

# *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

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## **PARISH STAFF**

### **Parish Priest**

Fr. Anthony Lemon

### **Parish Manager**

Mary-Ann Thackray

### **Parish Secretary**

Beth Gorton

### **Pastoral Associate**

Barbara Grant

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## **PARISH OFFICE**

**Monday to Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm**

**Phone:** 02 6672 1118

**Website:** [www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au](http://www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au)

**Email:** [shpmbah@norex.com.au](mailto:shpmbah@norex.com.au)

**Mail:** PO Box 45

**Street:** Queensland Road,  
Murwillumbah NSW 2484

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## **PARISH SCHOOLS**

### **Mt. St. Patrick College**

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 2340

Principal (Acting): Mary-Anne McShane

### **Mt. St. Patrick Primary School**

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

Principal: Brendan Ryan

### **St. Joseph's Primary School**

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

Principal: Jason Clarke

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR A** **8 December 2019**

### *Sign of things to come*

In today's gospel, the figure of John the Baptist bursts onto the scene in Mathew's narrative as the herald of the coming "kingdom of the heaven" (Matt 3:2). He is described as a desert-dwelling preacher, a ferocious religious reformer, with an odd choice of clothing and a curious taste for insects and honey.

This image appears incongruous with the season of Advent and the coming feast of Christmas; and is perhaps more suited to Lent or even Easter, where the desert setting and the themes of repentance and the coming kingdom figure more prominently in the liturgy.

In popular culture, Christmas is wholeheartedly embraced by the wider community outside the Christian communion. It is a time of family barbecues, present-giving, cricket on the beach, and cold beers. Easter, which is a far more significant and liturgically rich feast, does not receive the same press or support. Often it is seen as little more than an opportunity for an extended weekend away.

We might wonder why there is not even the slightest nod to Easter's religious significance. Is it because we are more comfortable with the image of a new-born Jesus in a warm stable with cows and sheep than with the image of crucified and naked Jesus dying alone on a stark hillside? Or is it that Christmas more easily lends itself to a celebration of that great new secular cult: consumerism?

Christmas is as much a time for extravagance and credit card debt as it is for family get-togethers. So often amidst our rejoicing and songs commemorating the "choirs of angels" we forget the enormity of the occasion, when God became incarnate to offer us redemption from sin and death.

Christmas is part and parcel of the Easter message. The birth of Jesus only derives real significance from his ultimate death and resurrection. For it was only in the light of that experience that Jesus' first followers eventually came to see that Jesus was God incarnate. His birth in obscurity was conceived anew as the centre-point of history. Hence, the story in Matthew does not shirk from hinting at the end that awaits this babe and that of those who fail to heed his message.

The wise men offer gifts that include myrrh, an aloe used for anointed dead bodies (Matt 2:11); a jealous secular King orders the massacre of innocents to try prematurely to destroy the "newborn king" (Matt 2:16-18); and, a fiery prophet warns of the coming wrath of God against the wealthy, the powerful and self-satisfied who refuse to repent (Matt 3:7-13).

This Christmas, as we come to kneel before the crib in our churches, let us remember that the shadow of the cross looms large over the little stable by the altar. And amid the strains of jaunty carols and festive well-wishes, may we also hear the words of John the Baptist calling us to "produce good fruit as evidence of repentance" (Matt 3:8).

Ian J. Elmer © Redemptorists 2019

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# THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH 8 - 15 DECEMBER

Sunday	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A</b> 8:00am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church 9:00am Cuppa in Hall 10:00am <u>Mass</u> - Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, South Murwillumbah
Tuesday	<i>No Adoration, Mass or Rosary in Sacred Heart Church today</i> 6:00pm <u>St Joseph's Year 6 Graduation Mass</u> - OLPS, Sth Murwillumbah 6:30pm Mt St Patrick Primary School Presentation - Gilbey Centre 7:00pm Baptism Preparation Meeting - Parish Administration Centre
Wednesday	9:00am <u>Mass</u> - Greenhills Lodge 9:15am St Joseph's Primary Presentation - St Joseph's School 9:30am Mt St Patrick Infants Presentation - Gilbey Centre 4:15pm - 5:15pm Adoration - Sacred Heart Church 5:30pm <u>YOUTH Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Thursday	8:30am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church 9:15am Legion of Mary - South Murwillumbah Meeting Room 1:45pm - 2.45pm Christian Meditation Group - South Murwillumbah Mtg Room 3:00pm Junior Legion of Mary - South Murwillumbah 4:00pm Carnival 'Evaluation' Meeting - Parish Administration Centre
Friday	10:00am Communion Service - Opal Nursing Home - C Dennis 10:00am <u>Mass</u> - Heritage Lodge - Fr Anthony 12:15pm <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church 1:45pm - 2:45pm Adoration - Sacred Heart Church
Saturday	9:00am Rosary - Sacred Heart Church 6:00pm <u>Vigil Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A</b> 8:00am <u>Mass</u> - Sacred Heart Church 10:00am <u>Mass</u> - St Brigid's, Burringbar

