the promises of God to guide our lives. We have here no lasting home; our lives are preparing us to be welcomed into our home in heaven, delighting in the intimacy of God's presence.

Jesus urges his disciples to stay awake and pray "for the strength to survive all that is going to happen." Jesus is not handing out free tickets for an easy ride to heaven. He is warning of the need for courage when his followers face threats of death and persecution, as do Christians in parts of the world today.

While warning the disciples against backsliding, Jesus is not telling them to withdraw from the challenges of life. He urges them not to let "your hearts be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life."

As St Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, may the Lord increase "your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you." Today the words "the whole human race" take on new meaning as we face great and new challenges.

Bruce Duncan CSsR © Redemptorists 2018

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THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH 2 - 9 DECEMBER

Sunday	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C	
	8:00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	10.00am	<u>Mass</u> - St. Columba's Church, Uki
Monday	9.00am	Rosary & Prayers - Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church
Tuesday	4.15pm - 5.15pm	Adoration - Sacred Heart Church
	5.30pm	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	6.00pm	Rosary - Sacred Heart Church
Wednesday	12.15pm	<u>Mass</u> of Thanksgiving with St Joseph's Primary School - Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church
	4.15pm - 5.15pm	Adoration - Sacred Heart Church
	5.30pm	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	6.00pm	Advent Reconciliation - Sacred Heart Church
Thursday	8.30am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	9.15am	Legion of Mary - Sth Murwillumbah Meeting Room
Friday	10.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Aveo Nursing Home - Fr. Anthony Lemon
	10.00am	Communion Service - Heritage Lodge - L Hosking
	12.15pm	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	2.45pm - 3.45pm	Adoration - Sacred Heart Church
Saturday	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	
	9.00am	Anointing Mass - Sacred Heart Church
	Followed by Legion of Mary Annual Retreat Day - Parish Hall	
	6:00pm	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C	
	8:00am	<u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	9.00am	Cuppa in Hall following 8am Mass
	10.00am	<u>Mass</u> - Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, South Murwillumbah
	12 noon	Baptisms - Sacred Heart Church

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT- Yr C 8/9 December	Sacred Heart Murwillumbah 6.00pm Saturday	Sacred Heart Murwillumbah 8.00am Sunday	COUNTERS: 02 Dec: C & J Anderson 09 Dec: J Morgan & L Green 16 Dec: B Brodbeck & C Kerr 23 Dec: G & K Bewes 30 Dec: Parish Staff 06 Jan: T & P Zambelli 13 Jan: M & M Cooper 20 Jan: P & R Marr 27 Jan: P & L McMahon
Acolyte	J Reynolds	T Zambelli	
Altar Servers	R & H Ryder N Trembath	D, J, R & S Buchanan	
Readers	B Grant (C) R B Nolan R N Sherrah P/F	B Gorton (C) P/F M Roberts R P Callaghan R	
Ministers of Communion	C Wightley (C) B Brodbeck, R Daley C Anderson, R Nihill	P & R Marr (C) P McMahon, P Sharp M Reynolds	
Hospitality	M Reynolds & D Haumu	J Morgan & N Mayberry	
Procession of Gifts	P & L Fox	St Joseph's School	
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	A Lofts	
CHURCH CLEANING SANCTUARY & ALTAR Sacred Heart Church: 2 Dec: B Gorton, M Reynolds, M Trevithick 9 & 16 December: K Mumford, J Morgan OLPS Church, Sth M'bah December: MA Thackray			

The Sacred Heart Church 'Prayer Chapel' is open for private prayer on weekdays.

ROSARY STATUE
Joanne Kirk



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
MARY MACKILLOP
CONFERENCE**

meets each Wednesday
at Parish Meeting Centre.
New members welcome.
"Come Grow With Us".

Phone: Marie Donaghy 6672 2933

PARISH "CUPPA"
Sunday 9th December
hosted by BRL Family Group

**Readings next week: (Yr C)
Second Sunday of Advent**
Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11
Lk 3:1-6

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION - Sacred Heart:

Saturday : 5.30pm - 5.50pm

Sunday: 7.30am - 7.50am

BAPTISMS:

Sacred Heart Church - 12.00pm
2nd and 4th Sundays of each month
(At least four weeks notice required)

Baptism Preparation Evening:

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

Next Evening - Tuesday 11 December

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Tony Van Diemen, Marie Browning, Fred Shields,
Kristopher Brewer-Charles, Marie Rafferty (nee Gearin).

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mary Todd, Percy Roberts, Maria Lizzio, Jack Ayres.



