

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

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

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

stj@lismore.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

20 August 2023

Living on the margins

Matthew's community consisted of Jews and non-Jews (Gentiles), which contributed to tension and disharmony. The Jewish Christians still saw themselves as Jews. For them, they hadn't changed their religion. Christianity was simply another reform-movement within Judaism. However, being Jewish was not solely about religion, it was also cultural; giving identity, meaning, understanding and depth to life.

The Jews saw themselves as a holy nation, a people set apart; and non-Jews were considered the opposite! So, when non-Jews began joining the new community and growing in number, the Jews felt overwhelmed and uncomfortable with the religious and cultural blending. Questions arose: Were non-Jews welcome in the Christian movement and on what conditions? Who decides about membership and participation? Is there openness to integration and compromise?

Throughout his gospel, Matthew confronts attitudes of superiority and contempt for Gentiles among the Jewish Christians. For example: He introduces and gives prominence to the Gentile Magi. He has Jesus calling his followers to *"love your enemies"*. He shows Jesus curing the servant of a Gentile centurion and exorcising Gentile demoniacs.

In today's story, Matthew addresses the differences between a woman and Jesus' disciples. Matthew doesn't just identify her by geography but uses the term *'Canaanite'*; an ancient word for Israel's long-time enemies. He shows that it's the disciples who first have a problem with her: *"She's shouting after us."* Matthew uses the usual Jewish objection by having Jesus say: *"I was sent only to the lost-sheep of the House of Israel."* But then he adds a balancing statement by having Jesus respond to the woman and praise her faith: *"Woman, you have great faith."*

Matthew shows Jesus being deeply moved by the woman's desperate motherly love and her readiness to trust him. Jesus has no interest in her 'religion' or any questionable moral worthiness, and certainly not that she was a Gentile woman. Jesus is as close to those on the margins as he is to those who belong to the so-called 'inner circle'.

In the conversation between the woman and Jesus, Matthew demonstrates God's abundance: *"Even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master's table."* (Recall the feeding of the 5000 - twelve baskets-full of scraps were collected from what was left over). God's grace, mercy and compassion are lavish and reach out *beyond* Israel to embrace the whole world.

So, who might be today's equivalent of the ostracised Gentile woman or the Gentile and Jewish members of Matthew's community?

Like Matthew, perhaps we can use the story to examine contemporary life, with all its questions, differences, uncertainties, tensions and complexities. A good starting point is to see life through the lens of God's unconditional love for everyone and to reach out with respect, compassion and sensitivity to others, especially those pushed to the edges.

David J Hore CSSR @ Magellan Media 2023

This week in the Parish

Sunday 20	20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Breakfast / Morning Tea with MSPC Ignatius & Assisi Colour Houses
Tuesday 22	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary No Mass today 6:30 pm - Confirmation Parent Meeting see note
Wednesday 23	Parish Office Closed today from 12 noon. No Mass today
Thursday 24	Parish Office Closed today from 12 noon. No Mass today
Friday 25	12 noon - Mass
Saturday 26	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 27	21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass

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.

WEDNESDAY WORD

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Di Sutherland (sister-in-law of Jane & Chris Anderson),
Vince Kean, Eric Dixon

ANNIVERSARIES:

Bruce Banner, David Gorton

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

David McLeod, Peter Hyde, Lorraine Green, Colin Brooks, Kathy Dawson, David Burke, Malcolm Reid, Paul Calvino, Maureen McCabe, Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

ROSTERS | READINGS

READING ROSTER

26/27 Aug | 21st Sunday in Ord Time | Yr A

6pm - Grace Molloy

9am - Maree Coley

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

Is 56:1, 6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A

Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

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.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Parent Meeting

Tuesday 22 August - 6.30pm

Sacred Heart Church

Baptised children in Year 3 or older are eligible to make their Confirmation. Parents who have children making their Confirmation this year will need to attend this meeting.

Welcome & Instruction - 26/27 August

Confirmation Instruction - 2/3 September

Confirmation Instruction - 9/10 September

Confirmation Instruction - 16/17 September

Retreat Day - Tuesday 10 October

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Tuesday 10 October - Sacred Heart Church

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 26 Aug | Rafe & Danny McAndrew

Sun 27 Aug | Annabel Casey & Sienna Alexander

ROSARY STATUE

20 Aug | Pauline Weber

27 Aug | Kay Ryder 3 Sept | Debbie Kaehler

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

WELCOME...

