

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

mrp@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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr A 4 DECEMBER 2022

Serving the poor with love

John the Baptist was quite a celebrity around Jerusalem. People came from everywhere to see this strange man who lived on locusts and wild honey, dressed in camel hair, and preached the need for repentance. He even instituted a new ritual of baptism – pouring water on people's heads – as a sign of forgiveness for those who confess their sins and genuinely seek a new way of life.



But John remained ever suspicious of people's motives. So, on seeing a number of Sadducees and Pharisees coming for baptism, he questioned their motivation calling them a "brood of vipers"! John never attended that class on "How to win friends and influence people"! He was more interested in confronting people with their sins so they may change their ways. The fact that people continued to come to the river Jordan to hear John preach, they knew his message to be true.

While John did not tire from preaching his message of repentance, he was equally insistent on announcing the coming of the Messiah – the one who will "baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire" and pronounce judgment upon the world – separating the 'good wheat' from the 'evil chaff'. As John insisted, he was not worthy to carry the sandals of this promised messenger of God.

This promise of a coming divine messenger is also expressed in the prophecy of Isaiah who envisages a new beginning with a ruler-king blessed with wisdom, insight, compassion and fear of the Lord. He will inaugurate God's reign by bringing judgment on the wicked and justice for the poor. The whole of creation will be transformed so that violence is replaced by harmony as in images of the wolf and lamb or calf and lion living and playing together!

In the real world where you and I live, God's reign of justice, peace and harmony is evidently far from reality. So, how are we Christians to judge Jesus as the promised Messiah? Evidently, we need to concede that his ministry is incomplete. Furthermore, it is you and I, the disciples of Jesus, who are called upon to continue his ministry as we await the messianic completion of creation at the end-of-time.

Sometimes problems facing us and our world appear so big, we can easily despair. In today's Letter to the Romans, we are told everything written in the scriptures teaches us "something about hope" so that, whatever life's challenges, we know we will be "helped by God".

In the words of Pope Francis: "Although the life of a person is in a land full of thorns and weeds, there is always a space in which the good seed can grow. You have to trust God". Let us then heed the message of today's readings by seeking God's love and forgiveness as we prepare to celebrate the Christ-coming. And let us put this message into action through our loving service of the poor.

Gerard Hall SM © Majellan Media 2022

This week in the Parish

Sunday 4	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A Rosary - 7:30 am Reconciliation: 7:30am - 7:50am 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass 11:15 am - Baptisms 12 noon - Baptisms
Monday 5	9:00 am - Rosary & Prayers <i>(see note below)</i>
Tuesday 6	NO 5:30 pm Mass today
Wednesday 7	5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 8	The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 8:15 am - Mass 12 noon - Legion of Mary - Parish Meeting Centre
Friday 9	PARISH OFFICE CLOSED Reconciliation - 11:00 am 12 noon - Mass
Saturday 10	8:30 am - Rosary & Prayers - Legion of Mary 9:00 am - Legion of Mary Reunion Mass <i>(see note)</i> 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 11	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A Rosary - 7:30 am Reconciliation: 7:30am - 7:50am 8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Mass 11:15 am - Baptisms 12 noon - Baptisms

HOUR FOR PRIVATE PRAYER
 from 4:30 pm
 before Tuesday & Wednesday
 5:30 pm Mass

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

RECONCILIATION
 Friday: 11:00 am - 11:40 am
 Saturday: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm
 Sunday: 7.30 am - 7.50 am

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.'

ROSARY STATUE
 Susan & Vince Kean 

BAPTISMS:
 Please welcome
Jackson John Mudge & Gabriel Florian Foulon-Grzicic
 to our faith community.



