

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

mshpcmbah@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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD - YR B

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,
MARY & JOSEPH - YR B**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YR B

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AT THE SACRED HEART PARISH, MURWILLUMBAH.

Most amazing gift of all

Christmas is surely the most loved time of the year for billions of people across the world; be they Christian believers or not, it is a time of feasting and a time of gift-giving. In our gift-giving we commemorate the greatest gift of all, an astonishing gift that is almost too great to believe.

For we Christians believe that God, in the person of Jesus Christ, became human, fully human, one like us in all things but sin. And like all of us, he began his human life as a baby.

Seeing a new baby always prompts me to ponder how truly extraordinary it is that God became a baby – helpless, vulnerable and, like all babies, totally dependent on its carers.

I think of Mary and Joseph, full of joy and wonder, bursting with love, beholding the baby Jesus. I can imagine Joseph, full of faith and love, tenderly caressing the child, and Mary lovingly nursing the babe, pondering all these things in her heart.

When serving as a Holy Communion volunteer in a hospital, my greatest delight was to find among my list of patients to be visited those who were in the maternity ward. It was such a great privilege and pleasure to visit those parents and to share their joy in the arrival of their child into the world.

I would find the baby there with them, often just a few hours old. It was like Christmas every time! Such a joy! I would marvel to see the parents, utterly besotted, literally falling in love with the baby before my very eyes.

In their presence, there was always a palpable sense of awe, of mystery, and of wonder.

We would then pray together a prayer of blessing over the babe. The parents would often shed a tear or two. Our prayer would be full of gratitude for this new life and full of hope for all that this babe would experience in life. How very much parents want the very best for their child.

But how much more, how very much more, more than we can hardly dare to believe, does God lovingly look upon us! And how much more does God want for each one of us to be happy, to live life to the full, to develop our gifts and talents and achieve our potential, to be loved and to be loving, and to know how greatly we are loved and treasured by God.

All this we celebrate on this great feast: the mystery of creation, the mystery of life itself, and the greatest mystery of all – that God became human, shared fully in our humanity, and all this for love of us, that we might live forevermore as children of God. As an early mystic encapsulated it: He became human that we might become divine. This is the greatest gift of all that we celebrate at Christmas.

Michael Gilbert CSsR © Redemptorists 2020
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Two weeks in the Parish

25 DECEMBER 2020 - 10 JANUARY 2021

Thursday 24/12	CHRISTMAS EVE - VIGIL 6:00pm Vigil Mass 8:00pm Vigil Mass
Friday 25/12	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY) 9:00am Mass
Saturday 26/12	6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 27/12	The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Year B 8:00am Mass No 10:00am Mass today
Thursday 31/12	10:30am Funeral prayers - Loretta Clark
Friday 1/1	MARY, the HOLY MOTHER of GOD (NEW YEAR'S DAY) 9:00am Mass
Saturday 2/1	6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 3/1	The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year A 8:00am Mass 10:00am Mass
Monday 4/1	9:00am Parish Office reopens
Thursday 7/1	8:30am Mass
Friday 8/1	8:30am Mass
Saturday 9/1	6:00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 10/1	BAPTISM OF THE LORD - Year B 8:00am Mass 10:00am Mass

RECONCILIATION:

Saturday : 5.30pm - 5.50pm

Sunday: 7.30am - 7.50am

'May we be in this world
a ray of that **light**
which shone forth from Bethlehem,
bringing joy and peace to the hearts
of all men and women.'
- Pope Francis

Readings for the coming weeks:

The NATIVITY of the LORD - Year B
(Christmas Eve - *Mass during the Night*)
Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
(Christmas Day - *Mass at Dawn*)
Is 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20

The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - Yr B
Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;
Lk 2:22-40

MARY, the Holy MOTHER OF GOD - Yr B
Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Yr B
Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Loretta Clark, Caterina Bonomini, Stephen Sweetnam, Bill Hyde, Mai Ngoc Khuong, Ben Vlaming, Nancy Morgan, Aileen Griffin.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Tom Albury.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Miles Larkin, Frances Wright, James Wallace.

