

# 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

### Administrator

Fr. Peter Wood

### 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](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

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C 28 November 2021

### Prevailing hope, not despair

Over the centuries there have been terrible disasters that to the people of the time would have seemed like signs of the apocalypse. There was the Black Death in the 14th century that killed 50 million people in Europe or some 60 percent of the population; the First World War followed by the influenza epidemic; and the destruction wrought by the Second World War.

When we hear Our Lord in Luke's Gospel warning of "signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony ... people dying of fear as they await what menaces the world," we may think of the threat of nuclear war, followed by a long nuclear winter destroying most life on earth.

Or perhaps we recall the warnings of scientists, echoed by Pope Francis in his document *Laudato Si'*, about the imminent catastrophe from global warming and climate change. This is no longer science fiction. As many farmers know, we are facing longer droughts, more severe flooding, more extreme weather events and fiercer storms. Rising sea levels will displace hundreds of millions of people from low-lying areas, including the major river deltas which produce much of the world's food.

Jesus knew nothing about these frightening new threats to life on earth. But he knew a lot about the trauma and tragedy that had occurred in Jewish history over hundreds of years, and he knew what his followers would encounter.

Despite all this anguish, curiously Jesus' message is one of incredible hope, not of despair. Jesus says to stand tall and confidently when the Son of Man comes "with power and great majesty", since our "liberation is near at hand." We can barely imagine what this mysterious "liberation" implies as the Reign of God transforms the universe.

Neither Jesus nor Luke are claiming to be futurologists, forecasting the future. Rather, they are affirming hope in the promises of God to guide our lives. We have here no lasting home; our lives are preparing us to be welcomed into our home in heaven, delighting in the intimacy of God's presence.

Jesus urges his disciples to stay awake and pray "for the strength to survive all that is going to happen." Jesus is not handing out free tickets for an easy ride to heaven. He is warning of the need for courage when his followers face threats of death and persecution, as do Christians in parts of the world today. While warning the disciples against backsliding, Jesus is not telling them to withdraw from the challenges of life. He urges them not to let "your hearts be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life."

As St Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, may the Lord increase "your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you." Today the words "the whole human race" take on new meaning as we face great and new challenges such as the current pandemic.

Bruce Duncan CSsR @ Majellan Media 2021

# *This week in the Parish 28 Nov - 5 Dec*

Saturday 27 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass  
 Sunday 28 **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C**  
 8:00 am - Mass  
 10:00 am - Mass  
 Tuesday 30 5:30 pm - Mass  
 Wednesday 1 Parish Office Closed  
 5:30 pm - Mass  
 Thursday 2 8:15 am - Mass  
 Friday 3 12 noon - Mass  
 Saturday 4 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass  
 Sunday 5 **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C**  
 8:00 am - Mass  
 9:00 am - Welcome cuppa & drawing the Parish Raffle  
 10:00 am - Mass

The Sacred Heart Prayer Chapel is open for private prayer  
 each weekday from 9am - 3pm.



## **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



## **2021 HSC EXAMS**

Please remember in your prayers  
 the Year 12 students as they enter  
 their final week of HSC exams.

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

### **RECENTLY DECEASED:**

June Heggie, Margaret MacLennan, John de Mol,  
 Neva McCabe, Moya Tunsted

### **THOSE WHO ARE SICK:**

Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

### **Readings for today and next Sunday:**

#### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C**

Jer 33:14-16; 1 Thess 3:12 - 4:2; Lk 21:25-28,  
 34-36

#### **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C**

Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

## **READING ROSTER**

4/5 Dec - **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr C**

6pm Vigil: Tim Waugh

Sunday 8am: Jan Bruce

Sunday 10am: Ed Egan

## **WEDNESDAY WORD**

Copies of Wednesday Word, with this weekend's  
 readings, are available for you in the Church.

A Mass of thanksgiving for the life of Margaret MacLennan followed by the placing of Margaret's ashes in the Columbarium will be held at St Anthony's Church, Pearl St. Kingscliff on Saturday 11th Dec at 10.30.

## **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL Friday 24th December**

6:00pm - Sacred Heart Church

8:00pm - Sacred Heart Church

### **CHRISTMAS DAY Saturday 25th December**

9:00am - Sacred Heart Church

## **ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD**

### **Deacon Prodencio Bacuso Bognay**

Deacon Prodencio will be ordained by Bishop Greg Homeming on Wednesday 8 December at St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore at 6pm.

