

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

mshpmbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Paul Reidy

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

mrp@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

Acting Principal: Ms. Kate Salmon (Term 1)

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

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

From the Pastor- Fr. Anthony Lemon

Welcome to the celebration of the Feast of Christmas. As each year passes I give thanks to God for the blessing of a wonderful parish community. Our little ones at our schools remind me regularly and often that God's love for us is the most important thing we can have. Hence a little story from the pen of the great Jesuit preacher Fr. Mark Link.

Emmanuel's discovery

Christmas is God saying, "I love you so much that I gave you my Son. Love one another as I love you."

Once upon a time there was an African boy named Emmanuel. He was always asking questions. One day he asked his teacher, "What language does God speak?" His teacher scratched his head and said, "I really don't know." So Emmanuel asked the learned people of his village, but they didn't know either.

Now he became really curious. He travelled around his country and asked the learned people of other villages, "What language does God speak?" But they merely shook their heads. Emmanuel was convinced that someone knew. So he began to travel to other countries. He even travelled to other continents. But the answer was always the same.

One night, exhausted by his travels, Emmanuel came to a village called Bethlehem. He tried to get a room in one of the inns, but the rooms were all filled up. So he decided to look for a cave outside town.

In the early hours of the morning, he finally found one. When he stepped inside the cave, however, he saw it was occupied by a couple and a child. When the young mother saw him, she said, "Welcome, Emmanuel, we've been expecting you."

The boy was stunned. How did the woman know his name? He was even more amazed when she said: "For a long time you have been searching the world over to discover what language God speaks. Now your journey is over. Tonight you see with your own eyes what language God speaks. He speaks the language of love.

For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son [to the world]. John 3:16

Emmanuel's heart overflowed. He fell on his knees before the child and wept for joy. Now he knew what language God speaks. God speaks the language of love. God speaks the one language that every person of every nation of every period of history can understand. And so Emmanuel stayed a few days, helping Mary and Joseph.

On his journey home he taught people whom he met and stayed with the new language of love.

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TWO WEEKS IN THE PARISH

22 DECEMBER 2019 - 5 JANUARY 2020

Sunday 22/12	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A
	8:00am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	10:00am <u>Mass</u> - Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, South Murwillumbah
Tuesday 24/12	<u>CHRISTMAS EVE - VIGIL</u>
	7:00pm <u>Vigil Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Wednesday 25/12	<u>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY)</u>
	8:00am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart
	<i>There are No weekday Masses, Adoration, or Rosary in the Sacred Heart Church this week.</i>
	<i>There are No Nursing Home Communion Services this week.</i>
Saturday 28/12	6:00pm <u>Vigil Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday 29/12	The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year A
	8:00am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	No 10:00am Mass today (5th Sunday)
Wednesday 1/1	MARY, the HOLY MOTHER of GOD - 1 JANUARY 2020
	9:00am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Thursday 2/1	8:30am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Friday 3/1	8:30am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	10:00am <u>Mass</u> - M'bah Nursing Home - Fr Anthony
	10:00am Communion Service - Heritage Lodge - Prodeocio
	1:45pm-2:45pm Adoration - Sacred Heart Church
Saturday 4/1	9:00am Rosary - Sacred Heart Church
	6:00pm <u>Vigil Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday 5/1	The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year A
	8:00am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
	10:00am <u>Mass</u> - St Columba's, Uki

LITURGY ROSTERS: THE HOLY FAMILY & THE EPIPHANY

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH 28/29 DECEMBER 2019

	Saturday Vigil 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am
Acolyte	J Reynolds	T Zambelli
Altar Servers	Z Macartney, L Grant, V Kirk, L Weaver	L Kee J & K Farrell
Readers	C Anderson (C) B Grant	P Callaghan (C) B Gorton
Prayer of Faithful	G Molloy	K Malone
Extra Ordinary Ministers	R Daley (C) D Macartney, C Wightley D & B Guinea	P & R Marr (C) P McMahan P Zambelli
Hospitality	B Cook & partner	J & H Larkin
Procession of Gifts	tba	F & B McGrouther

