

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B | 10 December 2023

A voice in the wilderness

I recall a scripture scholar describing John the Baptist as an extremely eccentric character with an odd wardrobe and an unusual diet. However, you imagine him, certainly John must have had a captivating personality, attracting large followings in less than comfortable surroundings, and this surely suggests that his message carried real conviction.



Mark and his fellow gospel writers are in no doubt that John the Baptist is the fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecies about the one who would prepare the way for the coming of the messiah. Accordingly, John takes centre-stage in the liturgies of Advent. He invites us to think about our lives and to what extent we have welcomed the Lord into them, and how readily we are responding to his continuing invitation to follow him.

In his second letter Saint Peter is obviously concerned that the enthusiasm of some members of the early Christian community is beginning to wane because the promised Second Coming of the Lord has not arrived, and here are we, two thousand years later, still waiting and wondering. Of course, one of the fascinating aspects of Advent is that it expects us not only to commemorate the First Coming – the birth of the Christ-child in Bethlehem – but also requires us to look forward to his Second Coming in glory.

As we mature through life, we may well, like those Christians of the first century begin to wane in our zeal and commitment. It can prove difficult to capture the magic of Christmas as we experienced it in our childhood, and the Second Coming may seem like a dim and distant prospect. However hard we try “to live lives without spot or stain”, we may be growing weary, wondering how the Lord is going to fulfil his promises for us personally and for the whole of his creation.

Perhaps one of the lessons we can learn from this Sunday's liturgy is that we are not likely to find the answers in the hustle and bustle of everyday life. We do need to withdraw into the desert within ourselves if we are to hear the voice in the wilderness calling us to “make a straight highway for our God”. The temptation is to allow the cacophony of voices to distract us and crowd out the one voice that wants to clarify our thinking and give us the inner peace that will put everything into perspective.

Entering the mind of God, we will discover that a day can mean a thousand years, while a thousand years are like a day. With that perspective we may be able to recapture the joy of our youth and the sense of wonder that infused our minds at Christmas in those days. Remember: we need the trust of the little child to be ready for the Kingdom. A very happy Christmas to one and all.

Timothy J Buckley CSsR © Magellan Media 2023

This week in the Parish

Sunday 10	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptisms
Tuesday 12	4:00 pm - Retreat 'Waiting with Mary' 5:30 pm - Mass
Wednesday 13	5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 14	NO Mass today
Friday 15	Reconciliation: 11:30am - 11:50am (during Advent) 12 noon - Mass
Saturday 16	9:30 am - Rosary 10:00 am - Anointing Mass 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 17	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptisms 11:00 am - Baptisms 12:00 pm - Baptisms

PRIVATE PRAYER
from 4:45 pm before Tuesday &
Wednesday 5:30 pm Mass

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm
Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am
Friday: 11:30 am - 11:50 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:

John Kennedy, Michael Bowe, Belle Dunne, Darryl Johnson

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

16/17 Dec | Third Sunday of Advent | Yr B

6pm - Margaret Mumford

9am - Jan Bruce

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year B

Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 16 Dec | Rafe & Brock McAndrew

Sun 17 Dec | Eliza & Charlotte Dowling

ROSARY STATUE

10 Dec | Annette Lofts 17 Dec | Paula Thornton

24 Dec | Trish & Michael Jandura



BAPTISMS:

Please welcome
**Charlie Kevin Palmer &
Mason James Mclean**
to our faith community.

'MASS OF ANOINTING'

10AM | 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



Bishop Greg's CHRISTMAS MESSAGE 2023

As Christmas approaches we are reminded of the way that God came into our world with humility and great love. The baby Jesus is for each of us. At Christmas time, I always take the opportunity to remember the good things that I have received this year and indeed in my life. In the midst of such uncertainty and suffering we should turn our minds from negativity and focus on a few positive moments of love and personal dignity. Each of us is valuable and esteemed by God. Each of us has helped another person and can remember instances when we have received love and care.

If like me, you feel helpless in these difficult times, and wonder what you can do to change the seemingly helpless situation everyone is facing, I suggest that we learn from Christmas. We can change the world by doing little things which express love and hope. We can change the world by loving others. One by one we can reassure and bring hope to the hopeless. Please join me in this.

Happy Christmas, I send you my wishes and prayers.

+ *Greg* Bishop Greg Homeming OCD



Retreat for Advent
'Waiting with Mary'
Tuesdays
12 & 19 December
4pm MSPC Library/ Hall

St Vincent de Paul Society Mary MacKillop Conference Murwillumbah CHRISTMAS APPEAL



Please consider donating:

- ◆ **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>

Include **“Murwillumbah Conference 43-427”** in the **‘COMMENTS OR CONFERENCE NAME’** section so your gift stays in this area.

Thank you very much for anything you are able to do.

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

ADVENT WREATH

The season of Advent invites us to renew our lives in preparation for the coming of Jesus. The people who heard the message of John the Baptist repented for their sins and were baptized as a sign of God's forgiveness.

In Baptism, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us in our life of discipleship. Led by the Holy Spirit, we use this Advent season to renew our lives so that we, like John the Baptist, might prepare the way for Jesus.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE - PRAYER

Fr Peter:

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

All Sing: O come, Thou Day-spring, from on high, and cheer us by they drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come again
and with us ever dwell.

'THE SYMBOLIC GIFTS' | \$25

Hand made **Christmas Oils:** gold, frankincense and myrrh with a pebble from the Sea of Galilee. Profits to the Michaelite

Mission Priests in PNG.

Orders: P Zambelli 0414 201 940



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - B

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

R: Come, O Lord and set us free.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

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.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL
Sunday 24th December

6:00pm | Sacred Heart Church

CHRISTMAS DAY
Monday 25th December
9:00am | Sacred Heart Church

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

December morning tea

Wednesday 20 December | 10:00 am

Murwillumbah Services Club

Enquiries: Alex Lever 0458 817 021

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME

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.



With Expectant Hearts 2023 Advent & Reflection Resource

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

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.

