

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | YEAR B

3 December 2023

Are we prepared?

When going on a trip, especially overseas, many people spend a good amount of time in preparation. There may be a trip to the doctor, dentist, pharmacy, the supermarket and even the hairdresser. Calls to insurance companies regarding travel and medical cover; requests to neighbours and family members to keep an eye on the house, the dog, the cat ... the list goes on.



Much of the preparation goes into ensuring that when we do leave, there is peace of mind knowing that everything possible has been done. There could also be a last-minute momentary panic. Just as the plane is about to take off, or when the ship is about to leave port, the thought crosses your mind; have I left the kitchen light on?

We hear this in today's gospel. Mark is encouraging his faith community to continue living their lives as best they can in preparation for the second coming of Christ. When Jesus ascended into heaven after Good Friday and Easter Sunday, a lot of the early disciples and followers were left with the impression that Jesus would come back sooner rather than later to usher in a new era of God's Kingdom.

Hence, there was a lot of urgency in the early writings of the early faith communities to encourage one another not to lose faith, not to fall by the wayside and to continue to live their lives in accordance with the teachings of Christ. In other words, to maintain their faith and peace of mind.

For us in the 21st century and reading the words of the gospel, the circumstances of our faith and our journey maybe somewhat different from those early communities in Mark's time. However, the overarching message of being ready and prepared remains the same.

Advent is a 'reminder' time to do our best each day to follow in the footsteps of Christ and loving God and loving our neighbour. To take the journey of the path less travelled. To go against the grain of a world that promotes greed, power, and a focus on the self over others. To have hearts that are open to the mystery of God in our lives, in the lives of others and in the wider world, despite all the uncertainties, doubts, anxieties and even fears around us.

Advent is when we begin to prepare for what is to come: When we plant our faith firmly in God's truth so we can better face up to the delays, the unexpected side trips and dark pathways that our lives can unexpectedly take.

And that truth is that God so loved the world that God gave his only Son to be born as one of us. So let us stay awake and be witnesses to the wonder of God's love that is continuously at work around us as it was then, as it is now, and as it will be for all time.

Mark Chia CSsR © Magellan Media 2023

This week in the Parish

Sunday 3	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Parish Cuppa/Morning Tea	<p>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT 11 am - 11:50 am</p> <p>PRIVATE PRAYER from 4:45 pm before Tuesday & Wednesday 5:30 pm Mass</p> <p>RECONCILIATION Saturday: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am Friday: 11:30 am - 11:50 am</p> <p>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.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY WORD Copies of Wednesday Word, are available for you in the Church.</p>
Monday 4	9:00am - Rosary & Prayers (see note below)	
Tuesday 5	4:00 pm - Retreat 'Waiting with Mary' NO Mass today	
Wednesday 6	NO Mass today	
Thursday 7	NO Mass today	
Friday 8	The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 11:00 am - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Reconciliation: 11:30am - 11:50am (during Advent) 12 noon - Mass	
Saturday 9	9:30 am - Rosary & Prayers - Legion of Mary 10:00 am - Legion of Mary Reunion Mass 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass	
Sunday 10	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptisms	

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Michael Bowe (son of Denise Banner), Belle Dunne, Darryl Johnson (brother of Bernice Tomson)

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Jim Larkin, Noel McDonald, Violet Albury, Margaret Traves, John Lee, 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

9/10 Dec | Second Sunday of Advent | Yr B

6pm - Mike Brennan

9am - Christine O'Brien

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B

Is 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 9 Dec | Isla Chapman & Oliver Barrett

Sun 10 Dec | Annabel Casey & Sienna Alexander

ROSARY STATUE

3 Dec | Debbie Kaehler

10 Dec | Annette Lofts 17 Dec | Paula Thornton

LEGION OF MARY ANNUAL REUNION DAY

Saturday 9 December
Sacred Heart Church

9:30 am Rosary & Prayers.

10 am Mass

followed by fellowship & a light lunch
in the Parish Meeting Centre, Ewing St.

