

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

Candidate for Priesthood - Prodeocio Bognay

PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Friday 9.00am - 3.00pm

Phone: 02 6672 1118

Website: www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au

Email: shpmurah@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

mshpmurah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Paul Reidy

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

mshpmurah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

mshpmurah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Jason Clarke

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- YEAR A

10 May 2020

Filling our hearts with joy

Easter is a season of joy. We rejoice because our Lord has risen. The hard and painful journey that Jesus undertook with his gift to us of everlasting life. He is the Lord of life as he states in today's gospel. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

The Good Friday experience led the disciples to believe that there was no hope and joy. Jesus' death on the cross signalled the end of their discipleship journey with him. His passion, crucifixion and death left the disciples bewildered and uncertain. The messiah whom John the Baptist had proclaimed was no more.

In this situation, God seems to be absent. Jesus comforts us by saying "do not let your hearts be troubled". Life sometimes is very tough, and Jesus never promises us life without troubles. Jesus wants us to have an untroubled heart even when we are in a difficult situation. So, Jesus calls us to have faith in him; "trust in God still, and trust in me".

Faith can keep our heart at peace and give us confidence that we have Jesus in whom we can rely on. These are not mere labels given to Him. Jesus took the way of the cross to show us the truth that God loves us very much and gives his own life to us. He is the Truth because he was willing to die to open the door to new life. Jesus is the Way and without him there is no going. Jesus is the Truth because without him there is no knowing. Jesus is the life because without him there is no living.

Today, the Internet is one of the things we most need in life. It allows us to access google, and to find answers to numerous questions. The Internet can also become the way to find direction, the truth to get answers, and the way to make life more enjoyable.

Do we still trust Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life? As disciples of Jesus in this millennial world, let us remember that we have good reason not to be troubled. Jesus invites us to stay united with Him, be conformed to him in self-giving love and follow His model of humility. Then, we will also be able to endure with him our cross, and so share in his new life.

Once we encounter the Lord, receive his Word of life and believe in Him, the Lord will put his joy into our hearts and it will remain with us until the fullness when he comes again. Pope Francis reminds us that "With Christ joy is constantly born anew" (EG 1). With Christ, our heart is always full of joy.

Redempt Jawa CSsR @Magellan 2020

This week in the Parish 10 - 17 May

Sunday 10	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9am - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony
Thursday 14	12 noon - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony
Friday 15	12 noon - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony
Sunday 17	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9am - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony

Readings this week: (Yr A)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Yr A

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pet 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Yr A

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pet 3:15-18;
Jn 14:15-21



Happy Mother's Day

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Theresa French (niece of Marie Twohill), Joy Armour, Sr. Martha Casserley PBVM, Patricia Burgoyne, Paul Reynolds. Gerald Daly.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Michael Kean, Jessie Peters, Joe Johnson, Declan Mumford.

Parish Office update...

The Parish Office remains closed until further notice. We are hoping to re-open shortly, depending on the government's decision on the easing of restrictions.



Aid to the Church in Need ACN AUSTRALIA

Are you wondering how the coronavirus pandemic is affecting the Church around the world?

Visit: www.aidtochurch.org/covid-19 to read messages from bishops, priests, brothers and religious sisters serving in some of the most remote and dangerous countries in the world.

This website contains some beautiful testimonies, prayers and images of how the church around the world is coping during these coronavirus times.

A Prayer for Mothers

Loving God, we pray:
for new mothers,

coming to terms with new responsibility;
for expectant mothers, wondering and waiting;
for those who are tired, stressed or depressed;
for those who struggle
to balance the tasks of work and family;
for those who are unable to feed their children
due to poverty;
for those whose children have physical,
mental or emotional disabilities;
for those who raise children on their own;
for those who have lost a child;
for those who care for the children of others;
for those whose children have left home;
and for those whose desire to be a mother
has not been fulfilled.

Bless all mothers,
that their love may be deep and tender,
and that they may lead their children
to know and do what is good,
living not for themselves alone,
but for God and for others.

Amen.

