

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: shpmurwillumbah@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

murwillumbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Paul Reidy

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

murwillumbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

southmurwillumbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Jason Clarke

**20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -
YEAR A**

16 August 2020

God's generous love for us all

It comes as rather a shock in today's reading when Jesus seems rather callously to rebuff a woman who desperately implores his help. Her daughter is very ill; the mother pleads for her healing. But the woman is a Canaanite; she is not a Jew, not one of the chosen people of Israel.

Does she, an outsider, a foreigner, even have a right to ask for his help? At first Jesus ignores her. Then, when she kneels and begs him again, his replies rather coldly, telling her that "It is not right to take the food of the children (i.e. the people of Israel) and throw it to the dogs (i.e., the Gentiles, the non-Jews)." But she, undeterred, pleads again, this time cleverly turning his argument against him, saying "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters."

At this point, after three times rebuffing her, he relents. Indeed, he changes. She's penetrated his thinking and prompted him to a new understanding and he has changed his mind! He gets the point. The point is that his mission is not just to the People of Israel. It is for everyone! Now, he commends her for her remarkable faith: "O woman, great is your faith!" and he yields to her plea. Her daughter is healed from that moment.

It is this same amazing reality of God's generous, steadfast and inclusive love of all, which the Canaanite woman so insistently and effectively forced to Jesus' realisation, that today's readings from Isaiah and from Paul's Letter to the Romans also attest. Isaiah teaches that God's house is *for* all peoples. In other words, it is not just for God's chosen people; it is not just for Israel. Then Paul, speaking as the apostle to the Gentiles (i.e. non-Israelites), insists that "the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable" and that God has mercy upon all.

So here's the good news. God's mercy and love are *for all*, no matter their ethnicity or culture or social standing. God's love and mercy are *for all*, and God's gifts and call are irrevocable. As Paul says in another place, nothing can ever separate us from the love of God.

And here's the challenge: we too are called to faith like that of this remarkable Canaanite woman, the faith to hold on and hold firm through thick and thin, through good times and bad. God does hear our prayers, though not necessarily as or when we think best. But God's delays are not God's denials.

Secondly, we too are called to a generous and inclusive love of all, not just in our group, but also for the stranger, the foreigner, the refugee, the outsider. It's a demanding call, a call to practical action each and every day of our lives.

Anne Hunt @Magellan 2020

Reprinted from the Sunday Magellan with permission

This week in the Parish

Saturday 15	THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 6:00pm - MASS OF THE ASSUMPTION - Sacred Heart
Sunday 16	20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A 8am - Mass - Sacred Heart Church There is NO 10am Mass today <i>There are NO Masses Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday this week.</i>
Wednesday 19	10:00am - Catholic Women's Group (see note)
Friday 21	12 noon - Mass - Sacred Heart Church
Saturday 22	6pm - Vigil Mass - Sacred Heart Church
Sunday 23	21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A 8am - Mass - Sacred Heart Church There is NO 10am Mass today

WEEKEND MASSES (including FRIDAY)

BOOKINGS REQUIRED

Please contact the Parish Office
66721118 Tuesday & Wednesday
9am - 3pm or email your request to
shpmbah@norex.com.au

WEEKDAY MASSES (TUE, WED & THU)

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED

**There is no Reconciliation
available in the Parish
for the next two weekends.**

Readings this week: (Yr A)

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A

Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A

Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Allan Duroux, Marie Clarke, Brendan Nihill, Arthuro Cantiga.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lyn Cotelli, Sr Teresa Joan Fitzgerald, Margaret & Dominic Guinea.

PLANNED GIVING & DONATIONS

Thank you to everyone who continues to make their donations to the Parish and Clergy Fund through the current crisis. Your continued support is much appreciated.

Details for EFT donations to our first and second collections are:

First Collection – for the support of our clergy and upkeep of the presbytery

BSB: 062 580 | A/C No: 0090 5461 | A/C Name: Presbyterium A/C Murwillumbah

Second Collection – for support our Parish, including parish office wages, administration expenses and maintenance of our churches and parish buildings

BSB: 062 580 | A/C No: 0090 4506 | A/C Name: Catholic Church Murwillumbah

Please include a reference on your EFT donation – your surname and/or PG number e.g. Jones PG 123

Envelopes and cash donations may also continue to be left in the secure mailbox at the back door of the Parish Office. Thank you.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S GROUP NEWS ...



The informal gathering for a 'Cuppa & Chat' will resume Wednesday 19 August at 10am in the Parish Meeting Centre, Waterloo Street (near tennis courts).

Enquiries: Barbara Cook 6672 3377



"The rosary is a contemplative and Christ-centred prayer, inseparable from meditation of the Sacred Scripture.

It is the prayer of the Christian who advances in the pilgrimage of faith, following Jesus, preceded by Mary," - Pope Benedict XVI.

HEARING LOOP

The Hearing Loop in the Sacred Heart Parish has been serviced and is now working well.

Please Note: it may be a little loud and you may have to adjust your hearing aid accordingly.

Fr Anthony will be away on holidays for the next two weeks. Fr Michael Nilon will be looking after our parish in his absence.

