

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

msscmbah@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

**23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -
YEAR B**

5 September 2021

Jesus says to us: hear and speak

There are two miracle-stories that occur only in Mark's gospel: the healing of the blind man at Bethsaida, and today's story of the healing of the deaf-mute. Both stories reveal to us the truly human face of Jesus who responds with compassion to people's infirmities. But they also reveal the healing powers of the promised Messiah who will 'open the eyes of the blind' and 'unseal the ears of the deaf' (Isaiah).

However, in both Markan stories, Jesus is also the reluctant Messiah who performs his miracles out of public view and orders people not to tell anyone! Biblical scholars have long debated the meaning of the so-called "messianic secret" in Mark's gospel. We may say it did not work very well as the disciples could not hold their tongues, proclaiming to all who would listen: "he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak"!

Another explanation is that Jesus does not want people to focus on him, but on the 'kingdom of God'. Most importantly, although exhibiting miraculous powers, Jesus does not want to be identified as some kind of celebrity or political Messiah since, in his own words, "the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many" (Mk 10:45). Indeed, the full reality of Jesus' messiahship could only be revealed in the experience of the Cross which is also at the heart of true discipleship.

In broader perspective, we should realise the disciples in Mark's gospel are depicted as lacking faith – or being metaphorically blind and deaf. Even Peter, James and John – who saw Jesus transfigured on the mountain (Mk 9:2-23) – soon fell into crude misinterpretations, thinking of power and fame rather than loving service of others in the way of the Cross.

So, despite all the miracles in Mark's Gospel, Jesus' full identity as Christ-the-Messiah and Saviour-figure remains a 'secret' to the often clueless disciples who fail to see Jesus as much more than a miracle-worker. While Peter does move to acknowledge Jesus as the Christ, he then shows his faulty understanding by failing to accept Jesus' message that the Son of Man is to suffer and die – resulting in Jesus' rebuke to Peter: "Get behind me Satan!" (Mk 8:27-33).

"Then looking up to heaven, Jesus sighed and said: 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened'". This healing message of Jesus to the deaf-mute is spoken to his disciples and to us who are often deaf to the full message of the Gospel and dumb in our failure to witness Jesus Christ to the world. Like Jesus' closest companions, we too are afraid of the full call to discipleship which includes identifying with Jesus the "suffering servant".

We are invited to find in Jesus' compassion a truly human way of responding to people in distress. More than this, we are invited to be disciples of Christ the Messiah who brings healing and hope to our world through the reality of the Cross and miracle of the Resurrection.

Gerard Hall SM @ Majellan Media 2021

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This week in the Parish 5-12 September

Sunday 5 Sept 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B
8:00 am - Mass - [online Mass](#) with Fr Anthony

Please note: there will be NO Rosary & Prayers on Monday 6 September

6 - 10 Sept NO WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK

8 September THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- The following Mass times for next weekend are subject to change depending upon future NSW health orders -

11 September 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass

12 September 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B
8:00 am - Mass
10:00 am - Mass



THE PARISH OFFICE
is closed to visitors during
the current lockdown;
however we are still
available by email & phone
E: shpmbah@norex.com.au
T: 6672 1118
M: 0413 277 700

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Howard Nash (brother of Barbara McGrouther),
Patricia Butturini

ANNIVERSARIES:

Trevor Twohill, Fr D'Arcy McCarthy

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

James Wallace

Readings for today and next Sunday:

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B
Is 35:4-7; James 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B
Is 50:5-9; James 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

This weekend Fr Anthony will be using Preface of
Ordinary Time VI and Eucharistic Prayer II.

WEDNESDAY WORD

Copies of Wednesday Word,
with this weekend's readings,
will be with your Bulletin this weekend.

*I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.*
- John 8:12

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge the Bundjalung people who are the Traditional Owners of this land on which we gather and pray today. We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging, and extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people past, present and emerging.

MAKE A SPIRITUAL CONNECTION

An ancient practice of the Church for those who cannot be present at Mass is to make a spiritual communion. We have a simple prayer you can pray with longing in your heart to be united to Jesus.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



SMARTLOVING BREAKTHROUGH

An online course for spouses in troubled marriages.

If your marriage is under stress or you feel disconnected from your spouse, but don't know how to ease the pain, join us for this online course.

- Identify your conflict triggers.
- Learn strategies to de-escalate an argument.
- Restore hope with practical relationship strategies.

smartloving.org/breakthrough





NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

5 - 11 September

Theme:

EVERY CHILD, IN EVERY COMMUNITY, NEEDS A FAIR GO.

