

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

02 6672 1118

www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au

murwillumbah@lismore.catholic.org.au

PO Box 45

Murwillumbah NSW 2484

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

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

30 July 2023

Heaven is a pearl worth pursuing



Much like today, different gods and life philosophies were plentiful in the ancient Roman world. They were like different pearls, available for people to pick and choose which they liked and wanted to keep. However, say you had come across a pearl greater in its beauty and purity than all of the others you had seen, one so valuable it required you to discard all the rest to obtain it. There's a sense of urgency in the decision too. A pearl this valuable, like treasure found in a field, will not remain available like this for long. Looking at it, you know you must decide quickly while it is still available.

Would it be worth it to you?

When Jesus talks about the 'kingdom of heaven' or the 'kingdom of God' being like a pearl of great price, he's referring to the value of the new way of living available through him.

As St Paul explains in today's second reading, the kingdom of heaven is not just about eternal life. It is primarily about being shaped to become like Jesus, including in the here and now. We share Jesus' wisdom, his capacity to love others and his relationship with the Father. We live with Christ's life, we become moulded to his ways, and we take on Christ's whole way of being as our own.

The imagery offered by the parables in today's gospels describes the right response to finding the kingdom of heaven, which is to give up everything else that has value in order to pursue it. Whether it costs us success, security, pleasure, or the respect of others, the kingdom of heaven is worth the very highest price.

St Matthew understands how the kingdom of heaven can change a person. Not only has he given up everything, including riches and security, for the kingdom of heaven but, in attaining it, he is like the head of a household who can welcome others into the kingdom and give its treasures away.

However, there is no understanding of the kingdom of heaven as Jesus describes it without a life-changing commitment to stay on its course.

As our first reading explains, King Solomon, at the start of his life, found this pearl of great price and placed it at the very centre of his life. Solomon disregarded offers of health, wealth and security and instead prized knowing the heart and mind of God. However, as the books of Kings go on to document, the wealth and life of pleasure drew Solomon's focus away from the wisdom he once prized above everything.

The life on offer from God gives us meaning and joy. It offers us a life where "all things work for good for those who love God." It is worth it to cast everything aside to attain it.

Joseph Doyle @ Magellan Media 2023

This week in the Parish

Sunday 30 **17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A**
8:30 am - Rosary
9:00 am - Mass
10:15 am - Baptism
3:00 pm - Peter Kearney Concert - note page 3

AUGUST

Tuesday 1 No Mass today
Wednesday 2 11:00 am - Funeral prayers for Eric Dixon
No Mass today
Thursday 3 No Mass today
Friday 4 11:00 am - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
12 noon - Mass
Saturday 5 9:00 am - Rosary
5:30 pm - Rosary
6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 6 **THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD - Year A**
8:30 am - Rosary
9:00 am - Mass
10:00 am - Parish Cuppa / Morning tea

RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm
Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 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.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Friday of each month

11 am - 11:50 am

WEDNESDAY WORD

Copies of Wednesday Word, are available for you in the Church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Eric Dixon, Judy Mills, Patrick Guinea, Gordy Batten, Joan Davis, Donald Bartesko, Colleen McBurney

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Vince Kean, David McLeod, Peter Hyde, Suzanne Brincat, Lorraine Green, Colin Brooks, Kathy Dawson, baby Oliver, David Burke, Malcolm Reid, Paul Calvino, Maureen McCabe, Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

ROSTERS | READINGS

READING ROSTER

5/6 Aug | Transfiguration of the Lord | Yr A

6pm - Lyndy Severs

9am - Mary-Ann Thackray

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD - Year A

Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; 2 Pet 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 5 Aug | Rafe & Brock McAndrew

Sun 6 Aug | Bonnie Lindsay & Annabel Casey

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.



BAPTISM:

Please welcome

Ruben Mai Dorney
to our faith community.

Thank You Fr Jim...

