

# 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

02 6672 1118

[www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au](http://www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au)

[murwillumbah@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:murwillumbah@lismore.catholic.org.au)

PO Box 45

Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Queensland Road,

Murwillumbah NSW 2484

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## PARISH SCHOOLS

### Mt. St. Patrick College

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 2340

[mshpmurwillumbah@lismore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mshpmurwillumbah@lismore.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Mr. Paul Reidy

### Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

[mtsp@lismore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mtsp@lismore.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

### St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

[stj@lismore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:stj@lismore.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

YEAR A | 21 May 2023

### I am with you always

Forty days after Easter, when we celebrated Jesus' resurrection, today we celebrate his ascension into heaven and to the right hand of the Father. Artists throughout the centuries have imagined the scene: the disciples staring upwards as the Risen Jesus is lifted up before them and disappears into the clouds. Their last glimpse of him is his feet as he disappears from sight.

Jesus' ascension marks the definitive ending of his previous mode of life among us. How strange, at first thought, that we celebrate his departure from us. Would we not greatly prefer to have him stay with us, to enjoy his being among us. But in his ascension, he departs from us. He is out of sight now, no longer bodily among us, having vanished from visibly earthly existence.

And yet, the great mystery of the Ascension is that, with the completion of his mission – his life, death, resurrection and ascension and return to the Father – he is now, as never before, with us - and with each and every generation of believers, present to us in every moment. He is still God with us, Emmanuel. He is indeed more perfectly and completely present to us in each moment of our lives than in his earthly life.

The Evangelist, Matthew, brings his gospel to conclusion in today's gospel reading, but not directing our gaze to Jesus ascending into the clouds. Indeed, Matthew doesn't actually mention Jesus' ascension. Matthew focuses instead on Jesus' final words, his commissioning of the disciples: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." Jesus' mission is thus extended to all the nations, through us, his disciples. His mission is now our mission, the Church's mission.

Last of all, Matthew repeats Jesus' comforting assurance, that "I am with you always, to the end of the age." Jesus had also promised them that he would not leave us orphans (Jn 14:18). He would send the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, to inspire, guide and counsel us. Next week, fifty days after Easter, we will celebrate Pentecost and the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples.

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Church later came to understand that Mary must also have shared the experience of the Ascension, rising bodily to heaven. In August we will celebrate her Assumption into heaven. Here indeed is the meaning to today's feast for each and every one of us: it is our destiny to enter heaven too.

So it is that the Letter to Ephesians exhorts us today: "know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe."

Anne Hunt @ Majellan Media 2023

# This week in the Parish

Saturday 20	10:00 am - Rosary in the Park 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass with Mt St Patrick College Loreto & Doyle Houses 7:00 pm - Shared meal with MSPC - FREE
Sunday 21	<b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A</b> 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass
Tuesday 23	5:30 pm - Mass
Wednesday 24	<b>OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS</b> 5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 25	8:15 am - Mass
Friday 26	12 noon - Mass
Saturday 27	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 28	<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY - YEAR A</b> 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass

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

**RECONCILIATION**  
Saturday: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm  
Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am

**WEDNESDAY WORD**  
Copies of Wednesday Word, 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.

**VINNIES WINTER  
APPEAL  
27/28 MAY**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Paul Hart, Des & Patricia Pasfield, Jenny Gilbert, Michael McCarthy

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Bishop Patrick Farrelly (3rd Bishop of Lismore)

### THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

baby Oliver, David Burke, Malcolm Reid, Paul Calvino, Margaret Hyde, Maureen McCabe, Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

## ROSTERS | READINGS

### READING ROSTER

**27/28 May | Pentecost Sunday | Yr A**

6pm - Tim Waugh

9am - Maree Coley

### READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

**The ASCENSION of the LORD - Year A**

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

**PENTECOST SUNDAY - Year A**

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

### ROSARY STATUE

21 May: Kay Ryder      28 May: Debbie Kaehler

## ROSARY IN THE PARK

**Saturday 20th May at 10am**



It will be held in Budd Park with refreshments to follow.

**ALL WELCOME!**

**NATIONAL SORRY DAY** - The inaugural National Sorry Day was held 26 May 1998, a day of great significance for Stolen Generation survivors and other Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples and is commemorated by Australians around the country as a time we can all share in the healing process for the people and the nation.

**NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK  
27 MAY - 3 JUNE**

## THE MONTH OF MAY

In celebrating the annual cycle of Christ's mysteries, the Church honours with special love Mary, the Mother of God, who is joined by an inseparable bond to the saving work of her Son.

The month of May includes several Marian Feasts and is a special time of honour and devotion to Mary.



## 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](https://www.youtube.com/LismoreDioceseAU) - 9:00 am - [youtube.com/LismoreDioceseAU](https://www.youtube.com/LismoreDioceseAU)
- Freeview TV - Channel 10 Sunday 6 am

## 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.*



**I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS.** When Christ ascended into heaven he did not abandon his disciples. Matthew's Gospel begins with the angel's words that Jesus will be called Emmanuel, which means God-is-with-us, and it ends with Jesus' promise: 'Know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time.' In a special way Emmanuel is with us in this Eucharist for 'where two or three are gathered in my name, I shall be there with them.'

## Welcome...

This Saturday 20 May, at the 6pm Vigil Mass, we welcome Mt St Patrick College students and teachers from **Doyle** and **Loreto** Houses. After Mass, we will come together for dinner.

This is a great way to connect with our parish, especially as there will be also be our younger students who are journeying towards their First Eucharist. This is a great opportunity for us all to join together to support the young ones too.

We hope you can join us for Mass and a meal and to welcome our College and primary students and their families to our parish community.

Wear your pinks and blues in support of **Doyle** and **Loreto**.



### Are your CONTACT DETAILS up to date?

New to our Parish? | Moved recently? | New email address or mobile number?  
Please provide your contact details to the Parish Office



6672 1118



[murwillumbah@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:murwillumbah@lismore.catholic.org.au)



complete the contact details form available at the back of the church

The collection of your personal information by the Parish is in accordance with the Diocese of Lismore Privacy (External) Policy.

## VINNIES WINTER APPEAL 27/28 MAY

Help end the homelessness crisis devastating older women. Your generosity will provide shelter, food, clothing and long-term support to older women in crisis - our mothers, grandmothers and aunts - and help rebuild their lives. Vinnies Winter Appeal will be held in our parish next weekend 27/28 May.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS | WEDNESDAY 24 MAY



The feast day to Mary Help of Christians has been celebrated in Australia since 1844 but the history to this day dates back to the start of the 1800's.

Napoleon Bonaparte had jailed Pius VI who died in jail. When Pope Pius VII was elected he too was jailed by Bonaparte, who kept him prisoner at Fontainbleau. The Holy Father vowed to God that if he were restored to the Roman See, he would institute a special feast in honour of Mary. The military eventually forced Bonaparte to release the Pope and on 24 May 1814, Pius VII returned in triumph to Rome.

Twelve months later the Pope decreed that the feast of Mary Help of Christians be kept on 24 May.

The infant church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. No priests were sent to the colony in its early days and Mass was not allowed except for one brief year until 1820. It was largely the Rosary in those early days that kept the faith alive.

Catholic Australia remained faithful to Mary and was the first nation to choose her under the title Help of Christians, as principal Patroness.

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Ps 46)

**R: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with  
you always, until the end of the world.**

Alleluia!

## PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT

### RENEWAL WEEKEND

**Saturday 3 & Sunday 4 June**

**WHO CAN JOIN A FAMILY GROUP? ...**

**ANYONE!**

Seniors, Young, Catholic or not,  
Married, Single, Widowed or Divorced



### EVERYONE!

Family Groups do not need to cut across existing friendships. Rather they add a new dimension to parish life which allows non-Catholic spouses, inactive Catholics and those who do not feel they truly "belong" to become part of our parish community. Family Groups provide a non-threatening atmosphere so that this can happen in a gentle way. There is no catch – we are just being what the church should be – family for each other.

Family Groups strive to meet the needs of the heart rather than the head and all Family Group activities are aimed at *no cost or low cost*, so that everyone can be included.

Save The Date...

**PETER KEARNEY**

Concert-Reflection

**SIGNS OF HOPE**

**PEOPLE OF FAITH**

- Songs & Stories

**Sunday 30 July at 3pm**

**Sacred Heart Church**

Behold, I am with you always,  
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

*Mt 28:20*

## 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](http://www.dif.org.au) Phone 1800 802 516 Paying 3.20%

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

