

# 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](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

## 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

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

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

### St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

**28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**YEAR A**

**15 October 2023**

## An invitation to God's banquet

The image of the abundant, fulfilling feast is used throughout the scriptures to explain God's promise of eternal life. On the mountain of the Lord, as the prophet Isaiah says in today's first reading, God will "provide for all peoples a feast of juicy, rich food and pure, choice wines."

This metaphor of the abundant feast is used to describe the promise of God that he will "destroy the veil" between himself and humanity, "wipe away the tears from every face" and "destroy death forever".

In today's gospel, Jesus uses this imagery of Isaiah and ties the prophet's promises into his own mission. Jesus' parable reveals how the great reunion between God and humanity, where God will provide for his people and defeat death forever as foretold by the prophets, is exactly what is being through Jesus' death and resurrection at Calvary. Hearing about Christ's coming, death and resurrection is like receiving an invitation to a great wedding banquet, where the banquet represents eternal life with God.

And as Isaiah says, this provision is for "all peoples." However, as Jesus goes on to say, "many are invited" to this heavenly banquet "but few are chosen."

There are people who reject the invitation to the eternal life that God has planned for us. As Jesus' parable explains, people often dismiss God's messengers without hearing what they have to say. Some have other business they consider more important. Others react aggressively to the message. Some receive the message and come to the party, see everything that God has provided, but reject the way that has been prepared.

This invitation to eternal that Jesus is more than just being assured of going to a nice place after we die. It is not about our souls receiving psychological enlightenment or a prize for good behaviour. Eternal life, as Jesus says elsewhere in the gospels, is to know God, to know his goodness in the depths of our being, and to know Jesus Christ, and his message of salvation. In the life to come, we will be restored to communion with God and participation in his very nature. Eternal life, therefore, involves stepping into a new way of living. Not just accepting the invitation but living in the new life of love and holiness that we were created for.

What God wants more than anything else is that his children freely choose the life that he has on offer. And so, while we walk on this earth, the invitations are constantly issued to those of us willing to hear. Unlike the man who rejects to wear the wedding garment in this parable, which symbolises living the love and justice that God has created us for, we can respond differently to the king's gentle question: "My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?"

The gospel reminds us to keep accepting Jesus' invitations. The eternal life he is calling us to be part of is the one we have been created for.

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# This week in the Parish

Sunday 15	<b>28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A</b>
	8:30 am - Rosary
	9:00 am - Mass
Tuesday 17	5:30 pm - Mass
Wednesday 18	10:00 am - Catholic Men's Group see note below
	5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 19	8:15 am - Mass
Friday 20	12:00 pm - Mass
Saturday 21	9:00 am - Rosary
	5:30 pm - Rosary
	6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 22	<b>29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A</b>
	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:** Hugh McLeod, Milan (Mick) Mesic, Barry Sweetnam, Norma Newland, Deodat Zenda, Geof Nolan

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Archdeacon John Dalton ( 1st Parish Priest Murwillumbah 1903-1911), Bill Pendergast, Phil Lazenby, Brian Lazenby, Tom Bugden

## THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Wendy Bolden, Margaret Hyde, Lorraine Green, Colin Brooks, Kathy Dawson-Malone, David Burke, Malcolm Reid, Paul Calvino, Maureen McCabe, Fr Anthony Lemon, James Wallace

## ROSTERS | READINGS

### READING ROSTER

**21/22 Oct | 29th Sunday in Ord Time | Yr A**

6pm - Denise Banner

9am - Christine O'Brien

### READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

**28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A**

Is 25:6-10; Phil 4:12-14, 19-20; Mt 22:1-14

**29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A**

Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thess 1:1-5; Mt 22:15-21

### ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 21 Oct | Isla Chapman & Oliver Barrett

Sun 22 Oct | Bonnie Lindsay & Nate Linkins

### ROSARY STATUE

15 Oct | Philomena Zambelli

22 Oct | Anne Palmer 29 Oct | Susan Kean

## CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

October morning tea

**Wednesday 18 October | 10:00 am**

**Murwillumbah Services Club**

Enquiries: Alex Lever 0458 817 021

**ALL MEN ARE WELCOME**

## 2023 HSC EXAMS

Please remember in your prayers all Year 12 students as they continue their **Higher School Certificate** examinations.

