

# 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

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD -

### YEAR C

2 January 2022

## The child is revealed

What's being revealed to us twelve days after Christmas, because this is what Epiphany means: something is shown, or revealed to us. We're all in holiday mode and then these Magi, these wise men appear, following a star.



But weren't they there at the crib? So, what are they doing turning up now? (It's been suggested they arrived quite some time after the birth, but that's not what is being revealed.) It's a vividly dramatic story filled with light and intense darkness too. The wise men come from the East, from far away, strangers led by a star, not knowing where it might lead them. We might wonder what star would we follow, setting out, not knowing where we're going? Have our lives been interrupted at some point? When they arrive in Jerusalem they ask the authorities, "Where is the infant king of the Jews?"

This causes great consternation and Herod calls together the religious leaders who tell him that, according to prophecy, this king was to be born just down the road in Bethlehem and show no further interest. We understand their reluctance: we too have been given this gift, but often prefer to keep it under wraps and just do the decent thing.

Meanwhile, Herod is alert to what the wise men say because he wants to eliminate this possible threat to his throne. Again, we know something of Herod's instinct, the fear underlying it, the need to be in control. The wise men listen and take their leave, guided by what they have heard.

Now, the star reappears overhead and filled with joy, they're drawn on by its light, until it stops over a house, in Bethlehem. They go in and seeing Mary and her child they open their hearts, and 'do him homage'. Who, in our lives, are we able to revere, to open our hearts to, putting aside whatever else, whether money, status, or influence? Then, they open their treasures and offer him gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The wisdom of the wise men leads us to this. What are we able to offer him from our treasures, our lives, and so to those whom we love and respect? At the gospel's end, warned in a dream, they find another way home, leaving behind Herod and his enablers. In a world full of shadows and threat, a light still leads them.

As we learn to open our hearts a little, we come before him hesitantly with the gift of ourselves and 'do him homage'. In doing so, we will begin to know the wonder of Isaiah in the first reading and begin to share in the 'same inheritance', as the second reading says. In Matthew's gospel it's the Magi who first reveal to us we are no longer strangers to one another, that we belong to one another, in Jesus Christ. What's revealed to us in this child, is the glory of God being with us, now and forever.

Damian Coleridge @ Majellan Media 2022

# This week in the Parish 1 – 9 January

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 Prodencio's Thanksgiving Mass  
10:00 am - Morning Tea at the Church  
(No 8am or 10 am Mass today)

Tuesday 4 9:00 am - Parish Office re-opens  
*Please note: there are no weekday Masses during January*

Saturday 8 6:00pm - Vigil Mass

Sunday 9 **The BAPTISM of the LORD - Year C**  
9:00 am - Mass (No 8am or 10 am Mass today)



*We have seen his star in the East,  
and have come to adore the Lord."*  
Matthew 2:2

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday : 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm  
Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am

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

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Betty Byrnes, Fay Albury, Nigel Logan, Hayley Lenehan, Fr Lyall Cowell

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Noela Nunan, Leslie Everson

### THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

### Readings for today and next Sunday:

**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

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - Year C**  
Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7;  
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

## 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.

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.

## READING ROSTER

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

6pm - Barbara Grant

9am - Mary-Ann Thackray

**8/9 Jan | The BAPTISM of the LORD | Yr C**

6pm - Grace Molloy

9am - Maree Coley

## Epiphany

'The word "epiphany" means manifestation of God. When we meet God in the Eucharist, we should not go back to doing, feeling, thinking and living as we did before the Mass. We should leave by another route in small ways. Why? God wants us to be the Epiphany of the Lord everywhere we go and to everyone we meet.'

- From the Catholic Enquiry Centre

## 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.*

## ENTRANCE HYMN

### WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

1. We three kings of Orient are,  
bearing gifts we traverse afar  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

*Refrain: O, star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to the perfect light.*

2. Born a king on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold we bring to crown him again;  
king forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign. *Refrain.*
3. Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a deity nigh,  
prayer and praising all are raising,  
worship him, God on high! *Refrain.*

## COMMUNION HYMN

### THE FIRST NOWELL

1. The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Refrain: Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.*

2. When they looked up they saw a star  
shining in the east, beyond them far,  
and to the earth it gave great light  
and so it continued both day and night. *R.*
3. And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went. *R.*

## REFLECTION...

### Stars and Seekers after Truth

Unlike the writers of the horoscope columns in our newspapers, these Wise Men were scholar astrologers, probably from Syria or Iraq. They believed that the stars controlled the destiny of human beings, but they were open enough to the Hebrew scriptures to be led to the amazing discovery of a star-child in Bethlehem.

They knelt before this baby, doing homage, because they realised that the stars did not control *this* infant, but that there was something of this baby which caused the night sky to respond! They preserved the child from the deadly schemes of Herod, and then they returned to their home country, 'by a different way'. They were on a different journey after encountering the Child.

Who can doubt that the Holy Spirit led these wise men from the East to the manger? In fact, the Holy Spirit is at work in every human being, prompting each and every one to become seekers after Truth.

As a person responds to this prompting and tries to lead a good humane life, then the Church teaches that the Holy Spirit can draw them into the saving life of God. Thus, billions in China and India who have never heard the Gospel, can be saved. But, such persons do not savour the fullness of Truth as we do with the privilege of having the scriptures and the sacraments. Where it is possible, we are obliged to offer them the road map to the Truth.

We can take a moment to affirm our faith in the baby in the manger as the One of whom Dante spoke: 'the Love which moves the sun and other stars'. Come, let us adore him.

## REFLECTION HYMN

### WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

What child is this, who laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

*Refrain: This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him praise,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

2. Why lies he in such mean estate,  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian fear: for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain.*
3. So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone Him. *Refrain.*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

### WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone cold tomb.

*Refrain: O, star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.*

5. Glorious now behold him arise,  
king and God and sacrifice;  
heaven sings "Alleluia";  
"Alleluia", earth replies. *Refrain.*

# Happy New Year 2022

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YR C RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PS 71)

R: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

We have seen his star in the East,  
and have come to adore the Lord.

Alleluia!

## MASS – The latest COVID-19 guidelines you need to know ...

QR check in on arrival is still required for places of worship.

Masks are mandatory again inside for everyone over 12 years of age, subject to exemptions. Please continue to use the hand sanitiser provided.

Density limits have changed to “unlimited” from 15 December; however, as a precautionary measure, due to positive cases in our local community, we will **not lift** our current density limit of 2 square metres for a few more weeks yet.

Singing as a congregation is discouraged at the moment; please enjoy our choir and music.

Distribution of communion remains strictly **BY HAND** only.

All Masses will continue to be celebrated in the Sacred Heart Church. Country churches remain closed.

We will still maintain a covid-19 safety plan for the foreseeable future.

Thank you all for your care and consideration of each other. 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

## 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)



## 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.