

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. Gavin Dykes

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B 18 February 2024

Taking stock

Unlike Matthew and Luke, who both give us detailed descriptions of the way Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, Mark sums it up in a few sentences. There is an urgency about the whole of Mark's gospel. He was writing for the persecuted Christians in Rome, for whom their faith was truly a matter of life and death.

They might well be called upon to confront the wild beasts in the Colosseum and Mark wanted them to know that in essence the battle was already won for them. Likewise, Jesus had to confront the opposition of the evil one, Satan, but "the kingdom of God was close at hand". John the Baptist had done his job and had been arrested, but Jesus had then taken over and established the kingdom in himself. Therefore, no matter what befalls us, the Good News is there for us if we repent and believe.

The ancient scriptures had glimpsed the fulfilment of God's ultimate promise when, after the flood, there appeared a rainbow in the sky: a sign of the new covenant being established with Noah. In his first letter, Peter links the covenants by seeing the water of the flood as a sign of the waters of baptism, which do not just wash us clean, but unite us to Christ and his resurrection and all that will follow.

No matter that the body has to face death, "in the spirit Jesus was raised to life" and, of course, we can expect the same. Like Mark, Peter is trying to bolster the persecuted men and women of the early Church so they would stand firm.

The reality is that we too have to confront the demons in our lives. Sometimes we recognise these demons inside ourselves, tempting us to addictions or ways of life that we know are not healthy. Sometimes the demons are evident in the chaos that reign in our world, whether they originate in the natural order such as floods and bushfires or whether they arise from the oppressive behaviour of other human beings who disorder the world by their destructive abuse of power and their selfish and callous actions.

Lent provides us with an opportunity to take stock. During these weeks the Church encourages us to enter into the wilderness of the spiritual life and confront our demons. It is an invitation, not to be miserable or negative, but to continue to reorder our lives in the light of the Good News of Jesus.

Angels are God's messengers and they ministered to Jesus. Our aim during Lent is surely to become ministering angels to Christ in all those who continue to suffer the injustices and oppressions of a world, where so many still have a long way to go before they even begin to embrace the Good News.

Timothy J Buckley CSsR © Magellan Media 2024

This week in the Parish

Sunday 18	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass
Tuesday 20	1:00 pm - Lenten Group Parish Admin Centre 5:30 pm - Mass 6:30 pm - First Reconciliation Parent Meeting
Wednesday 21	10:00 am - Catholic Men's Group - see note below 5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 22	The Chair of St Peter, apostle 8:15 am - Mass
Friday 23	9:30 am - Legion of Mary Parish Meeting Centre 12:00 pm - Mass 12:30 pm - Stations of the Cross
Saturday 24	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 25	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptism

PRIVATE PRAYER

from 4:30 pm before Tuesday & Wednesday 5:30 pm Mass

RECONCILIATION IN LENT

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

ROSARY

The Rosary is prayed on Saturday morning at 9:00 am. As well as 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, with this weekend's readings, are available in the Church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Leonard Tuga (Solomon Islands), Colin Reeve, Alan Cocks, Michael Jandura, Fr Kevin Bates SM, Edward Hart

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Wendy Cameron, 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

READINGS | ROSTERS

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - Year B

Gen 9:8-15; 1 Pet 3:18-22; Mk 1:12-15

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - Year B

Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10

READING ROSTER

24/25 Feb | Second Sunday of Lent | B

6pm - Denise Banner

9am - Christine O'Brien

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 24 Feb | Grace Severs & Yasmin van Rossi

Sun 25 Feb | Bonnie Lindsay & Nate Linkins

ROSARY STATUE

18 Feb | Jenny Wallace

25 Feb | Faith Buchanan 3 Mar | Pauline Weber

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Sacred Heart Church - 12.30pm

Fridays during Lent led by Legion of Mary (following 12.00 pm Mass)



CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

February morning tea

Wed 21 Feb | 10:00 am | Mbah Services Club

Enquiries: Alex Lever 0458 817 021

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME

'Lent comes providentially to awaken us, to shake us from our lethargy.'

- Pope Francis

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:

- Freeview TV - Channel 10 Sunday 6 am
- Bishop Greg's online-stream Sunday Mass will resume in February



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

During Term One a number of children from our parish will be preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

There will be a Parent Information Meeting this Tuesday 20 February at 6:30pm in the Sacred Heart Church.

Parents of children who were Confirmed in 2023 and would like their children to continue with their Sacraments, are asked to attend.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

THE SEASON OF LENT is most appropriate for celebrating the **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**.

Already on Ash Wednesday the people of God have heard the solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the good news*. It is therefore fitting to take advantage of the opportunities offered in the parish for Confessions so that all may have the opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbour, and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts.

RECONCILIATION DURING LENT

Friday: 11:30 am - 11:50 am

Saturday: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm

Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am

The Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you. To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone 02) 6621944 or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



Bishop Greg's Lenten Talk Series continues...

Themes of St Therese of Lisieux

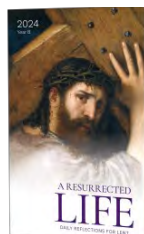
Bishop Greg's talks will be held on Mondays at 6pm at St Mary's Chapel | **19, 26 February & 11 March**

Available to view on the YouTube channel from 28 February

<https://www.youtube.com/c/LismoreDioceseAU>

All are most welcome!

2024 LENTEN PROGRAMME 'A Resurrected Life'



You are welcome to come along and join in the Parish Lenten Group.

Tuesday | 1 pm

Parish Administration Centre

Lenten books are available at the Church or Parish Office. \$8.00 each. One left.

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.
- Matthew 4:4

PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

The **next meeting** of the Parish Pastoral Council will be held on **Thursday 14 March at 5 pm**.

The **agenda for the meeting will be set on Thursday 7 March**. Any matters that you, our Parishioners, would like to be considered for the agenda should be sent by email to banner@onthenet.com.au or placed in the PPC box in the church no later than Wed 6 March.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 17 & 18 February



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (PS 24)

R: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Go to confession

"If you haven't been to confession recently, don't wait. One may walk into the confessional with a heavy heart, but forgiveness brings freedom and lightness. If a lot of time has passed, don't lose even one more day. Go", the Pope said promising that "the priest will be good. Jesus will be there and he's even nicer than the priest."

"Be courageous. Go to confession. Even just on a human level in order to vent, it's good to speak to a brother, confessing to the priest these things that weigh so heavily on your heart." Don't be afraid of confession. Some say, 'I confess only to God'. Yes, you can say, 'God, forgive me', but our sins are also against our brothers and sisters, against the Church", which is called to be holy.

This is why it is necessary to ask for forgiveness from our brothers and sisters and from the Church in the person of the priest."

-Pope Francis



THE SEASON OF LENT

A good Lenten practice is to do something extra in prayer (e.g. taking the opportunity to attend Stations of the Cross), something involving fasting (whether limiting our intake of food or giving up something non-food related), and something involving almsgiving (giving money or goods to the needy or doing extra acts of charity, such as Project Compassion).

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.

LENT

"He fasted for forty days and forty nights..."

Do You Want To Fast This Lent?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate with others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

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.

