

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@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](mailto:mshpmurwillumbah@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 MOST HOLY TRINITY

YEAR B | 26 May 2024

We are children of God

The Jesuit spiritual writer, Mark Link, begins his widely read book *Experiencing Prayer* (1984) with an extract from [Eugene Ionesco's play](#) *The Bald Soprano* (1950). In the scene, a couple meet and enter dialogue about their lives. They discover that they share much in common – they live in the same city, on the same street, in the same apartment, and they each have a daughter named Alice.

Much to their surprise, they also discover they are husband and wife.

As Mark Link observes, this story is repeated in many households, where husbands and wives, sons and daughters, rarely develop deep and abiding relationships. They never truly come to “know” their life partner or sibling, as their relationship remains “largely on the surface.”

Similarly, our relationship with God is often superficial. Outwardly we may appear committed to our faith. We wear crosses, scapulars or miraculous medals. We attend Mass every Sunday. We can recite the Nicene Creed by heart, proclaiming that in Jesus, God became human.

However, many of us do not really “know” this God who became like us. We do not share an intimate relationship with the divine, the ground of all being, the life that gives us life, despite our belief in the Incarnation.

Today's gospel reminds us that we were baptised into a community that has for centuries been initiating catechumens into the faith *via* the Trinitarian formula of Father, Son and Spirit (Mt 28:19; cf. 2 Cor 13:13). Paul writes to the Romans (8:14-17) in our Second Reading, that through Baptism we are adopted into the family of God, liberated from slavery, and called to intimate relationship with the Father through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Like Matthew, Paul and the first Christians saw in the coming of Christ an invitation to commune with God whose essential nature was a mutual sharing of three persons in one Godhead. As John says elsewhere, “God is love; so, whoever does not love, does not know God” (1 John 4:8).

It is because God is a trinity of persons that we can speak of God as love. But it also because God the Father sent his Son into the world that we can both know and participate in the love of God. While we can come to appreciate the love of God by looking at the divine handiwork in creation, we can only truly come to “know” God's through the divine Word made fully incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth.

The story of the Incarnation and its revelation of the Trinity teaches us that because God became human, we can become like God. Entering communion with God through Christ, we are transformed and empowered by the Spirit to transcend our limited existences, live lives of love and self-sacrifice, and inherit eternal lives in God. Like the couple in Eugene Ionesco's play, we are called to a conversation with God, which leads us to discover we are children of God.

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This week in the Parish

Sunday 26	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptism
Tuesday 28	5:30 pm - Mass Fr Anthony
Wednesday 29	8:15 am - Mass
Thursday 30	8:15 am - Mass
Friday 31	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9:30 am - Legion of Mary Parish Meeting Centre 12 noon - Mass
JUNE	
Saturday 1	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass with First Holy Communion
Sunday 2	THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (Corpus Christi) - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass with First Holy Communion



PRIVATE PRAYER
from 4:30 pm before
Wednesday 5:30 pm Mass

RECONCILIATION
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.

WEDNESDAY WORD
Copies of Wednesday Word,
with this weekend's readings,
are available in the Church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

James (Jim) Reynolds, Wendy Bolden, Violet Albury,
Pip Brown, Ray Hall, Trish Hufton, Fabian Okeke,
Betty Foster

ANNIVERSARIES:

Kelvin Godwin

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Pam Willock, Patrick Fox, George Flack, Joan Kean,
Margaret Traves, John Lee, Margaret Hyde, Lorraine
Green, Colin Brooks, Kathy Dawson-Malone, David
Burke, Malcolm Reid, Paul Calvino, Maureen McCabe,
Fr Anthony Lemon

READINGS | ROSTERS

READINGS FOR TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY:

TRINITY SUNDAY - Year B

Deut 4:32-34, 39-40; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20

CORPUS CHRISTI - Year B

Ex 24:3-8; Heb 9:11-15; Mk 14:12-16, 22-26

READING ROSTER

1/2 June | Corpus Christi | B

6pm - tba

9am - tba

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 1 June | Jana Lofts & Grace Severs

Sun 2 June | Charlotte Dowling & Sienna Alexander

ROSARY STATUE

26 May | Faith Buchanan

2 June | Pauline Weber 9 June | Kay Ryder



BAPTISM:

Please welcome
Sienna Quintena Guinea
to our faith community.