When the Lord appears, we shall be like him,  
for we shall see him as he is.

- 1 John 3:2

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*We 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.*

## 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

## WORLD MISSION MONTH



**2023  
Catholic Mission  
Church Appeal**

*Hearts on Fire*  
**FEET ON THE MOVE**



With Timor-Leste's fragile infrastructure, reliance on local health practices, and limited access to medical care, many health conditions only worsen, and sadly can result in death.

**During October Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where you gift can help continue a life-saving program to help address this reality.**

We hope you will take next week's opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.

Freecall: 1800 257 296 | or visit: [catholicmission.org.au/timor](https://catholicmission.org.au/timor)

**Thank you for your prayerful support and generosity.**

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL RESPONSES TO ANONYMOUS SUGGESTIONS**

A number of questions, comments, suggestions, ideas are received by the Parish Pastoral Council through the Suggestion Box located at the back of the church.

At the recent Pastoral Council Meeting held on 5 October, the Pastoral Council with Fr Peter reviewed a number of the questions and we would like to share the responses to these questions/suggestions.

#### **Are we able to have a pious book and gift shop in the church?**

To be considered further in the future, as there are many aspects of this that need to be resolved— e.g. choice and purchasing of items, storage, reliable volunteers to operate etc. In the meantime please note that the Vinnies shop has a limited choice of pious goods available and there are excellent sources available online including from:

Christian Supplies | <https://www.christiansupplies.com.au/>

St Paul's | <https://secure.stpauls.com.au/>

Mustard Seed | <https://mustardseed.org.au/>

Garratt Publishing | <https://www.garrattpublishing.com.au/>

#### **When will we begin again to have the Chalice for distribution to the faithful?**

This will not happen in the foreseeable future. We are blessed to have Mass, and to receive the Eucharist which contains the Body and Blood of Christ, fully present in the consecrated host.

#### **When will we begin again to have the Offering Plates passed around?**

There is no plan to reinstate this. The present system is working extremely well.

#### **Is it possible, maybe once or twice a year or so, to have all three Family Groups join together for a meal so we can get to know people in the other Family Groups?**

This is a matter for Family Group Leaders to decide.

#### **If enough people want to attend retreats and events could we please consider car-pooling or even a mini bus?**

Due to legal liability issues the parish is not able to officially organise car-pooling. Insurers point out there would be a responsibility to ensure that vehicles are roadworthy and have a high ANCAP rating, that drivers are safe drivers and not disqualified. This kind of monitoring would be almost impossible for the parish to undertake. Parishioners are always able to organise car sharing on a personal basis and are encouraged to do so. Please be alert and consider offering a lift to anyone you think may be needing help to get to an event or to Mass— and if you want a lift, don't be afraid to ask someone you think may be able to help.

This is different from when the Parish might charter a bus to a specific event, such as an ordination or other special event at the Cathedral in Lismore, as has been done in the past with people asked to make a contribution to the cost of the charter. In the case of a chartered bus the risk is carried by the bus proprietor.

There are still some questions/suggestions that will be addressed at the November meeting of the Pastoral Council on 2 November and responses will be published in a future Bulletin following that meeting.

We encourage you all to continue to ask questions; to offer suggestions and or to comment generally on pastoral matters that affect our parish and our people. Thank you.





## 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (22)

**R:** I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.**

**Alleluia!**

### CONFIRMATION



Last Tuesday evening 10 October, Bishop Gregory Homeming administered the **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** to thirty-six children in our Parish.

Thank you to parents, teachers and catechists who helped prepare the children for this sacrament, and to our parish community, for the prayers and support that you offered the children and their families.

Special thanks to Pastoral Associate Barbara Grant for the preparation and decoration on the Sanctuary. Thanks also to Acolytes, Pat Marr and Tony Zambelli and Altar Servers, Bailey and Jana Lofts who served with Fr Peter and Bishop Greg.



*The gifts of the Holy Spirit strengthen you,  
making you a witness of Christ's love.  
May you always live your faith with joy and love.*

### 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 3.70%

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