This Sunday 20 August, at the 9am Mass, we welcome Mt St Patrick College students and teachers from **Ignatius** and **Assisi** Houses. After Mass, we will come together for breakfast/morning tea. This is a great way to connect with our parish.

We hope you can join us for Mass and breakfast/morning tea to welcome our College students and teachers to our parish community.

Don't forget to wear your **Orange (Ignatius)** and/or **Aqua (Assisi)** to support the College Houses.

PARISH NEWS...

♦ Date Saver! Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau | Saturday 25 November 2023

Time to start planning!

We are seeking expressions of interest from parish school parents/carers as well as parishioners for the following positions on the Carnival Planning Team:

Stalls coordinator

Kids Activities coordinator

Working Bee coordinator

If you are interested in taking on one of these volunteer roles or simply have ideas to share on ways to make the carnival a success, please contact the Parish Office 6672 1118 or email murwillumbah@lismore.catholic.org.au

A Carnival planning meeting is scheduled for Thursday 31 August at 4pm.

FINANCIAL REPORT TO THE PARISH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

Included with this weekend's bulletin is the financial summary for the parish for the year ended 31 December 2022. This summary highlights the fact that our parish continues to be in a position where our expenses outweigh our parish income for the year.

We sincerely thank you, our generous contributors, whose loyalty has continued to maintain the parish over many years through planned giving and regular donations. We invite those parishioners who have not been part of the Planned Giving Program to consider how you might support the parish financially.

Give and it shall be given to you, a full measure...overflowing (Luke 6:38)

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed financial summary or planned giving, please speak to one of our Parish Finance Council members or to our Parish Business Manager, Mary-Ann Thackray.

FAMILY GROUPS

Thank you to everyone who indicated that they were keen to join a family group and/or remain in the program. After some discernment, groups have been created and we now need to appoint some group leaders. There will be three (3) family groups – one active group remains intact and two new groups have been created made up of "old hands" and new members. We will have the group lists and "Welcome to Family Group" brochures at Masses next weekend.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY | 27 AUGUST

Social Justice Sunday is observed every year on the final Sunday of August. This year's commemoration falls on August 27.

The Catholic Church in Australia has a long tradition of commemorating Social Justice Sunday. The Catholic Bishops have issued an annual Social Justice Statement practically every year since 1940.

The social justice remarks are made on behalf of the entire bishops' conference in time for Social Justice Sunday. These declarations are issued with the hopes of provoking thought and action throughout the year. Statements will be available next weekend.

Save The Date...

Fr Ray Sanchez speaking on

'GRIEF AND LOSS'

Friday 13 | Saturday 14 October

PARISH MINI RETREAT

STOP - REFLECT - REVIVE

Date

2nd September 2023

Time

8.30 am to 12.30pm

Place

St Anthony's Church, Kingscliff

Program

Rosary; Mass; Reconciliation; 2 Talks

Retreat Director

Fr MX Rego SM

Please bring a plate to share.

To Jesus through Mary.
Organised by the Legion of Mary.

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (66)

R: O God, let all the nations praise you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the Kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

I am the living bread that came down from heaven,
says the Lord. Whoever eats of this bread
will live forever - *John 6:51-52*

CHURCH OPENING HOURS -

Monday 21 to Friday 25 August (*subject to change without notice*)

Tuesday 22 August 9 am to 4 pm

Wednesday 23 & Thursday 24 - CLOSED

Friday 25 August - 9 am to 1 pm including Mass at 12 noon

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.

Weekday Mass times in neighbouring parishes...

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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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 Phone 1800 802 516 Paying 3.70%

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





Sacred Heart Parish

Murwillumbah

Financial Report to the Parish for the year ended 31 December 2022

A message from the Parish Finance Council on behalf of Fr Peter Wood, Parish Administrator

This financial summary has been prepared so that you are aware of the financial activity of our parish during the period 1 January to 31 December 2022.

Members of the Parish Finance Council during 2022 were Peter McDonald-Chairperson, Leo Kelly, Jim Grennan, Kevin Twohill, Ray Daley Wayne Bartesko and Jennifer Wallace.

Whilst the financial summary for the year ended 31 December 2022 shows a loss of \$(33,053); the Parish cash reserves are healthy with \$956,128 held.

