

# 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** - Prodencio Bognay

## 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

## PARISH SCHOOLS

### Mt. St. Patrick College

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 2340

[mshpmbah@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mshpmbah@lism.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Paul Reidy

### Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

[murp@lism.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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](mailto:smurp@lism.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Jason Clarke

**24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -  
YEAR A**

**13 September 2020**

## The God of Pardons

The prophet Nehemiah (9:17) describes the Judeo-Christian deity as "a god of pardons". This expression is later picked up by other prophets (e.g., Joel 2:13), the Psalmists (86:15; 103:8-14), and even St Paul (2 Corinthians 1:3) – with good reason. Both the Ancient Israelites and the early Christians experienced the presence of God in significant events of liberation, mercy and forgiveness.

The God revealed to Moses was concerned for the plight of the Israelites enslaved in Egypt and wanted to see them liberated. The God that the Jewish prophets and mystics encountered in their prayer was one who sought to lead Israel both into and out of Exile in Babylon to cleanse them of their sins. The divine Word that the Apostles found expressed in Jesus was an offer of forgiveness to sinners and liberation from death.

The collective wisdom of the Biblical record is that the defining characteristics of Yahweh are mercy, compassion and forgiveness. One of the most beautiful expressions of this insight is found in Exodus 3:6-7, which describes Yahweh as "merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness".

This is a key passage highlighting the fact that the concepts of mercy and forgiveness are related to that of faithfulness; that is, the faithfulness or "steadfast love" of Yahweh vis-a-vis his covenantal promises. The story of the Bible is one of a people who constantly fail to live up to their side of the covenant with Yahweh; but Yahweh continues to forgive them and call them back into relationship.

Of course, this doesn't mean that the people of Yahweh are free to do as they will. The parable Jesus tells in today's gospel contrasts the merciful actions of a king with the duplicity and miserliness of his servant who, despite being the recipient of royal largesse, demands immediate payment from his debtors. The king reacts by reneging on his promise of forgiveness.

The point of this story is that repentant sinners are forgiven, while the impenitent, whose lives are not transformed and who continue to act without mercy to others, are not. God does not show mercy without expecting a *quid pro quo*.

This story illustrates one of the lines of Matthew's Our Father, where Jesus suggests that we pray: "forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" (Matthew 6:12 NABRE). Similarly, in the Matthean Beatitudes, Jesus proclaims "blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy" (Matt 5:7).

The message of today's readings is that the first and best path to evangelisation is to mirror in our own lives the characteristics of our God, who has consistently been revealed to be a "god of pardons" who is "slow to anger" and always ready to forgive the frailties of humankind.

Ian J Elmer © Redemptorists 2020

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# This week in the Parish

ALL MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED IN THE SACRED HEART CHURCH  
until further notice

Sunday 13 Sep 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A  
8:00 am - Mass  
10:00 am - Mass

Tuesday 15 Sep 5:30 pm - Mass

Wednesday 16 Sep 5:30 pm - Mass

Thursday 17 Sep 8:30 am - Mass

Friday 18 Sep 12 noon - Mass

Saturday 19 Sep 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass

Sunday 20 Sep 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A  
8:00 am - Mass  
10:00 am - Mass

## 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](mailto:shpmbah@norex.com.au)

## WEEKDAY MASSES (TUE, WED & THU)

### NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED

## RECONCILIATION - Sacred Heart:

Saturday : 5.30pm - 5.50pm  
Sunday: 7.30am - 7.50am

## Readings this week: (Yr A)

### 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A

Sirach 27:30-28:7; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

### 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr A

Is 55:6-9; Phil 1:20-24,27; Mt 20:1-16



## BAPTISMS:

Please welcome  
*Noah William Clack*  
to our faith community

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Trevor Twohill, Leah Hosking, David Gorton,  
Mavis Leslight, Bonnie Egan

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Michael Dusi, Joe & Mary Mills

## RCIA—A JOURNEY IN FAITH

Our 2020-2021 RCIA program is about to start. The first meeting for 2020-2021 will be held on **Tuesday 15 September at 6 pm** in the Parish Hall/College Library.

If you or someone you know is interested in starting this faith journey, please contact our Pastoral Associate, Barbara Grant on 6672 1118.

## SUPPORTING YOUR SPIRITUAL AND PRAYER LIVES DURING COVID-19

### View Mass at Home

There are several options to tune into Mass at home:

#### ONLINE:

- ♦ Bishop Greg Homeming is livestreaming Sunday Mass at 8:00am. Follow the link from [lismorediocese.org](http://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'.



*Come to me all you who labour and are burdened;  
and I will give you rest (Mt 11:28)*

In addition to our prayers for those recently deceased and whose anniversaries are being remembered; we're considering adding a new list of names:

*for those who are sick.*

If you or a family member would like to be included on this list for prayers by our parish community, which will be published in the Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office to include your name. For privacy reasons we can only accept requests from a person themselves or a close family relative.

The names on this list will be reviewed and names removed every 4-6 weeks. If you wish a name to remain on the list after that time, you will be asked to contact the Parish Office to ensure that your name remains on the list.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S GROUP

Join us for lunch on  
**Friday 18 September**  
at **Murwillumbah Services Club.**

Bookings are required so please call Frances Wright on 6672 1512 by Wednesday 16 September.

The Women's Group is an informal gathering, meeting every 2nd month on the 3rd Wednesday for a 'cuppa' and on alternate months for lunch at a local venue.

**ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!**



### PRAYER SPONSORS FOR MT ST PATRICK HSC STUDENTS 2020

Mt St Patrick College is once again asking for Prayer Sponsors for Year 12 students during their HSC exams.

*A prayer sponsor is someone who prays for another person at specific times with a specific intention in mind. Knowing that someone is praying for you at a difficult time can be a source of great strength and consolation.*

If you are interested in being a Prayer Sponsor for a Year 12 student from Mt St Patrick College, please contact the Parish Office or leave your name with our hospitality team at Mass this weekend so that we can provide you with a student name and prayer card. A list of student names is on the notice-board at the back of the church.

Thank you for your prayers and support.



This weekend, the Catholic Church in Australia marks Child Protection Sunday, on which we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by priests, religious and lay people in Church settings. The Church takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk.

### THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF LISMORE SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

If you, or a person close to you, has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you.

To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone (02) 6621 9444 or email: [safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au)



**The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through repenting, repairing, and rejoicing together (1 September – 4 October 2020).**

During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home.

This year, amid crises that have shaken our world, we are awakened to the urgent need to heal our relationships with creation and each other. During the season this year, we enter a time of restoration and hope, a *jubilee for our Earth* that requires radically new ways of living with creation.

There are number of resources and online events you can access this September. For more information visit the following sites.

[Seasons of Creation](#)

[Catholic Earthcare](#)

[A Catholic Season of Creation – Sundays of September](#)

*(sourced from Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle mnnews.today)*





## 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 102)

**The Lord is kind and merciful;  
slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**I give you a new commandment: love one  
another as I have loved you. 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.



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