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr A 14/15 Dec	Sacred Heart Murwillumbah 6.00pm Saturday	Sacred Heart Murwillumbah 8.00am Sunday	COUNTERS: 08 Dec: B Brodbeck & C Kerr 15 Dec: C & J Anderson 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 26 Jan: P & R Marr
<b>Acolyte</b>	P Egan	T Zambelli	
<b>Altar Servers</b>	E Wightley G Kendrick-Morosini	A & C McCabe X Palmer	
<b>Readers</b>	R Daley (C) R L Fox R M Reynolds P/F	B Cook (C) P/F B Gorton R L Green P/F	
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	R Anderson (C) D Macartney, B Nolan C Wightley	I & B Dusi (C) P Marr, MA Thackray K Ryder	
<b>Hospitality</b>	—————	M Zambelli	<b>CHURCH CLEANING</b> <b>SANCTUARY &amp; ALTAR</b> <b><u>Sacred Heart Church:</u></b> <b>8 Dec :</b> C Wightley, T & P Zambelli, N Gear <b>15 &amp; 22 Dec:</b> B Gorton, M Reynolds <b><u>OLPS Church, Sth M'bah</u></b>
<b>Procession of Gifts</b>	C & J Anderson	McCalman family	
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>	No Children's Liturgy	C Goronszy	

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

**ROSARY STATUE**  
Francis Berg



## 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**  
This Sunday 8 December  
*Please bring a plate to share.*

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP**  
Thursdays 1:45pm-2:45pm  
South M'bah Meeting Room

## 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 10 December

## CALENDAR

### ~ DECEMBER ~

- 17 MSPPS Yr 6 Graduation Mass
- 17 II Rite of Reconciliation - Kingscliff 6pm
- 18 Parish Men's Group - RSL Club - 10am
- 18 II Rite of Reconciliation - Mbah - 6pm
- 19 Parish Finance Council
- 20 Parish Offices closes
- 22 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT-YR A**  
10am Mass - OLPS, South Murwillumbah  
Baptisms
- 22 **Filipino Mass - Sacred Heart - 4pm**  
celebrated by Fr. Wilber Tobe
- 24 **Christmas Eve**
- 25 **The NATIVITY of the LORD**  
**(Christmas Day)**
- 29 **The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
*No 10am Mass today - Fifth Sunday*

### ~ JANUARY 2020 ~

- 01 **MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**  
**9am Mass - Sacred Heart Church**
- 05 **THE EPIPHANY of the LORD - Yr C**  
**10am Mass - St Columba's, Uki**
- 06 Parish Office Opens for 2020
- 06 Meals on Wheels - Roster 1

God loves generosity in us.  
- Mary MacKillop 1882

**2020 Josephite Calendars**  
**on sale Sacred Heart Church**  
**or at the Parish Office (\$10.00 each)**

**2020 Columban Calendars**  
**on sale at Vinnies Store (\$9.00 each)**

**Readings next week: (Yr A)**  
**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10;**  
**Mt 11:2-11**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Tony Dowling, Mary Kelly.



## NOTICE BOARD

### PARISH 'CUPPA'

Our monthly 'Cuppa' will be held in the Parish Hall  
after the 8am Mass this Sunday 8 December.

**ALL WELCOME!**

### 2019 VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL



St Vincent de Paul are accepting donations of toys & children's gifts, gifts for teenagers and adults for their 2019 Christmas Appeal.

Gifts (unwrapped), or monetary donations, may be left at the Parish Office or Vinnies Store until Friday 13th December.