SUPPORTING YOUR SPIRITUAL AND PRAYER LIVES DURING COVID-19

View Mass at Home

There are several options to tune into Mass at home, here are a few:

ONLINE:

- ◆ Fr Anthony is livestreaming weekday and weekend Mass from the Sacred Heart Church for you at home this week. Times are printed above. Our Sacred Heart Parish YouTube channel is:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQUNxgD05WeZpoYNeJK24gA>
- ◆ Bishop Greg Homeming is livestreaming Sunday Mass at 8:00am from the Carmelite Monastery. You can access the livestream by following the link from lismorediocese.org or going straight to the 'Lismore Diocese' channel on YouTube.
- ◆ Mass on Demand: <http://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

FREEVIEW TV:

- ◆ Tune in to channel 10 on Sunday mornings at 6:00am for 'Mass for You at Home'.



HOW ARE YOU DOING?
ARE YOU FEELING MORE
ISOLATED THAN USUAL?
IS COVID-19 GETTING
YOU DOWN?
WOULD YOU LIKE
SOMEONE TO
TALK TO?

CATHOLIC YOUTH IN ACTION

Your Dignity is Our Mission

The Youth Ministry Officers are here to help!
A simple phone service that offers connection, companionship
and belonging.

Young Parishioners serving the Parish!

Please contact: 6672 1118
to register your interest in receiving an introductory phone call.



I am the way, the truth and the life - John 14:6

What will we do when we finally get back to our parishes?

I don't think anyone really knows, but I suspect it will not be business as usual. For many it will be a joy to return to the Masses they have missed so much, for others it may be a little more complicated. Our lives have been turned upside down and we will have had months to think with only streamed Masses to accompany us. There is much to rethink and rebuild. There will be questions that we will only slowly come to appreciate.

That is why I believe that it is fortunate that the first session of the Plenary Council has been delayed. We will need time to come to grips with our new reality.

Two issues which we will need to consider are the role of priests and the practice of liturgy. One thing this period of isolation has taught us is that historically we have been a too priest-centred church and this has left us unprepared for our present reality. Even our solutions are priest-centred. We stream Masses. These can be beautiful, encouraging and nourishing but they highlight a number of weaknesses in our Catholic practice.

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian lives but for many, it is their only way to encounter God. We have no second or third strings to our bows and lay people feel a little lost. They were not trained to lead worship either in their parishes or at home with their families.

In a Church where, for most people, liturgy is not really liturgy unless they receive the Eucharist; it will require a lot of patience and catechesis to train people to share the scriptures, to appreciate the Divine Office, to practice *Lectio Divina* and to develop family celebrations of the Word of God that will sustain them in times like these. Perhaps even today, besides streaming Masses we should also trust our people's *sensus fidei* [instinct for God] and encourage them to find creative ways to pray.

One problem with streamed Masses is that it reduces us to spectators. Whereas liturgy is essentially a community event and participation is critical. I am writing this in Holy Week and I must say that watching has brought back many nourishing memories but I wonder if when we return to our parishes we will not want to participate more.

The first two stages of the Plenary Council process have already raised significant questions about the role of priests and the involvement of laity in ministry and leadership. The coronavirus crisis should give these questions special urgency and poignancy.

For years now, we have experienced a shortage of priests that have tried to solve in all kinds of ways except training our lay people to take more responsibility for worship and leadership. I know of no diocese where there is a concerted plan to train lay leaders and ministers to take over despite it being obvious that in around ten years it will be the only solution.

Despite the suffering and tragedy of the COVID-19 crisis, it may still be a graced moment for us in the Australian Church. It has highlighted some important issues we do need to discern. Our isolation and the closure of our churches have given these issues special urgency. The Plenary Council provides us with the process and tools to discern and discuss and the delay in the first session gives us the time to make sense of what is presently happening to us. May the Holy Spirit be with us.

Columban Fr Noel Connolly is a member of the Adult Formation Team with Catholic Mission Australia and is a member of the Facilitation Team for the Plenary Council 2020.

Columban eBulletin – Apr 15, 2020



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

Paying 1.10%

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