2022 was another challenging year for the Parish. Whilst clergy and parish staff remained committed to the parish and our parishioners, the devastating floods of February/March 2022 had an impact on the overall operations of the Parish with one residential property being deemed uninhabitable. A cash settlement has been received for this property and there are no plans for the building to be reinstated. Other properties at South Murwillumbah have also suffered significant damage and are still in the process of being reinstated.

With no flood insurance coverage now on our properties, the Parish Finance Council are in the process of reviewing how we manage these properties – residential and churches – in the future.

Fr Anthony's extended leave and the need to establish and maintain a second presbytery catering to Fr Anthony's specific health needs also impacted the parish financially.

Numbers attending weekly Mass remain low. Our parishioner base is an integral part of the profitability and viability of the Parish. This is a diocese wide concern which is to be addressed as part of the Diocesan Review currently being conducted.

Our aging Parish buildings (many now over 100 years old) are in constant need of repair and maintenance, which causes a continual drain on Parish funds. Major maintenance works scheduled for early 2023 have been put on hold due to ongoing rectification and reinstatement claims related to flood and storm damage from February/March 2022.

Whilst our ability to generate income has diminished, our operating costs continue to increase. We will continue to look for ways to attract or modify income streams for the Parish and to modify our operations to reduce expenses.

The Parish Finance Committee remains committed to the ongoing financial viability of the Sacred Heart Parish.

Planned Giving Program

It is largely due to you, our loyal Parishioners, and your continued generosity through the Planned Giving Program, that the Parish remains financially stable. We sincerely thank you all for your ongoing financial commitment throughout 2022.

Since the first Parish Planned Giving Programme was established by Monsignor O'Rourke in 1964, the programme has remained an important part of our parish's income sources. We encourage all Parishioners to participate in the programme according to your financial capability.

If you are new to our Parish, we invite you to please consider joining the program. Please contact the Parish Business Manager to discuss how you can participate.

Thank you to each and every one of you for your donations through the planned giving program and for some of you through anonymous donations throughout the year.

If you have any questions about the Planned Giving Programme; other ways to donate to the Parish without being a part of the Planned Giving Program; or want to know more about the parish finances generally, please contact the Parish Business Manager or the Parish Finance Council Chair.

We thank you sincerely for your continuing presence in our parish community and your ongoing support of the Sacred Heart Parish.

*Give and it shall be given to you,
a full measure...overflowing (Luke 6:38)*



Sacred Heart Parish

Murwillumbah

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

INCOME	Notes	2022	2021
Second Collection – Planned Giving		70,237	75,239
Second Collection – Loose Plate		11,151	11,189
Donations & Sponsorships		6,503	5,430
Miscellaneous Income		5,306	2,029
Pastoral Income		7,403	4,051
Rental Income	3	202,309	226,059
Extraordinary Income – Bequest	2	0	461,563
Total Income		302,909	785,560
EXPENSES			
Diocesan Quotas	4	0	9,566
Donations & Sponsorship		500	0
Electricity & Gas		10,795	10,367
General Operating Expenses		41,534	37,794
Insurance		24,717	36,506
Interest on Loan Parish Administration Centre		9,270	9,763
Motor Vehicle Expenses	5	19,978	9,963
Pastoral Expenses		763	1,345
Payroll Expenses		153,749	151,414
Rates Water		11,937	16,054
Rental Commission & Charges		10,369	11,973
Repairs Maintenance Improvement		52,350	60,654
Total Expenses		335,962	355,399
Net Surplus / (Loss) for 2022		0	430,161
Adjusted Surplus /(Loss) <i>without</i> Extraordinary Income		(33,053)	(31,402)

Notes:

- Cash Reserves available for Parish use at 31 December 2022: \$956,128 (includes cash settlement flood related damage) (2021: \$595,449)
- Bequest received in 2021 boosted cash reserves for FY 2021. Funds have been quarantined for the future maintenance of parish buildings, most particularly Sacred Heart Church, Parish Hall and the Presbytery.
- (i) Parish Hall leased to Mt St Patrick College as Learning Hub/Library. This lease was extended at end of 2022 for a further period of three years.
(ii) Residential rental property being used as second presbytery for Fr Anthony's rehabilitation
- Diocesan Quota was suspended in 2022 pending Diocesan Review.
- Motor vehicle expenses includes 2 clergy vehicles
- A copy of the full audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 for the Parish is available for inspection at the Parish Administration Centre.