*Thank you for your continued support.*

**Christmas Carnival**  
**'Evaluation' Meeting**  
**Thurs 12 December**  
**4.00pm in Parish**  
**Administration Centre**

**PARISH MEN'S GROUP**  
The next meeting of the Parish Men's Group for a Cuppa/morning tea will be on **Wed 18th December - 10am - RSL Club.**  
**ALL MEN ARE WELCOME!**

### BISHOP'S MASS DEDICATION FOR RAIN

Bishop Greg has asked for all Wednesday Masses until Christmas, to be said for those who have suffered from the fire and the drought and for the gift of rain.

### CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTER

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

### HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE 2020 with St Joseph's Parish, Tweed Heads

**Departure 14th August 2020 - 10 nights/13 days**

What a wonderful opportunity for you to walk the land where 2000 years ago Jesus preached and taught us to pray in the form of the Our Father.

Your pilgrimage begins from Australia travelling to Amman, then by road to Mt Nebo and on to the shore of the Dead Sea. The pilgrimage will travel over lands once walked by Jesus. Fr Michael Brady, Parish Priest, Tweed Heads, will be your Spiritual Chaplain. Each day on the Pilgrimage, Mass will be celebrated in a special place. Now is the ideal time to make a booking.

To book or for further information, contact Harvest Journeys on:

Ph: 1800 819 156 or at [www.harvestjourneys.com/PV5420](http://www.harvestjourneys.com/PV5420)

Brochures available in the church.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr A  
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (71)**

**R:** Justice shall flourish in his time,  
and fullness of peace forever.

**IF SUNG:**

**R:** In his days justice shall flourish and peace  
'till the moon fails.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight  
his paths: all people shall see the  
salvation of God.

Alleluia!

**CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL  
& NATIVITY TABLEAU**

Last Saturday evening we again witnessed the  
presentation of the real Christmas story at the  
2019 Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau.

**A huge THANK YOU to everyone who worked  
so hard or contributed to making the 2019  
Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau such  
a great success.**

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

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**to Harrie & Lenore Van den Broek**  
who are celebrating  
their 60th Wedding Anniversary  
this weekend.

**THANK YOU**

A special Thank You to some wonderful students  
from Mt St Patrick Primary School (and a parent),  
who made beautiful Christmas cards and  
chocolates for our parishioners in nursing homes.  
What a thoughtful way to begin the Advent Season.

**CHRISTMAS  
MASS TIMES**

**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL**

**Tuesday 24th December**

7:00pm - Sacred Heart Church

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

**Wednesday 25th December**

8:00am - Sacred Heart Church

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

**ST ANTHONY'S CHURCH, KINGSCLIFF**

Christmas Eve Vigil - 6:00pm

Christmas Day - 9:00am

**STS MARY & AMBROSE CHURCH, POTTSVILLE**

Christmas Eve Vigil - 6:00pm

Christmas Day - 7:30am

**ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, TWEED HEADS**

Christmas Eve Vigil - 6:00pm, 8:00pm

Christmas Day - 8:00am

**ST CAMILLUS' CHURCH, BILAMBIL**

Christmas Day - 9:00am

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC) UPDATE**

Dear Parishioners

Our first PPC meeting was held on Thursday afternoon.  
As a new council preparing to serve our parish community  
we anticipate that our first couple of meetings will be  
dedicated to formation in order to help us determine our  
role on focus and mission. We have prepared a document  
on *The Role of the Sacred Heart Parish Council* which  
will be placed in the foyer and on our parish website. As a  
listening group searching out and responding to the needs,  
ideas and concerns of parishioners we will be discussing  
and planning a variety of ways to reach out and consult  
with you all in planning for the future of our parish.  
Please keep us in your prayers.

**KIMBERLEY CATHOLIC VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

**URGENTLY WANTED: VOLUNTEER WORKERS**

The Diocese of Broome, WA, requires volunteers to assist with the work of the local Church in the Kimberley. There are various important voluntary tasks: administration, building maintenance, gardening, shop staffing, cooking, cleaning etc. Placements are preferred for a period of 6 months. We are currently seeking volunteers for several parishes including Kalumburu and La Grange/Bidyadanga.

For further details on how to be a part of this unique experience, and an application form, please contact:

Volunteer Coordinator: Anneliese Rohr 08 9192 1060

Email: [volunteers@broomedioocese.org](mailto:volunteers@broomedioocese.org)

Web: [www.broomedioocese.org](http://www.broomedioocese.org)

Mail: PO Box 76, BROOME WA 6725



**INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND** [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) Phone 1800 802 516

**Paying 1.40%**

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