

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: shpmurah@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

mshpmurah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Paul Reidy

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

mshpmurah@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:mshpmurah@lism.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A 19 March 2023

Having faith in the dark times

At the end of his gospel, Saint John reminds us that he has had to be selective in what he's told us, and that what he has recorded is there so that we might "believe that Jesus is the Christ", and that by believing, we might have life through his name.

The story that John uses of the healing of a blind man is described in much more graphic detail than any accounts of similar cures in the gospels and is a perfect illustration of how John is seeking to ensure that we get the message in all its depth and complexity. The context is his recurring theme of Jesus as the light of the world. Blind people are in the dark and there are many people in this story who are in the dark.

To begin with, the disciples themselves are still burdened with the old notion that our infirmities must be the consequence of sin, either the blind man's sins or those of his parents. Jesus dispels this idea immediately and invites us to open our eyes to a much bigger picture in which we will see "the works of God" displayed. But Jesus is confronted with obstinacy on the part of the religious authorities and fear on the part of the man's parents. Accordingly, each of them is rendered blind, unable to see the truth before their very eyes.

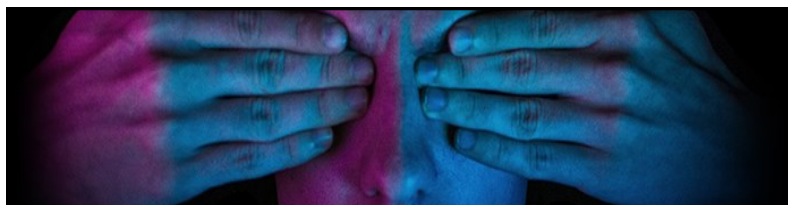
One of the fascinating aspects of this story is that Jesus does not demand an act of faith from the man before he cures him; he simply asks him to co-operate by washing the paste from his eyes. Now this man becomes the vehicle through whom John will teach us in whom we should put our faith. After all the interrogations and investigations are over, Jesus seeks the man out and asks him if he believes in "the Son of Man"?

Assured by the Lord that he can now see him, the blind man has no hesitation in saying: "Lord, I believe," and then worships him. Later in the gospel, we see a comparable call to faith when Jesus confronts Martha after the death of her brother, Lazarus. "I am the resurrection ... Do you believe this?"

She replies: "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world."

The blind, like many others, were the outcasts at that time. Jesus had come to reach out to them and fulfil the message of the prophets: the outcasts would be cured and welcomed into the community at the expense of those who wielded power for their own ends. There are still many outcasts in our world today and it is the mission of the disciples of Jesus to speak out against the injustices that keep them imprisoned and to set them free so they can give glory to God.

Timothy J Buckley CSsR @ Majellan Media 2023



This week in the Parish

Sunday 19	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptisms
Monday 20	ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 8:15 am - Mass 11:00 am - Lenten Group Parish Office
Tuesday 21	5:30 pm - Mass
Wednesday 22	5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 23	8:15 am - Mass
Friday 24	10:00 am - Lenten Group Parish Office 12 noon - Mass 12:30 pm - Stations of the Cross
Saturday 25	The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 26	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - BBQ breakfast hosted by MSP College

HOUR FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

from 4:30 pm
before Tuesday & Wednesday
5:30 pm Mass

RECONCILIATION IN LENT

Friday: 11:30 am - 11:50 am
Saturday: 5:30 pm - 5:50 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am - 8:50 am

WEDNESDAY WORD

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

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Alan Francis, Ken Hall, John Moran, Tina van den Broek, Dordy Graham

ANNIVERSARIES:

Iris Johnson, Shirley Nolan, Tony Albertini

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Margaret Hyde, Theo Mottee, Leo Kelly, Maureen McCabe, Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace



BAPTISM:

Please welcome

**Benjamin Andrew Papadopoulos
& Joshua Michael Papadopoulos**
to our faith community.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Sacred Heart Church - 12.30pm
Fridays during Lent led by Legion of Mary (following 12.00 pm Mass)



ROSTERS | READINGS

READING ROSTER

25/26 March | Fourth Sunday of Lent | Yr A

6pm - Barbara Grant

9am - MSP College

READINGS FOR TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY:

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A

1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A

Ezek 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

ROSARY STATUE

Jacinta Gear



'MASS OF ANOINTING'

9AM | SATURDAY | 1 APRIL

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.

