

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. Gavin Dykes

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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR B 7 January 2024

The witness that begins in our hearts

In my office there is a wall hanging with the letters C+M+B. which I was given when I visited Innsbruck in Austria in 1997. As I walked from the railway station to our Redemptorist house, I noticed these letters written in chalk above the entrance doors to a number of houses in the following fashion 19*C+M+B+97.



When I asked one of my confreres about the meaning of the sign, he explained that in German-speaking Europe the feast of the Epiphany has become a charitable, fundraising event. Officially known as "Operation Three Kings Singing" the annual event is sponsored by the Catholic church and Catholic youth organisations. Most of the participants are young people who dress in costumes resembling what the Magi supposedly wore when they visited the baby Jesus.

With the leader carrying a star, the costumed Star Singers walk from house to house and sing traditional Christmas carols. At each stop they also solicit donations for various children's charities in Austria, Germany and abroad, as well as programs to end hunger in parts of the world. In Catholic regions, especially in rural areas or in smaller towns, the Star Singers may also inscribe the C+M+B house-blessings.

Traditionally, the letters C+M+B stand for the Latin phrase: *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which translates as "Christ bless this house." However, in a popular interpretation, the letters in the inscription stand for the names of the three Wise Men (Magi): Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar and the numbers indicate the year which in my experience was 1997. The inscription is usually made with chalk that has been blessed by a local Catholic priest. The letters are clever as they include both the blessing and a popular interpretation.

The word 'Epiphany' comes from the Greek and means *appearance* or showing forth and describes Jesus' first appearance to the Gentiles. The Gentiles are represented by the Magi or wise men whom we have traditionally called the three kings or wise men. The names of the Magi from the East are not mentioned in the bible but come from a sixth century Roman tradition. The number three is taken from the gifts mentioned: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Originally, the word Epiphany referred to the visit of a king to the people of his provinces. In the context of Christianity, Epiphany refers to God's self-revelation in Jesus.

The gospel story of the wise men from the east following a star is an invitation to all of us to seek the Lord in the living of our lives, and to become what Pope Francis calls 'missionary disciples' who bear witness to others to the difference Jesus makes in our lives. This witness will begin in our hearts and homes and reach out to the wider world where we witness by our faith commitment and the values by which we live.

May the feast of the Epiphany be an occasion of personal and family blessing.

Michael J Kelly CSsR © Magellan Media 2023

This week in the Parish

Saturday 6	10:00 am - Baptism 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 7	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Baptism
Monday 8	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR B 8:00 am - Rosary & Prayers (<i>note time change</i>) 9:00 am - Parish Office reopens 10:00 am - Funeral Prayers—John Irby
Tuesday 9	10:30 am - Requiem Mass—Noel McDonald
Friday 12	10:30 am - Requiem Mass—Tony Simpson
Saturday 13	5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 14	2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass

WELCOME FR WILBER TOBE...

This weekend we welcome Fr Wilber Tobe. Fr Wilber will be celebrating weekend Masses for the next three weekends while Fr Peter is on annual leave. We thank Fr Wilber and please make him welcome!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Frank McGrouther, Barbara Burton, Tony Simpson, Jim Larkin, Noel McDonald, John Irby, Irene Hall, Rita Daly, Kerry Alcock, John Kennedy, Michael Bowe

ANNIVERSARIES: Marie Devits (Burnham)

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: 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



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.

ROSARY STATUE

To resume 14 January

PLEASE NOTE:

There are NO weekday Masses or Adoration during January.

ROSARY & PRAYERS

for God's Precious Infants and the Unborn Child -
Monday 8 January - **8:00 am** -
Sacred Heart Church.
Pregnancy Help Line:
1300 139 313

BAPTISMS:

Please welcome
Thea Molly Rose d'Abadie & Zayne-Leandrei Pangan
to our faith community.

ROSTER | READING

13/14 Jan | 2nd Sunday in Ord Time | Yr B
6pm - Lisa Dusi-Fox | 9am - Philomena Zambelli

THE EPIPHANY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

R: Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY: YEAR B

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Sam 3:3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6:13-15, 17-20;
Jn 1:35-42

