

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

mshpp@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

mshjpp@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A 12 March 2023

Finding God amongst the outcasts

Over the next couple of weeks, we move from the Gospel of Matthew to the Fourth Gospel. Often described as the "spiritual gospel," this gospel presents Jesus' teachings in the form of long theologically-charged speeches or his many-levelled interactions with various characters representing key groups within first-century Roman Palestine.

Today's gospel is no exception. The dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria in this passage is among the most historically interesting and the most theologically profound in the New Testament. To astute readers of the gospels, this story comes as a surprise. One would not expect the Jewish Jesus to be found in conversation with an unaccompanied woman in public; and, more significantly, a woman from neighbouring Samaria; a territory and people with whom the Jewish community had a hostile relationship.

Samaritans shared with their Jewish neighbours a common ancestry and a common faith in God (YHWH). But they were considered ethnically and religiously tarnished because they had intermarried with foreigners and adopted aspects of pagan worship into their religious practice.

The story reflects something of this history. It indicates the Samaritan woman had 'many husbands' prior to her present partner.

Typical of the Fourth Gospel, there are various levels of meaning here. On the one hand, the reference can be understood as an obvious allusion to the dubious ethnicity of the Samaritans. On the other hand, it may be meant literally, indicating that the woman's irregular relationships had made her an outcast in her own community too.

Jesus breaks several social taboos in first speaking to the woman, and then sharing her drinking vessel. In the eyes of his fellow Jews, Jesus acted shamefully in speaking with the woman alone. And in drinking from the same cup he rendered himself ritually "unclean" – unfit to enter the precincts of the Temple and offer prayer to God. After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple, even though she is neither a Jew nor a "respectable" member of her community. She returns to her town and proclaims the gospel and succeeds in leading others to Jesus.

There are at least two lessons to be learned from this passage. First, there is nothing that we have done in our past or in our present situation that prevents us from finding God in our lives. Second, genuine Christian communities must be open and welcoming. Christianity is meant to be counter-cultural.

It cuts across all conventional boundaries that separate people, communities and nations from each other. But such boundaries do not separate us from God, who loves us and is open to giving us a second chance. There is nothing in our past that should prevent us from proclaiming the gospel, especially to those closest to us: our family, friends and neighbours.

Ian J Elmer @ Majellan Media 2023

This week in the Parish

Sunday 12	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass
Monday 13	11:00 am - Lenten Group Parish Office
Tuesday 14	5:30 pm - Mass
Wednesday 15	10:00 am - Catholic Men's Group (<i>see note below</i>) 5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 16	8:15 am - Mass 12:30 pm - Legion of Mary meeting (<i>note new time</i>) Parish Meeting Centre
Friday 17	ST PATRICK, BISHOP 10:00 am - Lenten Group Parish Office 12 noon - Mass 12:30 pm - Stations of the Cross
Saturday 18	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 19	FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptisms

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:

Ken Hall, John Moran, Tina van den Broek, Kevin 'Dordy' Graham, Elaine Peachey

ANNIVERSARIES:

Beryl Allam, Peter Luxford

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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



II RITE OF RECONCILIATION

St Anthony's Kingscliff | 6pm Tuesday 28 March
Sacred Heart | 6pm Wednesday 29 March

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

March morning tea

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

Enquiries: Alex Lever 0458 817 021

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME

ROSTERS | READINGS

READING ROSTER

18/19 March | Fourth Sunday of Lent | Yr A

6pm - Grace Molloy

9am - Christine O'Brien

READINGS FOR TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY:

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A

Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - Year A

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

ROSARY STATUE

Trish & Michael Jandura



'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.

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.



Zimbabwe is experiencing an intense drought, exacerbated by climate change. With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt conservation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops and started poultry farming to support her family during the current food crisis.

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 PATRICK, bishop

St Patrick was born around 385 in Scotland, probably Kilpatrick. His parents were Calpornius and Conchessa, who were Romans living in Britian.

As a boy of 14 or so, he was captured during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. Ireland at this time was a land of Druids and pagans. He learned the language and practices of the people who held him.

St Patrick's captivity lasted until he was 20, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he reunited with his family. He had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him 'We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more.'

He began his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years.

Later, Patrick was ordained a bishop, and was sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. He arrived in Ireland March 25, 433, at Slane. Patrick began preaching the Gospel throughout Ireland, converting many. He and his disciples preached and converted thousands and began building churches all over the country. Kings, their families, and entire kingdoms converted to Christianity when hearing Patrick's message.

St Patrick is the Patron Saint of several dioceses across Australia, including Adelaide, Ballarat, Bathurst, Hobart, Melbourne and Lismore.

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.

Masses with the other College Houses are planned for each term in 2023. Dates TBC.

Term 2 | Loreto & Doyle

Term 3 | Ignatius & Assisi

Term 4 | Lucan & Lisieux

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!

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

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life
- John 4:13-14

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





THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT - A RESPONSORIAL PSALM (PS 94)

**R. If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me,
though they saw my work.” **R.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

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



DIocese SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

If you or a person close to you has been
abused by someone working or ministering
within the Diocese of Lismore, we ask you
to contact us.

We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and
discuss options you have available to you.

To contact the Safeguarding Office,
please phone: (02) 6621 9444
or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

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

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.

ORGAN CONCERT

Christopher Wrench

- one of Australia's finest performers

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH

4:30 PM SATURDAY 25 MARCH

\$20/\$12 entry tickets at door or
Concert admission + Dinner (Johnny Franco's)
\$65 | bookings close 23 March
[HTTPS://www.TryBooking.com/CEUSP](https://www.TryBooking.com/CEUSP)

Bishop Greg's Lenten Talk Series continues...

The Spirituality of St Teresa of Avila:

Bishop Greg's last Lenten talk will be held this
**Thursday 16 March at 6pm at St Carthage's
Cathedral.**

*It will be available to view on the YouTube channel
the next day [https://www.youtube.com/c/
LismoreDioceseAU](https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU)*

ALL ARE MOST WELCOME!

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.