NOTICE BOARD

Rosary & Prayers for God's Precious Infants and the Unborn Child - **Monday 3 December at 9.00am Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church, South Murwillumbah**

Pregnancy Help Line: 1300 139 313

CALENDAR

~DECEMBER~

- 11 St Joseph's Primary Yr 6 Graduation Mass - OLPS, Sth M'bah
- 12 9am Mass - Greenhills Lodge
- 12 St Joseph's Primary Presentation
- 12 Advent Reconciliation 6pm
- 13 MSPPS Infant's Presentation
- 13 Parish Finance Council Meeting
- 16 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr C**
10am Mass - St Brigid's, Burringbar
- 17-21 Meals on Wheels - Roster 2
- 18 Mt St Patrick Primary Graduation Mass
10am - Sacred Heart Church
- 18 II Rite of Reconciliation - Kingscliff
- 19 II Rite of Reconciliation - Murwillumbah
- 23 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr C**
10am Mass - OLPS, Sth Murwillumbah
Baptisms
- 24 **Christmas Eve**
- 25 **The NATIVITY of the LORD (Christmas)**
- 30 **The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**
No 10am Mass today - Fifth Sunday

The Parish Office will be closed this
Monday 3 December.

If there are any urgent matters during this time, please phone Parish Office: 6672 1118 or email: shpmbah@norex.com.au

2018 VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Vincent de Paul are accepting donations of toys & children's gifts, gifts for teenagers and adults for their 2018 Christmas Appeal.

Gifts may be left, unwrapped, under the Christmas tree in the Church, by Sunday 9th Dec.



Thank you for your continued support.

'MASS OF ANOINTING'

9.00AM SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER

SACRED HEART CHURCH

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a prayer of healing which may be celebrated individually and communally, and may be received more than once. **All Parishioners Are Welcome.**

LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL REUNION DAY

SATURDAY 8TH DECEMBER

commencing with **9am Mass of Anointing in Sacred Heart Church followed by Rosary, prayers & morning tea in the Parish Hall.** All parishioners are warmly invited to attend. Please bring a plate to share.

CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTER

Volunteers are needed for the Christmas Mass liturgy roster - please add your name & your ministry, to the sheet on the Mass that you are available - located on table near the Church entrance.

LITURGY ROSTERS

Please take your new Liturgy Roster home with you today.

PRAYER SPONSORS FOR MT. ST. PATRICK HSC STUDENTS

The Parents, Staff and Year 12 students of Mt St Patrick College thank you for your generosity in being a Prayer Sponsor for our HSC students. We, and especially the students themselves, are very appreciative of your care and concern for them at this sometimes difficult and stressful time. We pray, with God's help, they will achieve the results that they deserve.

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

You are invited to host or join a small group for Plenary Council Listening and Dialogue Encounters. Register your interest with the Parish Office on 0266 721118. We are gathering to pray, talk and listen to one another about our experiences of faith, and the Church.

Read more about this at plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au and pick up a dialogue and listening guide from the church today.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 24)

R: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

IF SUNG:

R: To you I lift my soul, O God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL
Monday 24th December**

7.00pm - Sacred Heart Church

**CHRISTMAS DAY
Tuesday 25th December**

8.00am - Sacred Heart Church

Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau

Last Saturday evening we witnessed the presentation of the real Christmas story at the 2018 Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard or contributed to making the 2018 Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau such a great success.

THANK YOU also to all who supported this very special annual event.

Reconciliation Times for Advent

I Rite of Reconciliation

in Sacred Heart Church

Wednesday: 5 & 12 December

6.00pm - 6.30pm

II Rite of Reconciliation

Tuesday 18 December - Kingscliff - 6pm

Wednesday 19 December - Murwillumbah - 6pm

From the Pastor,

After the Carnival, a Mass of Thanksgiving, plus many other things, it is now time to say thank you yet again to our amazing volunteers and yourselves. The last couple of weeks have been hectic to say the least. The annual carnival helps us financially but it also has a deeper and far more important place in our annual calendar. The carnival brings a lot of people together for a very pleasant night and a chance to win a ham or a prize. The by-product is that the local community see us alive and active in the community. Most people don't attend Mass any more but our friendship and kindness offer a welcome and keep the door of faith open to the stranger. Yet this is not the most important reason we do the carnival, we do it because we want to let people know that Christ is alive and active in our hearts and we do this by presenting the Christmas Tableau. In the weeks that lead up to Christmas this is probably the most authentic witness to Jesus that we could offer. It is pure and unadulterated. Beautifully prepared by our young students of all our schools, their parents and teachers. For some it may be the only time they hear the message of Christmas in a non secular, non commercial way. It is our gift of love and service to the wider community. Our students, parents and teachers are to be commended and thanked.

Our three newest priests are all taking up their new appointments in the weeks ahead, a very exciting and challenging time for them, their parish priests and the people of God. Please keep them in your prayers. It is a relief to me as the Director of Students for our Diocese to see them through to Ordination. At the moment we have two inquirers and one student who has completed all his studies. With God's Grace we may have three students for the priesthood next year. Please pray for them as they discern God's call in their lives. We also continue to be blessed by young couples choosing to marry and make a life long commitment. Many young families have also baptised their children recently, a gift we thank God for.

God bless you all in the weeks that lead up to Christmas.

Anthony Lemon PP



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

Paying 2.15%

Agents: Egan Simpson Solicitors: 15 Prince Street, Murwillumbah.