

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 - Prodeacio Bogday

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

mspcmbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Paul Reidy

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

murp@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

smurp@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Jason Clarke

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- YEAR A

17 May 2020

God reigns through the spirit

As we near the end of the Easter Season and approach Ascension and Pentecost, the liturgy contains a gospel reading that refers to the Holy Spirit. There is a promise of the coming of the Advocate, the Spirit of truth. There is a promise of the divine dwelling among us, the promise that the Spirit will be both *with us*, and *in us*.

The Advocate or the Paraclete is reflected in the various English translations of the noun *parakletos* for "comforter" or "counsellor". This noun derives from the Greek verb *parakaleo* which has many meanings including "to encourage", "to comfort and console" "to call upon for help" and "to appeal."

The Paraclete is not simply another name for the Spirit but is a way of describing the functions of the Spirit. What the Paraclete does is not new but is a continuation of the work of Jesus. God is present among the community of the faithful through the Spirit.

The coming of the Holy Spirit, therefore, crowns the promise of the divine presence. It is as though Jesus says, "Through the Holy Spirit I will be with you always. You will not be abandoned; you will not be orphans". The coming of the Paraclete ensures that the revelation of God in the incarnation does not end with Jesus' death and return to God. This Holy Spirit will continue Jesus' presence on earth.

In the face of their fear, anxieties, and despair, these promises are made directly to the disciples. Jesus assures them of new life and hope through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus offers his disciples the good news of the love of God and of the abiding presence of God with them, even when the circumstances of their lives seem most unpromising. Jesus speaks words of hope with the assurance of God's presence, so that the disciples can live a life shaped not by Jesus' absence, but by his unending presence.

God is always with us, and his presence will continue and grow despite our fears and distress. What Jesus promises provides endless resources for the life and faith of the church.

His promises give the church renewed strength and hope even when, we, as God's people, face the many difficulties and challenges of our day. Therefore, we shall not fear because we are in God's care, we are in the community of love and God is present in our midst.

The promises of divine presence are promises made, not to the individual, but to the community who lives in love. Those who live in love will experience God's presence in their midst. A relationship with God does not depend on physical presence, but on the presence of the love of God in the life of the community.

Anthony Tran CSsR @Magellan 2020

Reprinted from the Sunday Magellan with permission)

This week in the Parish 17 - 25 May

Sunday 17	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9am - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony
Thursday 21	12 noon - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony
Friday 22	12 noon - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony
Sunday 24	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 9am - Mass livestreamed with Fr. Anthony
Monday 25	OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Readings this week: (Yr A)

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Yr A

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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - Yr A

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Peter Griffiths, Ursula Mills, Noeline Mayberry,
Dina Zambelli, Veronica (Vonnice) Walker, Theresa
French, Joy Armour, Sr. Martha Casserley PBVM,
Patricia Burgoyne, Paul Reynolds.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Bishop Patrick Farrelly (3rd Bishop of Lismore).



*The venerated image
whom Pope Leo XIII
granted a Canonical
coronation on 17
May 1903.
The Basilica of Our
Lady Help of
Christians, Turin.*

PRAYER IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS

Almighty and merciful God,
lover of the human race,
healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people
as they tend to the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the
dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.

St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

*- Catholic Mission
Reach out. Give life.*

Parish Church and Office re-opening updates...

The Bishop advises that he will not make any decision
about re-opening our Diocesan Churches until next week.

Therefore, our Parish Office will remain closed as well.

SUPPORTING YOUR SPIRITUAL AND PRAYER LIVES DURING COVID-19

View Mass at Home

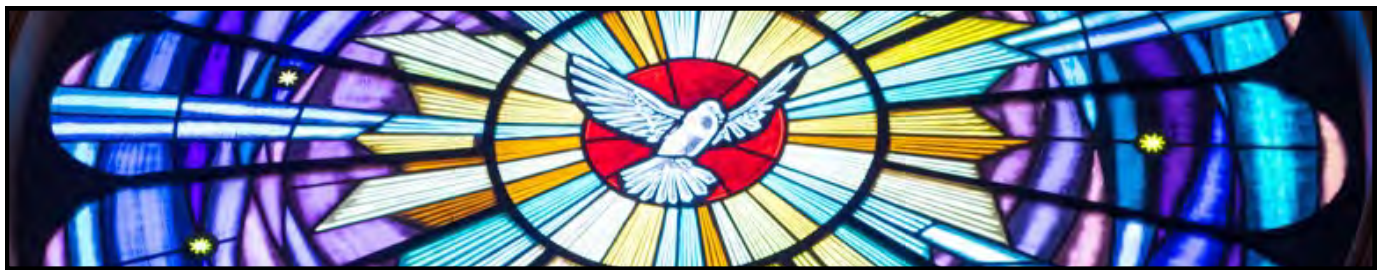
There are several options to tune into Mass at home, here are a few:

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'.



