

# 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

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## PARISH STAFF

### Administrator

Fr. Peter Wood

### Parish Manager

Mary-Ann Thackray

### Parish Secretary

Beth Gorton

### Pastoral Associate

Barbara Grant

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## 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

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## 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

## MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - YEAR A

1 January 2023

### 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

Saturday 31 Dec 5:30 pm - Rosary  
6:00 pm - Vigil Mass

Sunday 1 Jan **MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**  
8:30 am - Rosary  
9:00 am - Mass  
10:00 am - Parish Cuppa in the Church

Monday 2 9:00 am - Rosary & Prayers  
*Please note: there are no weekday Masses during January*

Saturday 7 5:30 pm - Rosary  
6:00pm - Vigil Mass

Sunday 8 **The EPIPHANY of the LORD - Year A**  
8:30 am - Rosary  
9:00 am - Mass (No 8am or 10 am Mass today)

Monday 9 **The Baptism of the Lord**  
9:00 am - Parish Office re-opens



## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Ken Doyle

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Tarq Mezzadri

### THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Rina Anderson, Mary Stewart, Julie Dawson, Maureen McCabe, Mark Hanna, Deb Craig, Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

## ROSTERS | READINGS

7/8 Jan | **The EPIPHANY of the LORD** | Yr A

6pm - Denise Banner

9am - Bernard Nolan

### READINGS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT WEEK:

**MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - Year A**

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

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - Year A**

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

## ROSARY

'The Rosary is prayed half an hour before each weekend Mass. Please join us in front of the tabernacle to pray for our parish and prepare for Mass.'

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday,  
today, and forever.  
- Hebrews 13:8

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday : 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm

Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am

## JANUARY MASS TIME CHANGES

Please Note:

- ♦ While Fr Peter is on holidays in January, our weekend Mass times are Saturday Vigil 6pm and one Sunday Mass at 9 am.
- ♦ During January there are no weekday Masses until Wednesday 1 February.

## NEW YEAR CLOSURE:

The Parish Office will be closed for the New Year period **and will reopen 9am Monday 9 January 2023.**

**Phones and emails will be monitored throughout the holiday period.**

As the number of Covid cases are on the rise parishioners have raised concerns with the Pastoral Council regarding *The Sign of Peace* and the reception of *Holy Communion*.

We take this opportunity to remind everyone that at *The Sign of Peace* some members of the congregation might be more comfortable with a smile or a wave rather than a handshake.

A reminder also to those who are kneeling and/or receiving *Communion* on the tongue to please wait until the end of the Communion line.

Thank you for your consideration of others in our parish community.

## 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** | Trad. Irish Melody  
Arr. Rory Cooney

### **CANTICLE OF THE TURNING**

My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?

**Refrain: My heart shall sing of the day you bring,  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn  
draws near,  
and the world is about to turn!**

Though I am small, my God, my all,  
you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past  
to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame,  
and to those who would for you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight  
for the world is about to turn.

**COMMUNION HYMN** | Kevin Bates

### **OUR SUPPER INVITATION**

Take of my bread and eat, drink my new wine.  
Take of my life and live, branch of my vine.  
Let me befriend you now; eat take your fill.  
Don't be afraid to dream; love, has its will.

Take up your burden now walk 'til you find  
just what the journey means;  
walk while there's time.

Food for the journey will answer your need.  
Don't be afraid to walk; love, my love will lead.

Take of my bread and eat, drink my new wine.  
Be a sweet nourishment to good friends of mine.  
Let me befriend you now; eat, take your fill.  
Share with your people, that love, has its will.

Take of my bread and eat, drink my new wine  
Take of my life and live, branch of my vine.

**REFLECTION HYMN** | Carey Landry

### **HAIL MARY: GENTLE WOMAN**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of death. Amen.

**Refrain: Gentle woman, quiet light,  
Morning star, so strong and bright,  
Gentle Mother, peaceful dove,  
teach us wisdom; teach us love.**

You were chosen by the Father;  
you were chosen for the Son.  
You were chosen from all women  
and for woman, shining one  
Blessed are you among women.  
Blest in turn all women, too.  
Blessed they with peaceful spirits.  
Blessed they with gentle hearts.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** | Jim Murray

### **ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH**

**Refrain: All the ends of the earth,  
all you creatures of the sea,  
lift up your eyes to the wonders  
of the Lord.  
For the Lord of the earth,  
the Master of the sea,  
has come with justice for the world.**

Break into song at the deeds of the Lord,  
the wonders he has done in ev'ry age.

Heaven and earth shall rejoice in his might;  
ev'ry heart, ev'ry nation call him Lord.

The Lord has made his salvation known,  
faithful to his promises of old.

Let the ends of the earth,  
let the sea and all it holds  
make music before our King!

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# Happy New Year 2023

## MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD - A

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PS 66)

R: May God bless us in his mercy.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

## REFLECTION...

### The Calendar-Shattering Mary

It is fitting that on New Year's Day we celebrate *the* calendar-shattering event in human history: the extraordinary role that a young woman in Galilee played in God's plan for the human race.

In the Western Church, the young woman is titled 'Mother of God'. This signifies a relationship, a loving, nurturing relationship. We know that it encompassed a mother's horror of seeing her son tortured and done to death on the Cross.

Yes, she was a mother, but Mother of *God*.

How can this be portrayed for our minds to grasp? In the Book of Genesis, the creative act which began all reckoning of the passage of time and seasons was signalled by the Divine Wind hovering over the formless void.

When that Holy Gust hovered over Mary, and she responded: 'Be it done unto me according to thy Word', the human existence of Our Lord Jesus Christ began, the fulcrum of history from which our calendar begins.

We could pause for a moment to pray that at the end of all history, at the end of all calendars, we may share in Divine life with Mary of Galilee, Mother of God.

- Fr Michael Tate

## 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 2.60%

Agents: ALG/Egan Simpson Solicitors

15 Prince Street, Murwillumbah.

(Office re-opens Tuesday 10 Jan 2023)



## 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.