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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR C
28 April 2019

Strengthening our faith

A friend of mine, who has been working as a nurse in the Middle-East for more than ten years, recently said this to me:

"I have been struggling emotionally being away from my family for too long and, while I've been away, there had been a lot of things happening at home! I could attest that I am a faithful Catholic and that I attend Mass every Sunday but why is it that I always have a hard time in life? I feel like I'm losing my faith in God and I've been doubting God all this time!"

Then there was silence. I really didn't know what to say to her! Should I tell her to go to a priest for further counsel or suggest she keep praying and wait for God's grace to enlighten her. But I wondered whether that would help her.

Then she solemnly said, "But you know, God has always been faithful to me amidst everything else that happened in my life! Struggles are real but so is our God!" Struggles are real, but so is our God!

In the gospel today, Jesus reminds us that He is real and alive. He is risen and fully present among His disciples and followers. Out of fear the disciples were gathered together and hiding after Christ was crucified and buried, fearing that they would be the next ones to be captured and to suffer the same fate as the master.

But Jesus came and greeted them, "Peace be with you!" He cleared away their fears, anxiety and doubts, assuring them that it was indeed He among them, risen from the dead. Such is Thomas, who doubted at first, but was then allowed by Jesus to touch his wounds, and to feel that He was truly risen and come back for them.

Our faith in Christ is always a matter of our personal relationship with Him. In relationships, it is healthy to have doubts, fears and even struggles. God allows room for fears, doubts and struggles in our faith journey to remind us that we are to grow our faith in Christ. These tiny holes of doubts and fears are in fact places where the Holy Spirit can enter and the grace of God poured out and into us, strengthening our faith.

Jesus invites us also to touch our own wounds, imperfections and brokenness. To do so brings us in touch with the reality of our lives, that we are not perfect. But through our wounds, imperfections and brokenness, Christ can become ever more present in our lives. He is bigger than our problems and our struggles. Indeed, our struggles are real, but so is our God!

Kenneth Dan Gallamaso CSsR © Redemptorists 2019
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THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH 28 APRIL - 5 MAY

Sunday	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)	
	8.00am	Mass - Sacred Heart Church
	10.00am	Mass - Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, South Murwillumbah
Tuesday	*No Adoration, Mass or Rosary in Sacred Heart Church today*	
Wednesday	*No Adoration or Mass in Sacred Heart Church today*	
Thursday	8.30am	Mass - Sacred Heart Church
	9.15am	Legion of Mary - South Murwillumbah Meeting Room
	1.45 - 2.45pm	Christian Meditation Group - South Murwillumbah Mtg Room
	3.00pm	Junior Legion of Mary - South Murwillumbah Meeting Room
Friday	10.00am	Mass - M'bah Nursing Home - Fr. Anthony
	10.00am	Communion Service - Heritage Lodge - L Hosking
	10.30am	Funeral Prayers - Sacred Heart Church for Nancy McDonald
	12.15pm	Mass - Sacred Heart Church
	2.00pm - 3.00pm	Adoration - Sacred Heart
Saturday	9.00am	Rosary - Sacred Heart Church
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass - YOUTH - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year C	
	8.00am	Mass - Sacred Heart Church
	10.00am	Mass - St. Columba's Uki

THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER - Yr C 4/5 May	Sacred Heart Murwillumbah 6.00pm Saturday	Sacred Heart Murwillumbah 8.00am Sunday
Acolyte	P Egan	P Hyde
Altar Servers	O Adams L Egan	A & C McCabe X Palmer
Readers	YOUTH	K Ryder (C) R MA Thackray R K Malone P/F
Ministers of Communion	R Nihill (C) B Brodbeck, C Anderson M Mumford, R Daley	B Nolan (C) I & B Dusi P Sharp, J Morgan
Hospitality	YOUTH	M Zambelli & M Roberts
Procession of Gifts	YOUTH	P & T Zambelli
Children's Liturgy	No Children's Liturgy	A Lofts

COUNTERS:

05 May:	C & J Anderson
12 May:	J Morgan & L Green
19 May:	B Brodbeck & C Kerr
26 May:	G & K Bewes
02 June:	T & P Zambelli
09 June:	P & L McMahon

CHURCH CLEANING

SANCTUARY & ALTAR

Sacred Heart Church:

28 April: Zambelli family, C Wightley & N Gear

5 & 12 May: B Gorton, M Reynolds, M Trevithick

OLPS Church, Sth M'bah

April: MA Thackray

May: D Banner

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

ROSARY STATUE

K Ryder

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 12 May
hosted by Zambelli Family Group

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

Thursdays 1.45pm-2.45pm
South M'bah Meeting Room
ALL WELCOME.

