

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

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Website: www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au

Email: shpmbah@norex.com.au

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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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

- YEAR B

21 February 2021

Taking stock

Unlike Matthew and Luke, who both give us detailed descriptions of the way Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, Mark sums it up in a few sentences. There is an urgency about the whole of Mark's gospel. He was writing for the persecuted Christians in Rome, for whom their faith was truly a matter of life and death.

They might well be called upon to confront the wild beasts in the Colosseum and Mark wanted them to know that in essence the battle was already won for them. Likewise, Jesus had to confront the opposition of the evil one, Satan, but "the kingdom of God was close at hand". John the Baptist had done his job and had been arrested, but Jesus had then taken over and established the kingdom in himself. Therefore, no matter what befalls us, the Good News is there for us if we repent and believe.

The ancient scriptures had glimpsed the fulfilment of God's ultimate promise when, after the flood, there appeared a rainbow in the sky: a sign of the new covenant being established with Noah. In his first letter, Peter links the covenants by seeing the water of the flood as a sign of the waters of baptism, which do not just wash us clean, but unite us to Christ and his resurrection and all that will follow.

No matter that the body has to face death, "in the spirit Jesus was raised to life" and, of course, we can expect the same. Like Mark, Peter is trying to bolster the persecuted men and women of the early Church so they would stand firm.

The reality is that we too have to confront the demons in our lives. Sometimes we recognise these demons inside ourselves, tempting us to addictions or ways of life that we know are not healthy. Sometimes the demons are evident in the chaos that reign in our world, whether they originate in the natural order such as floods and bushfires or whether they arise from the oppressive behaviour of other human beings who disorder the world by their destructive abuse of power and their selfish and callous actions.

Lent provides us with an opportunity to take stock. During these weeks the Church encourages us to enter into the wilderness of the spiritual life and confront our demons. It is an invitation, not to be miserable or negative, but to continue to reorder our lives in the light of the Good News of Jesus.

Angels are God's messengers and they ministered to Jesus. Our aim during Lent is surely to become ministering angels to Christ in all those who continue to suffer the injustices and oppressions of a world, where so many still have a long way to go before they even begin to embrace the Good News.

Timothy Buckley CSsR © Magellan Media 2021
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This week in the Parish



Sunday 21 Feb	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YR B 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass
Tuesday 23 Feb	No Mass today
Wednesday 24 Feb	5:30 pm - Mass 6:00 pm - Fr Anthony's Lenten Talks
Thursday 25 Feb	<u>8:15 am - Mass - note change of time (see page 3)</u> 9:15 am - Legion of Mary - South Meeting Room
Friday 26 Feb	<u>12:30 pm - Mass—note change of time (see page 3)</u>
Saturday 27 Feb	6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 28 Feb	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YR B 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass

SEATING IN THE CHURCH

Please remember to turn over the small 'Please Sit Here' card where you sit in the church during Mass. This tells the volunteer cleaners where someone has been sitting during Mass.

RECONCILIATION:

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

ORDINATION NEWS...

Prodencio Bognay will be Ordained to the Diaconate in St Carthage's Cathedral on Friday 12 March by Bishop Gregory Homeming, at 5:30pm.

We are required to book our seats for the Ordination. If you are interested in attending, please phone the Parish Office 66721118 to reserve your seat.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ann Manning, Lenore van den Broek, Barbara Sali, Archbishop Philip Wilson, Ron Grigalius.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Miles Larkin, Frances Wright, James Wallace, Donna Lee Pearson.

READING ROSTER:

READING ROSTER - Second Sunday of Lent 27/28 Feb:

6pm Vigil: Chris Anderson

Sunday 8am: Jan Bruce

Sunday 10am: Mary-Ann Thackray

READING ROSTER - Third Sunday of Lent 6/7 March:

6pm Vigil: Denise Banner

Sunday 8am: Philomena Zambelli

Sunday 10am: Christine O'Brien

Readings for the coming weeks:

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - Year B

Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34;
Mk 9:2-10

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

PLEASE NOTE

CHANGE IN WEEKDAY MASS TIMES FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

from Thursday 11 February

We are trialing a change in Mass times for Thursdays and Fridays. New Mass times will be:

Thursday 8:15 am

Friday 12:30 pm

Your feedback on this trial change is most welcome. Tuesday & Wednesday Mass will remain at 5:30 pm.

