

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

12 December 2021

CONGRATULATIONS ...

Congratulations to Fr. Prodencio Bognay who was Ordained to the Priesthood last Wednesday evening, in St Carthage's Cathedral, Lismore by Bishop Gregory Homeming.

What a wonderful celebration! Thirty parishioners (and one pig) travelled to Lismore to share in the wonderful celebration.



Dining at God's table

I was surprised recently to hear one of my students describe Jesus as a "wowsers" and Christianity as the world's foremost proponent of "wowsers". While I might be able to understand why a young person might express the latter sentiment (albeit unjustly), I find it difficult to see how anyone could accuse Jesus of being a "wowsers". In the popular imagination, the term "wowsers" has become synonymous with "bible-basher" and "God botherer". Religious devotees are often dismissed as wowsers because there is a popular perception that they are narrow-minded, forthright and censorious fanatics who disapprove of people partying and enjoying life. Something of the forthright "God botherer" is seen in the figure of John the Baptist in today's gospel warning that the coming of the Messiah will be like a "winnowing fan" on the "threshing floor" sorting the wheat from the chaff.

However, a counterpoint to these dire predictions of punishment in the "unquenchable flame" is found in the exhortation of Paul to the Philippians to "rejoice always" as the Lord's return is near. Joy and exaltation at the coming of the Messiah is a feature of the reading from Isaiah as well, who proclaimed with delight that "the Holy One of Israel" is in our midst.

This party atmosphere is one that pervades much of the story of Jesus. The Gospels tell of many occasions when Jesus celebrated with friends and acquaintances at weddings, bar mitzvahs, sabbaths, and other Jewish religious festivals.

There were certainly times when Jesus got angry and expressed moral outrage. But Jesus also enjoyed life immensely. Both Luke (7:24) and Matthew (11:19) record that Jesus' opponents accused him of being a "drunkard and a glutton". Elsewhere Jesus is rebuked by John's disciples for not insisting his disciples fast and do penance (Mk 2:18; Matt 9:14; Lk 5:33). Jesus' reply is telling. He equates his circle of disciples with guests at a wedding feast, and he goes on to suggest that through his ministry God is doing something "new", which requires his followers to rejoice and feast together.

Scholars argue that Jesus used the practice of table fellowship to signal the message that the world as he and his contemporaries knew it was at an end.

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This week in the Parish 12 – 19 December



Sunday 12	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass
Tuesday 14	5:30 pm - Mass
Wednesday 15	10:00 am - Catholic Men's Group (see note below) 5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 16	8:15 am - Mass 5:30 pm - Parish Finance Council meeting
Friday 17	12:00 pm - Mass
Saturday 18	6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 19	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass

During December, the Sacred Heart Church will be open for Prayer & Reflection each weekday from 4pm - 5pm.
(entry via side door)

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

Prayer Chapel:

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Hayley Lenahan (nee Dowling), Fr Lyall Cowell, Mary Minahan, Sr Judith Quirk, Sr Joan Reynolds, Ricky Toms

ANNIVERSARIES:

Caterina Bonomini, Loretta Clark, Veronica Carroll, Allan Sharp

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

Readings for today and next Sunday:

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44

READING ROSTER

18/19 Dec - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr C

6pm Vigil: Grace Molloy

Sunday 8am: Jan Bruce

Sunday 10am: Lisa Dusi-Fox

SACRED HEART PARISH RAFFLE

– drawn Sunday 5 December

Results of our Parish Raffle are published on the Church Noticeboard.

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.

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

December morning tea

Wed 15 Dec | 10:00 am | Mbah Services Club

Enquiries: Alex Lever 0458 817 021

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME

Proof of Double Vaccination and wearing of masks is mandatory

A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday 12 December | 6pm | All Saints Anglican Church, 32 Byangum Road, Murwillumbah

Presented by the choirs of St Carthage's Cathedral and St Andrew's Anglican Church, Lismore and other Murwillumbah singers under the direction of organist, Warren Whitney. **All welcome!**

CHRISTMAS PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Administration Centre will be closed from **3pm Thursday 23 December and will reopen 9am Tuesday 4 January 2021.**

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

WEDNESDAY WORD

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



ADVENT WREATH

HAVE YOU THOUGHT? A TIME TO REJOICE!

This Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* is the Latin word for Rejoice! Advent was originally celebrated as a five week season and with the same fasting and penitential nature as the season of Lent. The third Sunday, Gaudete, was like a break for rejoicing in the midst of the fasting.

When Advent was reduced to four weeks and the nature of the season altered, Gaudete Sunday was retained. The colour of this Sunday is rose – a celebratory colour – and it is reflected in the vestments worn by the priest and in the colour of the third candle used in Advent wreaths. - **Greg Sunter**

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A new era was dawning when God would reign upon earth and all the sinners, the poor, the marginalised and oppressed, and even the God botherers and bible bashers, would dine at God's table.

Jesus was no wowser. Even though he did call on people to live morally good lives, Jesus believed that no one was ultimately beyond redemption. This message is the source of the joy that lays at the heart of the Christian story. All are welcome to the feast.



St Vincent de Paul Society Mary MacKillop Conference Murwillumbah

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thanks to everyone who has supported this appeal so far! Your generosity will make a big difference to many who struggle to just get by.

Envelopes are available in the church for those who would still like to donate. They can be left at the Parish Office, Vinnies shop, or on a collection plate at Mass.

Donate online: <https://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.**

Thank you very much for anything you are able to do.

Denise Banner, President
Mary MacKillop Conference



Wishing all Year 6 students, all the best as they leave their primary years behind and begin their high school life.

School Holidays

As another school year draws to a close, we wish all the staff and students of our three Parish Schools, a safe and happy holiday.

JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

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



As part of our commitment to Safeguarding in our Parish, we wish to advise everyone that there is **NO ACCESS to the Sacristy before and after each Mass.** This area is used by our clergy, acolytes and workers for Mass preparation and vesting and is not an appropriate place for others to enter at these times.

If you need to speak with Fr Peter, please let one of our hospitality team know and we'll arrange for you to catch up with Fr Peter after Mass if possible. Alternatively, an appointment may be made through the Parish Office by phoning 6672 1118 during office hours 9 am to 3 pm.

NEW GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE DIOCESE OF LISMORE

The Parish Finance Council wishes to inform parishioners of the new governance model and management of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Lismore.

Bishop Gregory Homeming, after extensive consultation with the Council of Priests, Consultors and Trustee of the Diocese, the Catholic Schools Office as well as Civil and Canon lawyers, has established a company called Diocese of Lismore Catholic School Limited (DLCSL) to govern, administer and conduct Catholic Schools within the Diocese. The new company will also be responsible for all compliance and regulatory matters relating to education in the Diocese.

The Parish Finance Council has recently met with Kathy Lovell and Paul O'Brien from the Catholic Schools Office Transformation Team and Frank Hannigan, the Diocesan Solicitor, to receive information about the new governance model and to discuss any concerns. The establishment of the company does not change the nature of our schools.

All land and buildings used by our three schools, which have been funded by our Parish since establishment, will remain in the ownership of the Parish. A Deed of Licence will be signed by the Parish to enable the company to operate the schools.

We place great importance on maintaining and enhancing the Catholic Identity of our schools and the continuance of a strong and close relationship between our Parish and our schools. Whilst the structure of governance may change, the Mission of providing quality Catholic education will not.

The new framework will, we believe, offer the best way forward to enable our students and our staff to achieve the fullness of life.

A brochure explaining the new governance model is available for parishioners this weekend.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C RESPONSORIAL PSALM (ISAIAH 12)

R: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." - Mother Teresa

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

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

HOLY FAMILY Sunday 26th December

9:00am - Sacred Heart Church

Please note:

There is no Vigil Mass on Saturday 25 December.

There is no Reconciliation at the 9am Mass on Sunday 26 December.

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.