Please note the CHANGES to our Sunday Mass times during Fr Anthony's holidays:

- ♦ 6 pm Vigil Mass Saturday 22 & 29 August in Sacred Heart Church - Fr Michael Nilon
- ♦ 8 am Mass Sunday 23 & 30 August in Sacred Heart Church - Fr Michael Nilon
- ♦ **THERE WILL BE NO 10 AM MASS ON 23 & 30 August**
- ♦ As numbers remain limited, you still need to BOOK for ALL weekend Masses

COVID-19 Updates from Bishop Greg

3 August 2020 - FACE MASKS

The Premier of NSW has recommended that masks be worn at places of worship. While we cannot enforce this, we should encourage parishioners to wear masks during religious services. All staff members working in and around the Church at the time of Mass, should wear masks. In particular, those taking names and contact details must wear masks.

WEBSITES TO VISIT....

- ♦ www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au - our parish website.
- ♦ www.lismorediocese.org - our Diocesan website.
- ♦ www.vatican.va - the official Vatican website.
- ♦ www.wednesdayword.org
- ♦ www.cathnews.com - for Catholic news five (5) mornings a week: visit website to set up free subscription.
- ♦ www.catholicaustralia.com.au - for "everything Catholic" in Australia.
- ♦ www.prayasyoucan.com.au - for a number of different reflections on the gospel of the coming Sunday.
- ♦ www.loyolapress.com - for 3 minute daily online prayer, & daily inspiration.
- ♦ www.sacredspace.ie - for daily gospel reading & reflection.

**THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST**



This feast celebrates the doctrine of Mary's entrance into heaven, body and soul.

As defined by Pope Pius XII in 1950, the dogma declares that "Mary, the immaculate, perpetually Virgin Mother of God, after the completion of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into the glory of heaven."

*All generations will call me blessed,
for he who is mighty
has done great things for me.
- Luke 1:48-49*

WE CELEBRATE SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY ON 30 AUGUST.

*This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: **TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULL: MENTAL HEALTH IN AUSTRALIA TODAY.** The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the mental health of many members of our parishes, schools and communities. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who need our support, The Bishops invite us all to reject stigmatisation, the work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community. Statements will be available 30 August.*

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:

- ♦ Bishop Greg Homeming is livestreaming Sunday Mass at 8:00am. 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'.



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 66)

R: O God, let all the nations praise you!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

MASS - What you need to know...

From 1st July the number permitted to attend Masses and any church services is determined by the 4 square metre distancing rule.

As you all know there are certain directives that must be followed to enable us to come together and celebrate as a community, so please take a moment to familiarise yourself with these:

- ♦ all Masses will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church (entry via main entrance only)
- ♦ signing in on arrival and hand sanitising
- ♦ **it is still necessary to book for ALL weekend Masses including Friday, Saturday and Sunday**
- ♦ no need to book for weekday Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday
- ♦ seats are marked where you can sit
- ♦ please observe social distancing when coming forward for communion, and communion BY HAND only
- ♦ for the time being, we will not be having congregational singing
- ♦ church cleaned after each Mass
- ♦ covid-19 safety plan of action in place

Queries or concerns, please contact Mary-Ann in the Parish Office.

To help us with cleaning after each Mass we ask that you please turn the "Please Sit Here" sign in your seat over to the blank side when you sit down – this will help us identify which seats have been used during Mass. Thanks for your co-operation.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.



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

Paying 0.90%

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



Philomena Zambelli
Deputy Chair



Christine Wightley
Chairperson



Denise Banner
Secretary



Tony Zambelli

Sacred Heart
Parish
Pastoral Council



Faith Buchanan



Alex Lever



Tim Waugh



Carolina Carnio



Fr Anthony Lemon
Parish Priest



Barbara Grant
Pastoral Associate

Pastoral Council Presentation to parishioners regarding questionnaire survey results

We would like to start by saying thank you very much. We were delighted with the number of questionnaire responses that we received and with the amount of time and effort that you put into your thoughtful responses.

When collating and assessing all the information that we received, we looked at the overall picture that was emerging from your broad range of submissions. It was interesting that many of your comments expressed similar thoughts and aspirations for our Parish. These will therefore become the main focus of the Pastoral Council and as we present them to you we will also be seeking your assistance with their preparation and implementation.

Following our discussions, at the PPC meeting on Thursday 6th August, about your priorities we have planned to start some projects immediately- one is a parish directory that will contain information about current parish ministries and groups and also the parish calendar of special masses and events; the directory will have a succinct mission statement about each ministry or group; the contact person and how you can become involved. This directory will be produced in written form and also be published on the parish website. This directory will be available in our churches, schools and a number of other strategic locations.

Another high priority that many of you requested was social interaction and so we are working towards the creation of a social subcommittee that will work with us to create more social activities for all age groups, you will hear more from us about this very soon.

Spiritual growth and an understanding and preparedness for the Sunday Mass was also included on many peoples' responses and to support that request a wonderful publication called Wednesday Word, that contains the readings for Sunday, and a reflection on each of these readings, will be emailed to parishioners each week with the Sunday Bulletin (anyone that does not wish to receive this publication can opt out by advising the Parish Office).

Many of you recognised the restrictions that COVID-19 has placed on current activities and also on our future planning. These are difficult times but we will continue to work with you, and seek your support, as we plan for activities and introduce new initiatives for our parish community.

We encourage you to continue to contact the members of the parish pastoral council with your ideas and your concerns.

Thank you and God Bless,
Your pastoral council members