

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

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

Acting Principal: Ms. Kate Salmon (*Term 1*)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YR A 5 January 2020

The light we all follow



The Feast of the Epiphany concludes the Christmas season with the story of visitors from the East coming to honour the newborn Jesus in Bethlehem with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

This story, told only in the Gospel of Matthew, was developed in the early Christian centuries where the Magi are given names – “Balthasar, Melchior, Gaspar” – and, in some accounts, are specified as “kings of Arabia, Persia and India”. Others call the wise men astrologers since they could read the stars; others again name them sorcerers on account of their use of supernatural or magic powers.

Matthew's more sparse account does not specify their number, names, nationalities, occupations or regal positions. For Matthew they are just “some wise men from the East” who come to pay homage to “the infant king of the Jews”. The remarkable aspect of the story, apart from the encounter with Herod, is that these visitors to Bethlehem are, like most of us, strangers from afar, outside God's original covenant with the Jewish people. For the gospel writer, the journey of the Magi announces that God's covenant is no longer for a single people, but for everyone.

The word *Epiphany* means a moment of sudden, great revelation represented by a new light enabling us to see things as they really are. The birth of Jesus is that new light to announce the Good News of God's salvation for all peoples and nations. Our response should be that of the non-Jewish Magi – but instead of worshipping Jesus with gold, frankincense and myrrh, we do so with the gifts of our different personalities, ways of life, cultures and traditions.

St John Chrysostom in the fourth century asked why the star shining in the East was only seen by the Magi? He answered that the Magi did not set out because they saw the star; rather, they saw the star because they had already set out! He adds they were searchers guided by an inner-restlessness.

Pope Francis says the Magi represent all of us who, refusing to let our hearts be frozen, have a longing to taste something of God in our lives. This longing for God is something more than a vague hope or distant expectation. Rather it is a deep movement in our hearts represented by Simeon who “longed to see the Saviour”, the Prodigal Son who “longed to return to his Father”, the shepherd “longing for his lost sheep”, and Mary Magdalene running to the tomb “longing to see the risen Jesus”.

In our contemporary culture it often seems God has gone missing! We know our world needs a new Epiphany to show the light of Christ. As such, we are all called to be today's Magi by searching for signs of God's presence in our world leading to the joyful celebration of the light of Christ shining on us and throughout the whole of creation.

Gerard Hall SM © Redemptorists 2020

Reprinted from the Sunday Majellan with permission

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH 5 - 12 JANUARY

Sunday	The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year A 8:00 am Mass - Sacred Heart Church 10:00 am Mass - St Columba's, Uki
Monday	9:00am Parish Office re-opens 9:00am Rosary & Prayers (see note)
Tuesday	8:30 am Mass - Sacred Heart Church
Wednesday	8:30 am Mass - Sacred Heart Church 9:00am Communion - Greenhills Lodge
Thursday	8:30 am Mass - Sacred Heart Church
Friday	8:30 am Mass - Sacred Heart Church 10:00 am Communion Service - M'bah Nursing Home - C Dennis 10:00 am Mass - Heritage Lodge - Fr Anthony 1:45pm-2:45pm Adoration - Sacred Heart Church
Saturday	6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday	The BAPTISM of the LORD - Year A 8:00 am Mass - Sacred Heart Church 10:00 am Mass - Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, South Murwillumbah



*"We have seen his star in the East,
and have come to adore the Lord."*

LITURGY ROSTER: The BAPTISM of the LORD - 11/12 January

Acolyte	Saturday Vigil 6.00pm	Sunday 8.00am	ROSARY STATUE C & J Anderson
	J Reynolds	T Zambelli	
Altar Servers	O Adams	D, J, R & S Buchanan	COUNTERS: 05 Jan: P & L McMahon 12 Jan: T & P Zambelli 19 Jan: J Morgan/L Green
	Y Van Rossi		
Readers	B Grant (C) R	J Schiller (C) P/F	The Sacred Heart Church 'Prayer Chapel' is open for private prayer on weekdays.
	D Banner R	B Nolan R	
Extra Ordinary Ministers	K Mumford P/F	P Yabsley R	
	C Anderson (C)	B Gorton (C)	
Hospitality	R Daley, K Mumford	M Reynolds, M Chiesa	
	M Mumford, D Macartney	C Wightley, L Green	
Procession of Gifts	D Haumu, M Reynolds	J Morgan, N Maybury	
	P & L Fox	McCalman family	

MEALS ON WHEELS - Roster 1 6 - 10 January

Mon: B & M Donaghy, P Dow & C Reynolds
Tues: J & M Reynolds
Wed: L Johnson & D Banner, B Albury
Fri: P Ryder, D Haumu; B Ryder, A Wilson

Rosary & Prayers for God's Precious Infants and the Unborn Child - Monday 6th January at 9.00am Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church, South Murwillumbah.
Pregnancy Help Line: 1300 139 313

'Never ever doubt the value and importance of the life you are living!
Never ever doubt that you are loved by God in a most extraordinary way!
Never ever put a limit to the mercy of God!
- St. Mary of the Cross MacKillop

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YR A RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 71)

R: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:
Alleluia, Alleluia!
We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

Readings for next week:
The BAPTISM of the LORD - Year A
Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Acts 10:34-38; Mt 3:13-17

RECENTLY DECEASED:
Jim O'Brien, Kathleen Cavanagh, Kieran Dolan, Richard Mudge, Ron Marshall, Laurie Kinneally
ANNIVERSARIES:
Gloria Moran, Les Everson.



INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND - Paying 1.40%

Agents: ALG/Egan Simpson Solicitors: 15 Prince St, Murwillumbah (Re-opens Monday 13 January)