REFLECTION...

We live in hope because we have been blessed with the opportunity of participating in the exaltation of Jesus. This hope is based on promises: the promise that we will not be left orphaned when Jesus returns to his Father; the promise that we will be comforted by the Spirit whom Jesus will send. It is trust in God that enables us to live in this world as if the promises have already been fulfilled, for in fact, it is precisely such living that fulfils them.

We have not celebrated the Ascension, and yet all three readings speak of the Spirit. The same Spirit, who quickened the resurrected life of Jesus, enlivens us. This Spirit strengthens, comforts, guides and inspires us. Life in the Spirit requires that we conform our lives to the commandments of God, not in a legalistic or constraining way but out of love. The love that comes to us through the Spirit will then overflow into the lives of others, and we will be agents of God's love in the world.

The Spirit given by Christ is mediated through the laying on of hands. This still happens in our day in the gentle touch of friends, in the loving touch of parents, in the healing touch of those who cure both the body and the spirit. The liturgical year is preparing us for the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, and Jesus is preparing us for life in the Spirit here on earth. This is the reason for our hope.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS - NOW A 51ST!



Unfortunately the planned 50th anniversary celebrations for St Joseph's in August will not take place this year due to COVID-19 restrictions and the uncertainty of when mass gatherings will be permitted again.

We will now be holding a 51st Anniversary in 2021! Date to be advised. The organising committee ask that our community members past and present continue collecting and sending any memorabilia, photos etc in to school. While the date may have been set back the preparations are continuing!

CATHOLIC YOUTH IN ACTION

Your Dignity is Our Mission



Dear Parishioners

Our parish is blessed with some energetic young adults who currently work in our Parish Secondary Schools as Youth Ministry Officers (YMOs). In the coming weeks, these young parishioners will be turning their attention to becoming agents of connection within parish communities, focusing on the elderly, frail and lonely.

This connection will be through the simplicity of a phone call to check in on those in our parish who are feeling an added isolation during the current COVID-19 Pandemic.

Our young callers will be supervised and will be receiving training in delivering this phone service. They are looking forward to offering connection, companionship and service through one or more short, but regular phone chats. Participation is completely voluntary and may be concluded at any time.

These phone calls will only be made to those who are interested and have given permission. If you or someone you know might be interested in this service, please contact Parish Office 6672 1118.



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.

Livestreaming the Mass ... What's Involved?

Each week since Palm Sunday Fr Anthony has been livestreaming Masses for our parishioners, families and friends here and away. We thought you might be interested in what's going on behind the scenes in the livestream Masses.

In some churches, there are production teams behind the cameras who cut & edit as they stream; with musicians and readers all helping with the celebration of Mass.

For our parish, Fr Anthony has created a very simple solution – set up a YouTube channel, hooked up a laptop with built-in camera and mic and pressed the record button as Mass is about to start.

With a bit of encouragement from a priest friend in Sydney, Fr Anthony researched and learnt how to set up our very own Sacred Heart Parish YouTube channel, learnt how to livestream and worked out how to upload video so that we all have access to the Masses 24/7.

In the last couple of weeks, you might have noticed a change - we've now got the sound "wired" into a computer and a fixed computer and a \$90 webcam in place of the laptop which was being taken back and forth to the church for each Mass.

We've tried to keep the process as simple as possible and the only people attending the livestream Masses are Fr Anthony and Prodeacio, with Fr John joining them for Sunday Mass. Prodeacio sets the altar. Fr Anthony personally sets up the computer and presses the "record" button. Our Pastoral Associate Barbara comes in as needed beforehand to change banners. It's all very "hands on" and very simple.

We thank Fr Anthony for his enthusiasm – if it wasn't for him being willing to have a go, we probably wouldn't have the opportunity to attend Mass each week with our own pastor in our own familiar church environment, something many other parishes have not been able to do.

Hopefully it won't be much longer before we can open the doors again and gather for Masses (with the required social distancing and cleaning regimes in place of course). But who knows, we may still continue to livestream or record Masses for those of us who for one reason or another can't physically make it to Mass.

I have to say I like the 9 am Sunday Mass time and I like being able to go to Mass sitting in my comfy recliner rocker with my slippers on! One could get quite used to this!



What Fr Anthony sees as he's saying Mass



What we see from the comfort of our homes



The equipment set-up: Mark I – laptop with built in mic & camera perched on a flower stand



The equipment set-up: Mark II – computer with wired sound and fixed camera and still perched on a flower stand