Murwillbah bookings for the Ordination must be made through our Parish Office (66721118) as soon as possible.

We will be taking a bus to Lismore - please phone Parish Office if you would like to travel by bus to the Ordination. Cost for the bus will depend on numbers.

Please keep Prodencio in your prayers over the coming weeks as he makes his final preparations for Ordination to the Priesthood.

## **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.*

# ADVENT WREATH



Within the four weeks of the Advent season, the Church's liturgy draws attention to different facets of how God's plan has been revealed in Christ, is now revealed in every Mass we celebrate, and that Christ will be revealed in all his glory at the end of time.

For each Sunday of Advent, we take our focus for the Advent Wreath from our Advent traditions. Like the people of the Old Testament we live in hope for the fullness of the revelation of Christ the Messiah when he will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.

## CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL - PARISH RAFFLE TICKETS

Prizes include: 1st Prize - \$1,000 cash  
2nd Prize - \$250 cash  
3rd Prize - \$100 cash

Supplementary prizes of hams  
and other great Christmas treats.

Book of ten tickets @ \$1 each = \$10.00

### DON'T MISS OUT!

Tickets available from the Hospitality Table before  
or after each Mass - see Barbara, Mary-Ann or  
Beth; or from Parish Office weekdays.

To be drawn at the Welcome Cuppa after  
8am Mass on Sunday 5 December.

## WELCOME...

This weekend we welcome  
Fr Peter Wood to our Parish.

Fr Peter is here as  
Administrator to assist our  
Parish while Fr Anthony is on  
extended sick leave.

Please keep Fr Peter in your  
prayers and make him feel  
welcome.

Welcome Cuppa's will be held  
after 8am Mass next Sunday 5 December and after  
9am Mass of the Anointing Saturday 11 December.

Volunteers to assist with serving at these cuppa's  
would be much appreciated - Parish Office 6672 1118.



## 'MASS OF ANOINTING'

**9.00AM SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a  
prayer of healing which may be celebrated  
individually and communally, and may be received  
more than once.

**All Parishioners Are Welcome.**

## AN UPDATE ON FR ANTHONY...

The latest news on Fr Anthony is that he has come  
through surgery and is in intensive care at present.

Please keep Fr Anthony in your prayers as he  
begins his recovery and rehabilitation.

## JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

2022 Josephite Calendars are on sale at the  
Parish Office. \$10.00 each.

Father in heaven, as we begin this Advent  
Season, give light to our eyes and peace to  
our hearts. May the Lord find us watching  
and waiting in joy when He comes.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.



**St Vincent de Paul Society**

**Mary MacKillop Conference, Murwillumbah**

**Christmas** can be a sad time for those doing it tough. Once again the Mary MacKillop Conference Murwillumbah will be helping those in need to make Christmas special.

Although we can't supply hampers this year, we will be giving those on our Christmas list **GIFT CARDS or VOUCHERS** to enable them to purchase gifts, toys and festive food.

**Please will you consider donating any of the following:**

- ♦ **Gift cards or vouchers** - especially on outlets where gifts, toys or something special can be purchased
- ♦ **Money** - can be left in a specially marked envelope at Parish or School offices or Vinnies, or on a collection plate at Mass
- ♦ **Donate online** to <http://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal> **BUT WHEN YOU REACH THE OPTION ASKING FOR 'COMMENTS OR CONFERENCE NAME' PLEASE WRITE "Conference 43-427" SO YOUR GIFT STAYS IN THIS AREA.**



To give us time to get Christmas help to those who need it we hope most gifts will be received by **Wednesday 8 December**. Thank you very much for anything you are able to do.

Denise Banner, President, Mary MacKillop Conference (personal 0409 243 147)

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (24)

R: To you, O Lord, I life my soul.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

## BLESSED

### Daily Advent & Christmas Reflections

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

Only \$4.00 each available from the Parish Office.

## WEARING OF MASKS

A reminder to everyone:

**you are required to wear a mask indoors when attending Mass**

If you have an exemption from wearing a mask, you are required to carry the exemption from your doctor or a statutory declaration, and to produce this exemption when asked by a regulatory officer.

\* Please be respectful to people who are not wearing a mask as the reasons for not wearing a mask are not always visible or obvious.