Curious about which **Eucharistic Prayers** Fr Peter has been using in the past couple of weeks?

They are the Eucharistic Prayers from "*Celebrating with Children*" which Fr Peter has chosen to use whilst the First Reconciliation children are attending instruction and Mass.

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.



Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow ***For All Future Generations.***

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



St. Joseph was the spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster father of Jesus. It is believed he was born in Bethlehem and died in Nazareth. St. Joseph played an important mission in "God's plan" by accepting Jesus into his family. This put Jesus into the line of David, which according to the prophets – the Messiah would be born. He was called to act as Jesus' father and guardian.

Most information about St. Joseph comes from the opening two chapters of St. Mathew's Gospel, although none of his words are recorded. He is sometimes called the "Silent One". There was no devotion to St. Joseph in the early Church, to firmly impress upon the minds of the faithful the Virgin Birth of our Lord. But later by the early Middle Ages, he became venerated as a great saint.

St. Joseph descended from the royal house of David, and was an ordinary laborer. He was chosen to be the Divine spouse of Mary, and bestowed on him as the most honorable gift – he was the "Foster Father of Jesus". Sacred Scripture tells us that he was a "just man", which indicates how faithful he was at protecting and guarding God's precious

Son. We know that some of his darkest hours may have been when he learned of Mary's pregnancy, but even in this trial, Joseph showed himself to be a man of character. After Divine Inspiration and an angel appearing to him, he accepted his duties and did all he could to protect his family and then modestly retires into the background.

The Bible tells us nothing of his death, although indications show he died before the beginning of Christ's public life. He humbly passed his years at Nazareth, silent and almost forgotten. He remained in the background through centuries of Church History, always there – but in the background, showing his willingness to help as a humble man. Liturgical veneration of St. Joseph began in the fifteenth century, being fostered by Saints Brigid of Sweden and Bernadine of Siena. St. Teresa did much to further veneration to St. Joseph as well.

St Joseph is the patron saint of the Universal Church, fathers, carpenters, and a happy death.

Save the Date | Sunday 26 March 9 am

Mass + BBQ breakfast

Mt St Patrick College students and staff from Romero House and Nagle House will join us for Mass on Sunday 26 March.

Parishioners are invited to join the students from Romero and Nagle for a BBQ breakfast after Mass.

Wear your **Purple (Romero)** and/or **Gold (Nagle)** to support the College Houses.



Romero
BE MORE



Nagle
DEEDS NOT WORDS

Palm Sunday 2 April 8 am

Blessing of the Palms in Sacred Park with our Anglican friends | followed

by Mass at 9 am |
our regular Sunday Cuppa will
also be on this day —*before and after* Mass



Easter Oils \$25

The story of Easter in oils

All proceeds to The Michaelite Fathers'
mission efforts in PNG.

To order please phone Philomena Zambelli
0414 201 940

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - A RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PS 22)

**R. The Lord is my shepherd,
there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.**

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.**

**The Legion of Mary invites all parishioners
to the Annual Acies to be held at
St Joseph's Church Tweed Heads
at 9 am on Sunday 26 March**

- Mass followed by refreshments -

**If you would like to come and need a lift
please contact the Parish Office or
phone Philomena Zambelli 0414 201 940
and we will do our best!**

**The Lord anointed my eyes:
I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.**
John 9:11, 38

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*

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.

POSITION VACANT

Presbytery Housekeeper

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Murwillumbah

Applications are sought for the position of Presbytery
Housekeeper. This is a part-time position working
approximately 20-24 hours per week.

Duties will include general household cleaning, washing,
ironing, household shopping, meal preparation and
cooking. The position would suit an active person who
respects the teachings of the Church and the ethos of the
Parish and Diocese.

Working with Children and Criminal History Checks will be
required.

If you would like more information about this position,
please contact Mary-Ann Thackray, Parish Business
Manager between 9 am to 3 pm weekdays.

T | 02 6672 1118

E | mthackray@lismore.catholic.org.au

Applications close Friday 31 March 2023

INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND

www.dif.org.au Phone 1800 802 516 Paying 3.20%

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

