

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

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 C THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH - Yr C

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

A time to reset our sights

What a year it has been as the pandemic raged across the world for a second year. It's been a hard time in so many ways. But now, at last, it's Christmas and we gather to give thanks for the many graces and blessings in our lives, despite the hard times, and to rejoice in the greatest gift of all, Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, and our world and our destiny forever changed.

The great Christian thinker of the 4th century, Athanasius, with stunning simplicity summed up what that event meant for each and every one of us, a mystery so wonderful that we hardly dare believe it: He, the Son of God, became human that we might become divine! He, truly and fully God, the eternal Word, through whom all things were made, became human, one like us in all things but sin. In becoming human he established a forevermore communion between the human and divine.

With his becoming human, our lives and our destiny were radically and forever changed. Eternal life in the bosom of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – in communion with each other; that is our destiny. There are many things that the pandemic has brought home to us, but perhaps the most important of all is the acute realisation of our need and our longing for communion. Lockdowns, social distancing requirements, and restrictions on our gathering with family and friends have cost us dearly. How we have longed to share a meal. How we have longed for human touch and physical expressions of friendship, affection and love. The pandemic has highlighted that we are hard-wired for connection, communication, and community.

But we are hard-wired not just for connection with each other. We are hardwired for connection with the One who loved us into being and created us for communion. At Christmas we celebrate the gift of God's communion with us.

In establishing that communion, he came, not with pomp and majesty befitting a king, but very humbly, helpless and vulnerable as a new-born babe, to a couple far away from home and family, in a foreign place, alone, amidst strangers, in a smelly stable, with a manger for a cradle.

This babe's birth changed everything. It is meant to change us! It urges us to ponder these things in our hearts. It beckons us to reassess our values, our aspirations, the way we live our lives, how we invest our time, what we treasure, and where we place our hopes.

The pandemic has prompted us to reassess our priorities. Christmas also prompts us to reset our sights on the love that has been given to us and to give of ourselves in ever greater love and greater care for one another. May you find time to ponder these things this Christmas. And may the blessings of joy and peace abide in you throughout the year.

Anne Hunt @ Majellan Media 2021

This week in the Parish 24 Dec - 2 Jan 2022

Friday 24 Dec	CHRISTMAS EVE - VIGIL 6:00pm - Vigil Mass 8:00pm - Vigil Mass
Saturday 25 Dec	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS DAY) 9:00am - Mass
Sunday 26	The HOLY FAMILY of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Year C 9:00 am - Mass (No 8am or 10 am Mass today)
Tuesday 28	No Mass today
Wednesday 29	No Mass today
Thursday 30	No Mass today
Friday 31	No Mass today
Saturday 1 Jan	MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD 9:00am - Mass 6:00pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 2 Jan	The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year C 9:00 am - Mass - Fr Prodenzio's Thanksgiving Mass (No 8am or 10 am Mass today)



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 1/1: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm
Sunday 2/1: 7.30 am - 7.50 am

Prayer Chapel:

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Fay Albury, Nigel Logan, Hayley Lenehan, Fr Lyall Cowell, Mary Minahan, Sr Judith Quirk

ANNIVERSARIES:

Carl Johnston, Peter Wood, Vera Paine, Doss Dodds

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

Readings for this weekend & next weekend:

CHRISTMAS VIGIL - (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; Lk 2:15-20

HOLY FAMILY - Year C

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24;
Lk 2:41-52

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - Year C

Num 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - Year C

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

READING ROSTER:

1/2 Jan | The EPIPHANY of the LORD | Yr C

6pm - Barbara Grant

9am - Mary-Ann Thackray

CHRISTMAS PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Administration Centre is now closed **and will reopen 9am Tuesday 4 January 2022.**

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

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.

FEAST OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

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

JANUARY SUNDAY MASS TIME CHANGES

Please Note: While Fr Peter is on holidays in January, we will only have one Sunday Mass at 9 am. The 8 am & 10 am Masses will resume in February.

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



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!

Wishing you a Happy and Holy Christmas
and a Peace filled New Year to all
Fr Anthony, Fr Peter, Mary-Ann,
Beth, Barbara, & Belinda.

May the peace of Christ
find a home in your heart.

You are invited to
Fr Prodencio Bognay's
THANKSGIVING MASS
9AM SUNDAY 2 JANUARY 2022
IN SACRED HEART CHURCH
ALL WELCOME!

Following Fr Prodencio's Thanksgiving Mass
we will be having morning tea at the Church.
Please bring a plate to share.

2021 NATIVITY TABLEAU



This year both Parish Primary schools presented the Christmas Nativity Tableau for their respective schools. Both presentations were filmed, and are available to watch on both school's website.

Go to Mt St Patrick Primary and St Joseph's Primary website and follow the instructions.

www.smurplism.catholic.edu.au

www.murplism.catholic.edu.au



Thank you to both our Parish Primary schools for presenting & filming this production. **Well done!**



Bishop's Greg's CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2021

An exhausting 2021 is coming to an end with Covid once again on our heels. If you are like me, you had hoped that 2022 would begin with Covid under control. Alas, we might be in for more of the same, and we are so tired. There is a heaviness in our hearts as we approach Christmas.

Each of us wants to be refreshed with present joy and the hope of a safer and better future. At the moment this seems out of reach. I invite you to enter this place of longing which is deep within your heart. Our deepest desires are sometimes hidden by our more immediate concerns. Freedom from Covid is a worthy wish but it is not our deepest desire. Like the woman at the well, we want what is beyond our imagining. Our hearts were made for God and we will not rest until we have God.

This is what Christmas is about. More than 2,000 years ago, God came into the world and became a human. God took a human heart, and our hearts now long to be at one with God. Don't focus on the apparent object of your desires and all the things you want. Instead focus on the place and experience of the desire. Open your hearts and find Jesus within. With even the smallest experience of this, you will have Christmas joy and real hope.

+ *Greg* Bishop Greg Homeming OCD



Merry Christmas

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 96)

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 83)

R: How happy they who dwell in your house,
O Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the
words of your Son.

Alleluia!

CHRISTMAS 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).

VIEW MASS AT HOME -

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

- Bishop Greg is online-streaming Christmas Day Mass, available on Christmas morning. Go to the [Diocesan YouTube](#) channel.
- 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 Phone 1800 802 516

Paying .45%

Agents: ALG/Egan Simpson Solicitors:

15 Prince Street, Murwillumbah.

(Office re-opens Monday 10 Jan 2022)