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4/5 JANUARY 2020

Acolyte	P Egan	P Marr
Altar Servers	C Townsend, R Trueman	M & A Ryder
Readers	O Barrett L Fox (C) M Mumford	S & L Calvino K Ryder (C) C Wightley
Prayer of Faithful	R Daley	L Green
Extra Ordinary Ministers	B Nolan (C), B Cook R Anderson, M Reynolds	MA Thackray (C) J Schiller, I & B Dusi
Hospitality	_____	S Lemon & M Zambelli
Procession of Gifts	C & J Anderson	T & P Zambelli

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 - Tuesday 11 February

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Kathleen Cavanagh (Ballina), Kieran Dolan, Richard Mudge (Lismore), Ron Marshall, Laurie Kinneally.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Monsignor Michael Quinn (PP Murwillumbah 1912 - 1935), Merilyn Frost, Doss Dodds, Vera Paine, Tom Sterling, Robert Turner, Margaret & Jim Calvo, Tara Hussey.

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 2020 ~

- 06 Parish Office Opens for 2020
- 06 Rosary & Prayers - OLPS, Sth M'bah
- 06 Meals on Wheels - Roster 1
- 12 **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - Yr A**
10am Mass - OLPS, Sth Murwillumbah
- 19 **2nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME Yr A**
10am Mass - St Brigid's, Burringbar
- 26 **AUSTRALIA DAY**
- 26 **3RD SUNDAY IN ORD TIME - Yr A**
10am Mass - OLPS, Sth M'bah
- 28 Parish Schools Staff Mass - 9am

COUNTERS:

- 22 Dec: G & K Bewes
- 29 Dec: Parish Staff
- 05 Jan: P & L McMahon
- 12 Jan: T & P Zambelli
- 19 Jan: J Morgan & L Green

God never gives someone a gift
they are not capable of receiving.
If he gives us the gift of Christmas,
it is because we all have the ability
to understand and receive it.
-Pope Francis

CHRISTMAS DAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

This year at both our Christmas Masses, there will be a special collection for Wedgetail Retreat, our local Palliative Care Hospice.

Envelopes are available at both the Christmas Vigil and Christmas Day Masses for this collection.

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).

FEAST OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Mass will be celebrated for the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God at 9:00am in the Sacred Heart Church on Wednesday 1st January 2020, New Year's Day.

CHRISTMAS PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Administration Centre is closed from Friday 20 December and will reopen 9am Monday 6 January 2020. If there are any urgent matters during this time, please phone the Presbytery: 6672 1118.

Readings for the coming weeks:

The **NATIVITY** of the LORD - Year A
(Christmas Eve - *Mass during the Night*)
Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
(Christmas Day - *Mass at Dawn*)
Is 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20

The **HOLY FAMILY** of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Yr A
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

The **EPIPHANY** of the LORD - Year A
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 23)

R: Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The virgin will give birth to a son; his name will be Emmanuel: God-is-with-us. Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS EVE - VIGIL

(Missal - Mass during the Night)

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!

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Missal - Mass at dawn)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 92)

R: A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth. Alleluia!

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 83)

R: Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you. Alleluia!

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Christmas
and a Peace filled New Year to all

Fr Anthony, Mary-Ann,
Beth, Barbara, & Belinda.

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



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Drought, Fire, Volcanoes and the loss of human life

This Christmas as a people of God we are painfully experiencing the worst drought and fires on record across our country. We bring to mind those who have lost loved ones due to the fires, those who have lost their homes, their livelihoods, their animals and stock. Many Australians are also mourning the loss of loved ones in the tragic White Island volcanic eruption. Not a comforting picture but one which challenges those of us untouched by these tragedies to pray, give our time or donate to one of the many funds set up to help. During the 2017 floods a priest friend of mine drove up with a car load of food and cleaning products and spent a few days with me. I must admit it is a kindness which I have not forgotten. Many will need our love and comfort in the weeks and months ahead.

As we leave the Church on this Holy Night or morning it would be wise to remember that it is not the presents we give to another that is important but rather the gift of our loving **presence**. To tell another person that you care for, that you love them will be a gift beyond measure. May God bless you richly and deeply this Christmas season.

Anthony Lemon

*The Liturgy Roster for
Christmas Eve & Christmas
Day is on the table at the
back of the Church.*

Pope Francis quote: 
*'Let us pray for peace,
and let us bring it about,
starting in our own
homes.'*

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

Paying 1.40%

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

(Office re-opens Monday 13 January 2020)