ALL WELCOME



'MASS OF ANOINTING'

9AM | SATURDAY | 16 DECEMBER

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



Last Saturday evening we witnessed the presentation of the real Christmas story at the 2023 Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau.

THANK YOU to everyone who worked so hard or contributed to making the Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau such a great success.

THANK YOU also to all who supported this very special event.

Parish Raffle Results
 1st Prize: Bec Baartz
 2nd Prize: Margaret Flannery
 3rd Prize: Rose Turner

We'd love your feedback on the Christmas Carnival and Nativity Tableau - please complete the enclosed survey form and return it to the Parish Office by Friday 15 December 2023.

The survey can also be completed online:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TFS6P7R>

An evaluation meeting for the carnival, including the financial results and results from surveys, will be held in February 2024.



Retreat for Advent
'Waiting with Mary'
 Tuesdays | 5, 12 & 19
 December
 4pm College Library/
 Catholic Hall

ADVENT WREATH

Within the four weeks of the Advent season, the Church's liturgy draws attention to different facets of how God's plan has been revealed in Christ, is now revealed in every Mass we celebrate, and that Christ will be revealed in all his glory at the end of time.

For each Sunday of Advent, we take our focus for the Advent Wreath from our Advent traditions. Like the people of the Old Testament we live in **hope** for the fullness of the revelation of Christ the Messiah when he will come in glory to judge the living and the dead.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE - PRAYER

Fr Peter:

All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

All Sing: O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
 Who orders all things mightily;
 To us the path of knowledge show,
 And teach us in her ways to go.
 Rejoice! Rejoice!
 Emmanuel shall come again and with us ever dwell.

With Expectant Hearts

2023 Advent & Reflection Resource

Short daily reflections for Advent. **\$7.00 each** available from the Church and Parish Office.

St Vincent de Paul Society

Mary MacKillop Conference, Murwillumbah CHRISTMAS APPEAL

More people than ever are seeking assistance through Mary MacKillop Conference, including those who have never had to ask for help before. Once again our Conference will be helping those in need to make Christmas special.

Instead of hampers we will be giving those on our Christmas list **GIFT CARDS or VOUCHERS** to enable them to purchase gifts, toys and festive food.

Please will you consider donating any of the following:

Gift cards or vouchers – especially on outlet where gifts, toys or something special can be purchased

Money – can be left in a specially marked envelope at Parish or School offices or Vinnies shop, or on a collection plate at Mass

Donate online - <https://donate.vinnies.org.au/christmas-appeal>

BUT WHEN YOU REACH THE OPTION ASKING FOR 'COMMENTS OR CONFERENCE NAME' please write "Murwillumbah Conference 43-427" so your gift stays in this area.

To give us time to get Christmas help to those who need it we hope most gifts will be received by Sunday 10 December. Thank you very much for anything you are able to do.

Denise Banner, President, Mary MacKillop Conference |personal | 0409 243 147



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

R: Come, O Lord and set us free.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!



PROFESSION OF FAITH (NICENE CREED)

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(All bow during these two lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. 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.

WELCOME

This Saturday evening 2 December at the
Vigil Mass we welcome **Louis Staunton &
Ava Quinn** to our faith community.

Louis will be Baptised, and both Louis and
Ava will be Confirmed and receive First
Holy Communion.



Congratulations Louis & Ava and WELCOME!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL
Sunday 24th December**

6:00pm | Sacred Heart Church

**CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday 25th December**

9:00am | Sacred Heart Church

CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTER

Volunteers are needed for the Christmas Mass liturgy
roster - please add your name & your ministry to the
sheet on the Mass that you are available - located on
table near the Church entrance or contact the Parish
Office.

Murwillumbah Philharmonic Choir

presents '100 Years On'

a concert to celebrate the Choir's Centenary

Sunday | 3 December | 2:30 pm (DST)

All Saints Anglican Church

Tickets \$20 Concession/Student \$15

Light Refreshments served after concert

2024 JOSEPHITE CALENDARS - on sale
in church or at the Parish Office. \$10.00 each.

INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND

www.dif.org.au Phone 1800 802 516 Paying 4.15%

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

