

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

Email: shpbah@nrex.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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B 6 December 2020

A world weary of suffering

"Here is your God!" These words of the first reading, attributed to a prophet called the second (or Deutero)-Isaiah, are words of hope for a disheartened people. The Israelites, although freed from slavery under the Egyptians, now find themselves exiles in what is called the "Babylonian captivity." The Babylonians had destroyed the temple in Jerusalem and exiled most of the Hebrews who were beginning to despair of ever returning to their homeland. The prophet is a scribe for Israel's God communicating words of comfort and hope.

A popular idea at the time was to attribute hardship and misfortune as punishment for sin. While the prophet does not directly challenge a connection between sin and suffering, he presents the people with a far more profound message of the assurance of God's victory over evil as well as the offer of divine mercy and forgiveness. Such a God is not only "coming with power" but also "like a shepherd feeding his flock, holding the lambs in his arms."

What is also clear in these verses is that God does not act alone nor impose the divine will without respect for human freedom. Rather, messengers will be sent, signs will be given, so that all people are invited to see that Israel's God is not simply the God of the Hebrews, but the God of all the earth and every people. The most powerful of God's messengers is John the Baptist, calling people to repent their sins and open their hearts to see in Jesus Christ the Messiah.

We may almost call 2020 our own 'Year of Captivity' in wake of the physical, mental, economic and spiritual challenges through such confronting experiences as bushfires and the coronavirus. There is always the temptation to despair forgetting that, despite human ineptitude, stupidity and sinfulness, creation is still God's world and we are still God's people. Our task is not to "give in" but to "act out" a new way of living focusing on the infinite mercy of God, the dignity of every human person, and the sacredness of the earth.

If bushfires and the pandemic have anything to teach us, it is surely that our human plans are often confronted by new and unexpected life challenges. Pope Francis' powerful encyclical *Laudato Si'* [On Care for Our Common Home] reiterates this understanding that "everything is interconnected." We need to take very seriously human responsibility for global warming and environmental destruction—and to change our ways accordingly. And we also need to place our faith and trust in God.

Advent is a time of both prophecy and promise. The prophet—whether Deutero-Isaiah or John the Baptist—calls us to repent and change our ways. The promise—"Here is your God!"—calms our fears and answers our deepest hopes for a world wearied of suffering.

This week in the Parish

Sunday 6 Dec	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR B 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass
Monday 7 Dec	9:00am - Rosary & Prayers - Sacred Heart Church
Tuesday 8 Dec	The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 5:30pm - Mass
Wednesday 9 Dec	5:30pm - Mass
Thursday 10 Dec	8:30am - Mass 9:15am - Legion of Mary - South Meeting Room
Friday 11 Dec	12:00pm - Mass
Saturday 12 Dec	6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 13 Dec	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR B 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass

WEEKEND MASSES

BOOKINGS REQUIRED

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

(TUE, WED, THU & FRI)

NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED

RECONCILIATION - Sacred Heart:

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

Readings this week:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR B

Is 40:1-5,9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR B

Is 61:1-2,10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24;
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

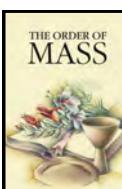
PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Aileen Griffin (Fr Jim Griffin's mother), Ray Pirlo,
Fr John Fitz-Walter, Robert Walsh.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Susan Kean, Miles Larkin, Loretta Clark, Frances
Wright, James Wallace, Bill Hyde.



THE ORDER OF MASS

When the new Mass texts were introduced, a little booklet containing the Order of the Mass was printed by Liturgy Brisbane.

HERE IT IS FOR YOU AGAIN!

This booklet contains the Order of Mass with all Eucharistic Prayers as well as the solemn blessings and Rite for Sprinkling Water. Available from the Church & Parish Office - \$5.00 each.

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 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'.

ROSARY & PRAYERS for God's Precious Infants and the Unborn Child - Monday 7 December - 9am - Sacred Heart Church. Pregnancy Help Line: 1300 139 313.

LEGION OF MARY 'HOUR OF GRACE'

12 NOON TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, TWEED HEADS

All parishioners welcome to attend.

LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL REUNION DAY

SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, TWEED HEADS

Commencing 9am with Rosary & Mass
Followed by morning tea outside the church.
All parishioners welcome to attend.

PARISH MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of the Parish Men's Group for a Cuppa/morning tea will be on

Wednesday 16 December

10am - Alex Lever's home

173 Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

Contact: Alex Lever 6672 1908 or 0458 817 021

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME!