PEW CUSHIONS

16 cushions have been made that fit neatly into the seats in the pews in the middle of the church. These cushions are available from the back of the church and we ask that following use, they are returned to the storage space. Each cushion will need to be individually cleaned after each use.

Your comments/feedback on the cushions and their use is appreciated.

VIEW MASS AT HOME

There are several options to tune into Mass at home when you can't join us:

ONLINE:

♦ Bishop Greg's livestreamed Sunday Mass at 8:00 am. Follow the link from lismore-diocese.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 6:00 am for 'Mass for You at Home'.



A JOURNEY THROUGH THE MASS
A LENTEN RETREAT LED BY FR ANTHONY
24 February, 3, 10, 17 March at 6pm

Fr Anthony will offer four talks through Lent gently explaining the Mass from a priest's perspective and highlighting some of the beautiful prayers that we say each weekend.

The talks will begin directly after the Wednesday 5:30 pm Mass. Each talk will last for 30 minutes and an optional time for Q and A afterwards.

BISHOPS GREG'S LENTEN TALKS SERIES
CONTINUES!

This year's Lenten talks will focus on *Reflections on COVID-10*. The talk will begin at 6pm in St Carthage's Cathedral on:

Tuesday - 23 February & 2, 9 & 16 March

It will not be live-streamed, but will be recorded and on YouTube by close of business on the following Thursdays.

All are most welcome!



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
21st February 2021



Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access to emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion

2021 LENTEN PROGRAMME
'Comfort'



This year's Lenten Programme is designed as a six-week Lenten resource for small groups, staff reflections, families and individuals. It also includes daily reflections from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. Lenten books are available from the Church and Parish Office - \$10.00.

*"Aspire not to have more,
 but to be more."
 Saint Oscar Romero*

JUBILEE MASS

in celebration of
 Fifty Years a Priest
 Twenty Years a Bishop

MOST REV. GEOFFREY JARRETT
5TH BISHOP OF LISMORE

to be held at

St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore
Monday, 22 February 2021 at 5.30pm

Due to COVID number restrictions, bookings are essential. Please book directly with the Cathedral Office

MASS - What you need to know

- ◆ all Masses will continue to be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church (*entry via main entrance only*) – country churches remain closed
- ◆ sign in on arrival using our QR code or by giving your name and contact details to one of our hospitality team
- ◆ please remember to use the hand sanitiser provided
- ◆ seats are marked where you can sit
- ◆ please observe social distancing when coming forward for communion, and communion BY HAND only
- ◆ there is still no 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.

READINGS FOR TODAY

FIRST READING: GEN 9:8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 24)

**R: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth,
to those who keep your covenant.**

SECOND READING: 1 PET 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

**No one lives on bread alone, but on every
word that comes from the mouth of God.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

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.

REFLECTION... Dianne Bergant CSR

Today's readings show us that Lent is a time for us to receive God's grace. We are not the ones who, through our penance, are meant to accomplish great things. Rather, it is God who acts; it is God who makes the sacrifice; it is God who accomplishes great things for us.

Each reading describes a different kind of conflict within which we might find ourselves: a world-wrenching upheaval, such as happens during social discord, war or natural disaster; the struggle between right and wrong, between fidelity and disobedience; the struggle with temptation. In the midst of the conflicts of life, God initiates a covenant with us. God saves the world from the chaos into which it was thrown, makes a covenant with all living things and with the earth, and sets a bow in the heavens as a perpetual reminder of the covenant. Christ dies for sinners, and offers them baptism that will save them from the chaos of their lives. The Spirit drives Jesus into the desert, there to be tested, but to emerge triumphant. His victory is not for him alone, but for all who will heed his words and follow his example.

The bow in the sky is a sign of the good news of the covenant; baptism is both the good news of salvation for us and our pledge of fidelity to God; Jesus' proclamation is that the reign of God is at hand. With the psalmist we praise God for inviting us into this covenant relationship.



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