This weekend is the final weekend that Fr Jim will celebrate Mass for us. We thank him for his time in our parish, wish him the very best and hope to see him again in the future.



PARISH CUPPA

Please join us for a Cuppa | Morning tea after 9am Mass next Sunday 6 August.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Preach the Word of God wherever you go, even use words if necessary - *St Francis of Assisi*

ROSARY STATUE

30 July | Evelyn Cook

6 Aug | Jenny Wallace 13 Aug | Faith Buchanan

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



Peter Kearney Concert-Reflection

SIGNS of HOPE – PEOPLE of FAITH

SONGS & STORIES

Songs linked by stories and reflections about people whose faithful lives have brought compassion, hope and justice into our world.

Sunday 30th July, 3.00pm
Sacred Heart Church
MURWILLUMBAH
Donations welcome

Cuppa at interval



WORLD YOUTH DAY
LISBON PORTUGAL
1 - 6 AUGUST 2023



Photo of Lismore Diocesan group in Spain on their pilgrimage to Lisbon Portugal

Please keep all pilgrims in your prayers this week, as they take part in World Youth Day celebrations in Lisbon, Portugal.

Mass times in neighbouring parishes next week...

Kingscliff

Tuesday	Pottsville	9:15 am
Wednesday	Kingscliff	8am
Thursday	Kingscliff	9am
Friday	Kingscliff	8am

Tweed Heads

Monday - Friday	9:10 am
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WEEKDAY CHURCH OPENING HOURS FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2023

During the next few weeks when there is no weekday Mass, the church will be **open for private prayer** (entry via side door near carpark only) as follows:
 Monday to Wednesday 9 am to 4 pm
 Thursday 1 pm to 4 pm (closed in the mornings for cleaning)

On Fridays when Fr Joseph Guinea will celebrate midday Mass with us, the church will be open on Fridays from 11 am until 1 pm.

Please note the following exceptions:

Wednesday 2 August – closed |11:00 am Funeral Prayers for Eric Dixon

Tuesday 8 August – open all day including 5:30 pm Mass | Feast Day St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Tuesday 15 August – open all day including 5:30 pm Mass | Feast of the Assumption

Please be aware of your personal safety when you are in the church during these times.

Please report any unsafe conditions or accidents immediately to the parish office on 0413 277 700.

Lights in the front left quarter of the Nave will be turned on for safety reasons during the times that the church is open. Queries or concerns, please contact Mary-Ann 0413 277 700.

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (118)

R: Lord, I love your commands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

FR JIM'S HOMILY LINKS...

1. Foreign Correspondent

An excellent and compelling documentary was produced by the ABC program Foreign Correspondence about the Cobalt mines in DR Congo.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V3blzNX4co>

2. The Good Shepherd Sisters' link to their website

<http://congo.gsif.it/>

We pray for those who are sick...

If you or a family member would like to be included on this list for prayers by our parish community, published in the Bulletin, please contact the Parish Office. For privacy reasons we can only accept requests from a person themselves or a close family relative.

The names on this list will be reviewed and names removed every 4-6 weeks. If you wish a name to remain on the list after that time, you will be asked to contact the Parish Office to ensure that your name remains on the list.

THANK YOU!

The Parish Pastoral Council thanks those who are contributing ideas and suggestions to the PPC Suggestion Box in the Sacred Heart Church.

Parishioners will understand that in Fr Peter's absence on Long Service Leave no real changes or new initiatives can be undertaken - but please be assured we are saving all messages for consideration at the next scheduled Parish Pastoral Council meeting on 5 October 2023. Please keep the ideas coming!

Save the Date | Sunday 20 August 9 am Mass + breakfast/morning tea

Mt St Patrick College students and staff from Ignatius House and Assisi House will join us for Mass on Sunday 20 August. Parishioners are invited to join the students from Ignatius and Assisi for breakfast/morning tea after Mass. Wear your **Orange (Ignatius)** and/or **Aqua (Assisi)** to support the College Houses.

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.

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