Adore

2020 Daily Advent & Christmas Reflections

Adore is a beautifully presented resource containing short daily reflections from the beginning of Advent through to the Baptism of the Lord.

It provides a wonderful opportunity to take a quiet step out of our daily lives and refocus our attention on the Lord in adoration of what he has done for us through his Son. *Only a few copies left.* \$4.00 from the Church or Parish Office.



ADVENT WREATH

The season of Advent invites us to renew our lives in preparation for the coming of Jesus. The people who heard the message of John the Baptist repented for their sins and were baptized as a sign of God's forgiveness. In Baptism, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us in our life of discipleship. Led by the Holy Spirit, we use this Advent season to renew our lives so that we, like John the Baptist, might prepare the way for Jesus.

Response to Advent Prayer: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

SACRED HEART PARISH RAFFLE RESULTS – drawn Saturday 28 November

Prize	and the Winner is ...
1 \$1,000 CASH	Joey Tremlett
2 \$250 CASH	Corey Ziems
3 \$100 CASH	Hendrikse family
4 Food Hamper	Peter Hunting
5 BIG Chocolate Box	Grace Molloy
6 Ham	Rachel Irby
7 Ham	Jan Creasey
8 Pudding & Wine	Brad Patterson
9 Ham	Isabel McLeod
10 Ham	Xavier Williams
11 Christmas Goodies Box + Wine	Laura Thompson
12 Small Chocolate Box	Leroy East
13 Small Food Hamper	Jane Adam

Special thanks to parishioners Maree Leslight for the donation of the pudding & wine prize and Di Nardi for the donation of the Christmas Goodies Box and the Small Food Hamper prizes.

Thank you to everyone – parishioners, our parish school families and staff – who bought tickets to support the Parish Raffle. 1,250 books of raffle tickets were distributed. Approximately 610 books of tickets were returned sold. After costs are deducted, the raffle has raised just over \$3,500.

Thank you everyone for your continued support of the Sacred Heart Parish.

Hopefully 2021 will see us all back together able to celebrate with our annual Christmas Carnival and Nativity Tableau. Wishing you all a safe, happy and healthy Christmas season.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL Thursday 24th December

6:00pm - Sacred Heart Church (**full**)

8:00pm - Sacred Heart Church

CHRISTMAS DAY Friday 25th December

9:00am - Sacred Heart Church

BOOK NOW!

66721118 (Office hours)

2020 VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL

We're sure for many people this Christmas will be like no other, and for the Mary MacKillop Conference of St. Vincent de Paul it will certainly not be the same.



Due to the Covid 19 restrictions imposed, Christmas Hampers will be a little different this year. Instead of gifts and monetary donations, **St Vincent de Paul are accepting gifts of vouchers for their 2020 Christmas Appeal. For example - vouchers from Coles, IGA, Target, Woolworths, Big W, Kmart, etc. Vouchers can be left at the Parish Office or on the Collection Plate at Mass.**

Thank you for your continued support.

TIME FOR A HOME

'I express my solidarity with migrants around the world and thank all those who help them: welcoming others means welcoming God in person!' (Pope Francis)

Today, there are still 290 people held against their will in Papua New Guinea and Nauru. Over 1000 women, men and children have been transferred to Australia for critical medical treatment and now live in 'transitory' visa limbo. Over 200 of those people are held in locked immigration detention centres and so-called 'alternative places of detention', such as the Mantra and Kangaroo Point hotel prisons. Men who were brought here for medical treatment have been confined to their hotel for 12 months, have not been treated for their medical conditions and are seriously depressed.

Everyone needs a safe place to call home.

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre is sponsoring a campaign in early December to raise awareness of the plight of these people who came to Australia asking for our help. **#TimeForAHome**

Your prayer support would be appreciated.

Anne Shay pbvm (shayasmpow@gmail.com)



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 84)

R: Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

PLEASE NOTE: The Bishop, realising that not all parishioners can be accommodated at weekend Masses, has continued the dispensation from the Sunday obligation.

MASS - What you need to know...

EASING OF RESTRICTIONS:

As at 7 December the number permitted to attend Masses and any church services is determined by the 2 square metre rule. More details on how this changes numbers for Masses when they come to hand.

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 Saturday and Sunday**
- ◆ no need to book for weekday Masses on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday
- ◆ 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.

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 0.45%

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