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Anthony Ephraums, Ben McShane-Hill, Daphne McLennan, Fr Louis Molloy SM

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Julie Dawson, Maureen McCabe, Mark Hanna, Deb Craig, Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

ROSTERS

READING ROSTER

10/11 Dec | Third Sunday of Advent - Yr A

- 6 pm - Lyndy Severs
- 8 am - Jan Bruce
- 10 am - Mary-Ann Thackray

ALTAR SERVERS:

- 6pm | Oliver Barrett | Grace Severs
- 8am | Zoe Simiani | Emma Loughman

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

Annette Lofts

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Third Sunday of Advent - Yr A
 Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

ROSARY & PRAYERS for God's Precious Infants and the Unborn Child | Monday 5 December | 9am | Sacred Heart Church. Pregnancy Help Line: 1300 139 313

LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL REUNION DAY
Saturday 10 December
Sacred Heart Church
 8:30 am Legion Rosary & Prayers.
 9 am Mass
 Followed by morning tea & sharing - please bring a plate of food & drinks to share.



'MASS OF ANOINTING'
9AM | SATURDAY | 17 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.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We 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.

THE CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL & NATIVITY TABLEAU



Last Saturday evening we witnessed the presentation of the real Christmas story at the 2022 Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau.

A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who worked so hard or contributed to making the 2022 Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau such a great success.

THANK YOU also to all who supported this very special event.

Congratulations to the winners of the Parish Raffle:

1st Prize | Julie Schiller

2nd Prize | Anne Robinson

3rd Prize | Denise Banner

Twilight Retreat for Advent

'Waiting with Mary'

Tuesday 13 December

*6pm College Library/
Catholic Hall*

following 5:30 pm Mass



ADVENT WREATH



The season of Advent invites us to renew our lives in preparation for the coming of Jesus. The people who heard the message of John the Baptist repented for their sins and were baptized as a sign of God's forgiveness.

In Baptism, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us in our life of discipleship. Led by the Holy Spirit, we use this Advent season to renew our lives so that we, like John the Baptist, might prepare the way for Jesus.



St Vincent de Paul Society **Mary MacKillop Conference, Murwillumbah**

Christmas this year, as a result of the floods, Covid and the high cost of living, will be more difficult than usual for many families in our area. Once again the Mary MacKillop Conference Murwillumbah will be helping those in need to make Christmas special. Instead of hampers, 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 early December.** Thank you very much for anything you are able to do.

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



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL
Saturday 24th December

6:00pm | Sacred Heart Church

CHRISTMAS DAY
Sunday 25th December

9:00am | Sacred Heart Church

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

December Morning Tea

Wednesday 14 December | 10:00 am

Murwillumbah Services Club

Enquiries: Alex Lever 0458 817 021

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME

Please note: The first Men's Group morning tea in 2023 will be held in February.

ADVENT BANNERS

During the second week of Advent we reflect on the importance of hope for our salvation we hear about repentance and preparing ourselves for the coming Saviour, and the symbols which are placed on the banner are for two men who lived lives full of hope, justice and peace. Moses – ten commandments and Isaiah – a scroll.



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Yr A
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Psalm 71)**

**R: Justice shall flourish in his time, and
fullness of peace forever.**

IF SUNG:

**R: In his days justice shall flourish and
peace 'till the moon fails.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Prepare the way of the Lord, make
straight his paths: all people shall see the
salvation of God.**

Alleluia!

SYNOD OF BISHOPS

The Working Document for the Synod on Synodality has been released for consultation. Don't miss out on this chance to comment on what has resonated with us, where tensions lie between the document and our local church, and our suggestions on what should be prioritised in the Catholic Church.

Find out more and share your contribution at <https://catholic.org.au/synodalchurch> or Matt Digges, our Diocesan contact person mattdigges@scca.net.au

Portal closes on Friday 9th December.

**MURWILLUMBAH
PHILHARMONIC CHOIR**

Returns with a concert featuring Rutter, Jenkins, Britten, Cheetham and many more!

Sunday | 4 December | 2:30 pm (DST)

All Saints Anglican Church

Tickets \$20 Concession \$15

Light Refreshments served after concert

JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

2023 Josephite Calendars are on sale in the Church and the Parish Office. \$10.00 each.

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 Ph: 1800 802 516 Paying 1.75%

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