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)

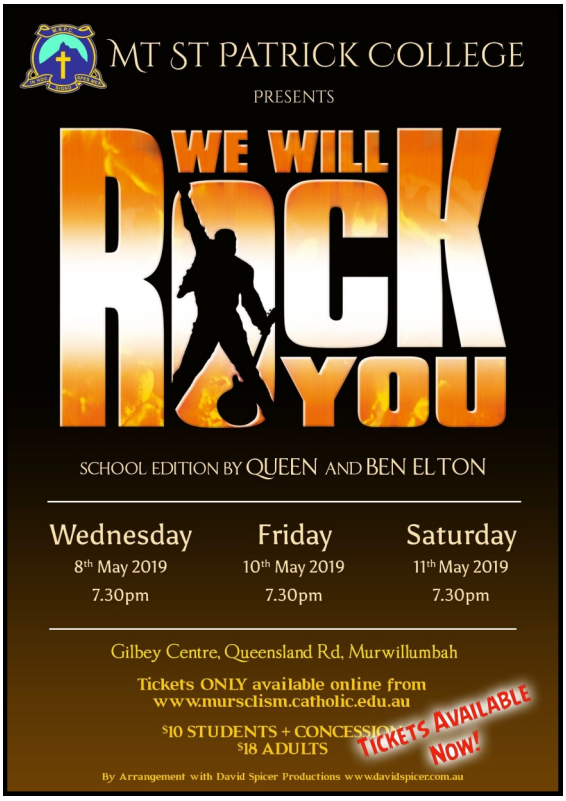
Baptism Preparation Evening:
7.00pm Parish Administration Centre on 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Next Evening - Tuesday 14 May

CALENDAR

~ MAY ~

06 Rosary & Prayers - OLPS, Sth M'bah
6/10 Meals on Wheels - Roster 2
08 9am Mass - Greenhills Lodge
10 10am Mass - Heritage Lodge
12 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YR C**
9am - Cuppa after 8am Mass - Hall
10am Mass - OLPS, Sth M'bah
Baptisms
13/17 Clergy Retreat
14 Baptism Preparation Meeting



Readings next week: (Yr C)
THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER
Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Apoc 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:
Nancy McDonald, Madeline Reynolds, Betty Kilkenny, Maureen Williams.

ANNIVERSARIES:
Fr. Paschal O'Halloran, Evelyn Marr, Coral Sheather, Margaret Harris.

NOTICE BOARD

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

The Legion of Mary will lead the Divine Mercy Chaplet this Sunday 28 April, after the 8am Mass in the Sacred Heart Church.

SACRED HEART MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of the Sacred Heart Men's Group will be **Wednesday 15 May at 6pm in the Parish Administration Centre. All men are welcome to attend.**

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ST JOSEPH'S MEN'S GROUP, TWEED HEADS are inviting Murwillumbah men on their next bus trip to the Kyogle District on Tuesday 7 May. For further information phone Leo 0411095671 by Wednesday 1 May. Cost of the trip including smoko is $30 plus lunch costs.

THE PEACE PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not
so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

THANK YOU

PROJECT COMPASSION

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2019.
If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.
Through your generosity you are helping to empower communities with hope and helping those in great need, shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Lives change when we all give 100%.
www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #1800 024 413.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year C
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (117)
R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.
IF SUNG:
R: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia, Alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

The Incredulity of St. Thomas - Caravaggio, 1603

From the Pastor…

Let me begin by thanking you all for a wonderful celebration of the Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies.

On Holy Thursday in my homily I referred to the tragedy of the clerical abuse in our Church and the devastation it has caused throughout the catholic world. I also quoted our Bishop who suggested to us clergy that the way forward was love, compassion and transparency. Sadly this crisis has blinded many to the good news of Jesus risen from the dead, and the many outstanding works undertaken by the church around the world. In this post resurrection period, Easter Time, let's revisit some of the great things our church is doing in the world and in our own country. It is so very easy to focus on the negative and forget the positive. Jesus showed us that love, compassion and service were the way forward.

In Australia our church has a leading role in education, health, aged care and care for the most needy. Catholic faithful can often be found ministering in the poorest and most needy areas of our nation. Their work, that is the work of Christ is often done with no funding or support from the government or business.

When I was in the seminary in the late 1980's the aids crisis was tearing the Sydney gay community apart. Mostly gay men were afflicted, they were often lost, ashamed and very ill. Some of them had not interacted with their parents in many years. It was truly remarkable at that awful time that the people who were helping were our own religious and clergy. One priest who taught me made it his special work to get parents and sons reconciled and then provide a funeral for the deceased son. This priest, along with the staff of St. Vincent's Hospital, and the Little Sisters of the Poor were often the only people at the dying man's bedside or even his funeral. Many families were reunited and many were reunited with God. It's the work of the Church to be where God's people are most in need.

Our failures as a Church need to be acknowledged, never hidden or covered up, victims need love and life long support. Our mission as Catholics is to now spread God's word and minister and care to the most needy. I know when I visit our schools there are families who need to know that they are needed, wanted and loved. That is the mission of the Church to minister and serve. Although the Church has made mistakes we are gently invited not to forget the good works of the past, and the good that continues. One Catholic Christian being kind to another human soul is all that it takes.

During Lent we sacrificed something, or took up something, to draw us closer to God. In Easter time we now celebrate our renewed and strengthened relationship with God. Spend some time celebrating and enjoying your friendship with God, the gift of the Sacraments and the love of your families. Try praying the Stations of Glory, copies are available at the entrance of the Church.

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday, to share the mercy and love of Christ Risen is one of the great gifts we have as faithful Catholics.

Finally my deepest gratitude to the parish team for helping to prepare for Easter.

Regards and Blessings

Fr. Anthony

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INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND www.dif.org.au Phone 1800 802 516
Paying 2.15%
Agents: ALG/Egan Simpson Solicitors: 15 Prince Street, Murwillumbah.