To treat all of Australia's children fairly, we need to make sure every family and community has what kids need to thrive and be healthy.

The 2021 theme for National Child Protection Week is all about the importance of the 'bigger picture' in addressing child abuse and neglect.

Children can thrive and be healthy when they have what they need to develop well.

But not every family has these resources.

This is why we need to support every child, family and community according to their needs.

This will create a healthier, fairer Australia for all children.

A lot of great research is helping us understand more and more about what children need to thrive.

Child Protection Week 2021 will be an opportunity to translate this knowledge into action. All skillsets, all people, and all communities are assets in this important endeavour.

Let's make sure our neighbourhoods have strong foundations for families and children – jobs, safe places, libraries, parks, playgrounds, schools, child care, affordable housing, health services, social activities, clubs, friendly neighbours, businesses and more.

Many of you are already playing your part every day – *as individuals, as community members, as volunteers and as workers* – to help create these great communities for children.

When we do this together we can give 'every child, in every neighbourhood, a fair go'.

Find out more, visit: www.napcan.org.au

LISTENING TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Do you have a concern about:

- ◆ Something you have seen or heard within your parish community that has concerned you?

Your feedback may be about:

- ◆ Something you have experienced
- ◆ Something you have witnessed
- ◆ Something you feel needs change

Please discuss any concerns or feedback with the Priest of your Parish.

If your Priest needs assistance to resolve your concern or implement your feedback, he will seek advice and get back to you.

For other matters or assistance, you can contact:
safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au
or call (02) 6621 9444.

RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

I have the right to feel safe and be protected from harm wherever I am

I have the responsibility to not hurt others or treat them badly

I have the right to food, clothing and healthcare and a safe place to live

I have the responsibility to respect this right - many children in the world don't have the basic things like food and clean water

I have the right to a good education

I have the responsibility to always do my best

I have the right to enjoy my own culture, religion and language

I have the responsibility to respect other peoples' culture, religion and language

I have the right to voice my opinions respectfully

I have the responsibility to respect the opinions of others

It is the Heart that Prays

'Where does prayer come from? Whether prayer is expressed in words or gestures, it is the whole man who prays. But in naming the source of prayer, Scripture speaks sometimes of the soul or spirit, but most often of the heart (more than a thousand times). According to Scripture, it is the *heart* that prays. If our heart is far from God, the words of prayer are in vain.'

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, n.2562

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (145)

R: Praise the Lord, my soul!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

SUPPORTING YOUR SPIRITUAL AND PRAYER LIVES DURING COVID-19

View Mass at Home

There are several options to tune into Mass at home this weekend:

ONLINE:

- ◆ Fr Anthony will stream Sunday Mass at 8:00 am from our Sacred Heart Church for you at home this weekend on our [Sacred Heart Parish YouTube channel](#)
- ◆ Bishop Greg Homeming will celebrate Sunday Mass Online at 9:00 am on the [Diocesan YouTube channel](#)
- ◆ Mass on Demand: <http://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

FREEVIEW TV:

- ◆ Tune in to channel 10 on Sunday mornings at 6:00a m for 'Mass for You at Home'.

Read the Mass Readings as a Family

A great resource is available from Diocese of Wollongong - [Daily Mass Readings](#)

Please visit the [Parish website](#) for other links and resources.



INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND

www.dif.org.au Phone 1800 802 516

Paying .45%

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

A BLESSING PRAYER FOR FATHER'S DAY

by Greg Sunter

God of Kindness and Compassion,
we are your children and you are Father to us all.

We give honour and thanks to those who reflect
your fatherly example:

those who are dads and grandads;
step-dads, foster dads, godfathers and fathers-
in-law;
those who are coaches, leaders and mentors;
and those who are elders and wisdom-men of
our communities.

We look to these men for strength of body and
strength of character.

We look to them to pass on skills and pass on
stories.

We look to them to protect and provide.

We look to them for care and compassion.

We look to them to be co-creators and stewards of
the world.

For all those who embrace their role as father,
we give thanks.

For those who struggle with being fathers,
give them strength.

For those who are distanced from their children,
give them comfort.

For those who have passed from this world,
give them peace.

Bless these men that we call father.

Bless them in their strength and in their weakness.

Bless them in their joy and in their sorrow.

Bless them in their work and in their play.

And bless them, Father, for being fathers.

We make this prayer through the one who taught us
to call you Our Father: Your Son, Our Lord, Jesus
Christ.



*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.*