CHRISTMAS PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Administration Centre is closed
until **9am Monday 4 January 2021.**

If there are any urgent matters during this
time, please phone the Presbytery: 6672 1118.

VIEW MASS AT HOME

There are several options to tune into Mass at home:

ONLINE:

- ♦ Bishop Greg is livestreaming Christmas Day Mass at 8:00am. Follow the link from lismorediocese.org or going straight to the 'Lismore Diocese' channel on YouTube.
- ♦ Bishop Greg Homeming is livestreaming Sunday Mass at 8:00am. Follow 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'.

ADVENT WREATH



On Christmas Eve the Christ Candle is lit along with all four Advent candles.

The Christ Candle represents the light that the Son brought into the world when he was born a little baby, God in the flesh. The fact that the Advent candles remain on Christmas Eve puts the focus on this special moment of birth, the moment of transition from prophecy to fulfillment.

On Christmas Day and the Christmas Sundays, the Advent candles are usually removed, but the Christ Candle remains. This reminds us that old things have passed away, and all has been made new.

May the light of the Christ Child fill you with joy and peace!

FEAST OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Mass will be celebrated for the Feast of Mary,
the Mother of God at 9:00am Friday
1st January, New Year's Day.

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Christmas
and a Peace filled New Year to all
Fr Anthony, Mary-Ann,
Beth, Barbara, & Belinda.
May the peace of Christ
find a home in your heart.

MIDNIGHT MASS FROM THE VATICAN

His Holiness Pope Francis will celebrate Midnight Mass in St Peter's Basilica on Christmas Day. This will be telecast on ABC 1 commencing 9:30am (EST) on Christmas Day.

It can also be viewed live on the internet, through the websites of Vatican TV and The Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN).

2020 NATIVITY TABLEAU



The 2020 Nativity Tableau is now available to watch.

Go to the Mt St Patrick Primary website, scroll right until the Sacred Heart Parish Tableau page comes up and click on 'read more'.

Thank you for the combined effort of Mt St Patrick Primary, Mt St Patrick College and St Joseph's Primary for presenting this production for us. **Well done!**



BISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 18 DECEMBER 2020

We are all relieved that 2020 is coming to an end. This year has been a year marked by fires, floods and the Covid-19 pandemic. Everyone has suffered as a consequence of these disasters. Members of our communities have suffered isolation, mental health issues and perhaps domestic violence. It has been a year in which the practice of our faith has been restricted, and perhaps we have wondered where God is.

In a strange way, this is a time which cries out to God, "we need you Lord, please come to us". In such times, God desires to come into the world so as to be with us and share our suffering and despair. God wants to come to us, and this is what Christmas is about. At Christmas we celebrate God coming into the world. Jesus is born and God lives with us, sharing our lives. Jesus is born and lives with us. The more we long for God, the more God wants to be with us. The message of Christmas gives real hope in difficulty.

We don't simply celebrate the birth of Jesus more than 2,000 years ago. Christmas invites us to look into our souls. In the midst of all that 2020 has brought, if we take a moment of silence and enter ourselves in prayer, we will find that the Son of God, born on that first Christmas, is indeed alive within our hearts. Our hope is already within us.

This Christmas, let's not focus on the troubles of 2020, rather let's look within and experience the love of Christ which is deep within us.

I wish you a happy and blessed Christmas.

+ Greg

Bishop Greg Homering OCD



Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2021

CHRISTMAS EVE - VIGIL

(Missal - Mass during the Night)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 95)

R: Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Good news and great joy to all the world:
today is born our Saviour.

Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS DAY

(Missal - Mass at dawn)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 92)

R: A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.

Alleluia!

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 104)

R: The Lord remembers his covenant forever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers
through the prophets; now he speaks to us
through his Son.

Alleluia!

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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!

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.

CHRISTMAS DAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

This year at all our Christmas Masses, there will be a special collection for Wedgetail Retreat, our local Palliative Care Hospice. Envelopes are available at both the Christmas Vigil Masses and the Christmas Day Mass for this collection.

INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND

www.dif.org.au Phone 1800 802 516

Paying .45%

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

(Office re-opens Monday 11 Jan 2021)