## MASS - What you need to know

- ◆ all Masses are celebrated in Sacred Heart Church (*entry via main entrance only*) – country churches remain closed
- ◆ QR check in on arrival or give your name and contact details to our hospitality team
- ◆ you are required to wear a mask inside
- ◆ please use the hand sanitiser provided
- ◆ seats are marked where you can sit
- ◆ please observe 1.5 m social distancing when coming forward for communion
- ◆ distribution of communion is strictly **BY HAND** only
- ◆ 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.

## VIEW MASS AT HOME -

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

- Bishop Greg continues to online-stream Sunday Mass on the [Diocesan YouTube](#) channel - 9:00 am.
- Freeview TV - Channel 10 Sunday 6 am

## 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](http://www.dif.org.au) Phone 1800 802 516 Paying .45%

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





## AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

### Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service

15 November 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

#### ***'Us' not 'Them' – encouraging active participation***

Friday 3 December 2021 marks the International Day of People with Disability and provides an opportunity to celebrate the lives, contributions and achievements of the 4.4 million Australians with disability. The day aims to raise awareness and take steps towards a more inclusive and accessible community.

The United Nations announced the official theme this year as: "Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world".

In the Catholic Church, on 5 December 2021 we celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent. In the Gospel of Luke that day, we are reminded to "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." (Lk 3:4).

In his 2020 Encyclical Letter *Fratelli Tutti* on fraternity and social friendship, Pope Francis calls us to ensure the "active participation (of people with disabilities) in the civil and ecclesial community". Doing so "will gradually contribute to the formation of consciences capable of acknowledging each individual as a unique and unrepeatable person", he wrote (FT, 98).

Like the Good Samaritan, Pope Francis reminds us that we are all travelling on a common road through life. It is on that road that we encounter wounded people, including those who because of disabilities are isolated or overlooked.

During the recent first general assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia, I felt inspired to urge the Church to lead the way in our society with regard to all people with disabilities, who with their families, often find themselves on the margins. I called for the Church to recognise and reach out to those with disabilities as they are our sisters and brothers, loved by God, and rightly have a place in our communities.

Catholic social teaching and the theology of disability offer a richer and more human basis for care of people with disabilities. These identify:

- the problem of disability is not so much the impairment but the ignorance, intolerance, injustice and exclusion that misses the dignity and humanity of the person;
- that people with a disability are not just the object of care but the agents of their own life, and need to be heard;
- that it is necessary to recognise the vast diversity of the experiences of disability;
- that equity and inclusion require that people with disability have an equal opportunity to be recognised, accepted and make their own contribution to the common good.

I encourage parish communities to continue to promote a welcoming attitude among their people to the person with disabilities. This is more than attending to issues of physical accessibility. Each person in the community needs to be accepted as a brother and sister.

As Pope Francis said on the International Day of People with Disability last year, the presence of a brother or sister with a disability will help the community "to develop attitudes and acts of solidarity, and service towards them and their families. Our aim should be to speak no longer about 'them', but rather about 'us'".

To celebrate the presence and contribution of our brothers and sisters with disabilities in our community, their families and supporters, a Prayer Service has been prepared by the Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace to

mark the 2021 International Day of People with Disability. I invite you to share this resource with your communities, mindful of the unique gifts we all bring as we encounter God through each other.

In closing, may I encourage you to participate in the current XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops through the Diocesan Consultation Phase that is open to all Australian Catholics to promote a sense of communion and journeying together as initiated by Pope Francis.

The theme for the Synod is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission." Information on the Listening and Discerning Guides, Reflection Guides and online portal for submissions can be found by accessing: <https://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>

And for people with disabilities in our communities, may their voices be heard, their experiences honoured and their gifts flourish.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop Donald Sproxton

Bishop Delegate for Disability Issues

Bishops Commission for Social Justice, Mission and Service

## Prayer for the 2021 International Day of People with Disability



God of all people,

You have made us in your image, delighting in your creation.

Help us to see and receive  
each person as a beloved and unique part of your body.

***We are all part of the Body of Christ.***

You desire all people to use their gifts to enrich the world around them.

Help us to celebrate and support  
the participation and leadership of people with disability in our communities.

***We are all part of the Body of Christ.***

You give and sustain life, opening ways of thinking and doing that allow all to grow.

Help us to be inclusive  
in welcoming people with disability as a vital part of "us".

***We are all part of the Body of Christ.***

We ask this through Christ, who lives within us and calls us all to fullness of life.

**Amen.**