Please keep Fr Anthony in your prayers
as he celebrates his 31st Anniversary of
Ordination to the Priesthood on 28th May.

WORKING BEE THANK YOU...

What an amazing day and what an incredible group of people! Thank you to everyone who helped on the day – it was a wonderful opportunity not just to save money on gardens maintenance but also for people to come together and meet each other. Thank you also to those of you who kept us fed and watered! We were very grateful for all the delicious food provided. There was a lot of work completed but to be honest there is a lot more work yet to be done! So, watch this space for the next date.

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 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)

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Murwillumbah

VISION STATEMENT

We are a Eucharistic community of faith, love and respect,
living the message of Jesus.

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by God's promise to be with us always,
we seek to be an evangelising, faith filled community
welcoming all through liturgy, prayer, faith formation and care for others.

Possible Bible Study Group

For some time the Parish Pastoral Council has been considering whether to commence a Bible Study Group, and wishes to ascertain how many parishioners may be interested in joining if one were held in the Parish. There is a form available near the church entrance for parishioners to indicate their interest - please fill in name and other details, including whether you would prefer a day or evening group, and this will help in the decision-making process. Thank you.

FINANCIAL REPORT TO THE PARISH FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Included with this weekend's bulletin is the financial summary for the parish for the year ended 31 December 2023. This summary highlights the fact that our parish continues to be in a position where our expenses outweigh our parish income for the year.

We sincerely thank you, our generous contributors, whose loyalty has continued to maintain the parish over many years through planned giving and regular donations. We invite those parishioners who have not been part of the Planned Giving Program to consider how you might support the parish financially.

Give and it shall be given to you, a full measure... overflowing (Luke 6:38)

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed financial summary or planned giving, please speak to one of our Parish Finance Council members or to our Parish Business Manager, Mary-Ann Thackray.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary would like to offer parishioners some good quality Marian literature at the back of the church this weekend, so we can explore and discover more about Mary. The more we learn about her and her place in Salvation history the more we will come to love her and invoke her in our daily lives. This is our free gift to you. Please feel free to accept.

PARISHIONER INFORMATION FORM | UPDATE YOUR DETAILS WITH THE PARISH OFFICE

Please complete and return this form to the Parish Office

- ◆ if you are new to our parish;
- ◆ if you are an existing parishioner and wish to update details;
- ◆ if you are an existing parishioner and not sure if we have your correct details;

Up to date details allows us to be able to contact you and to share information with you by SMS and/or email. Forms are available on the table at the church entry.

FIRST WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY | 25 MAY

This weekend the Church around the world will mark its first ever **World Children's Day**.

The theme for 2024 is *Behold, I make all things new* (Revelation 21:5).

A message from Pope Francis...

I want to speak to each of you, dear children, because, as the Bible teaches us, and as Jesus showed so often, "you are precious" in God's eyes (Is 43:4)."

The Pope's prayer for children

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty,
reflected in the faces of children all over the world.

Come, Jesus, you who make all things new,
who are the way that leads us to the Father,
come and remain with us always.

Amen.

PLANNED GIVING / DONATIONS TO THE PARISH AND CLERGY

In addition to planned giving envelopes or cash donations, EFT donations for first and second collections are an option to consider:

First Collection – for our clergy

BSB: 062 580 | Account No: 0090 5461

Account Name: Presbyterium Account Murwillumbah Parish

Second Collection – for our parish

BSB: 062 580 | Account No: 0090 4506

Account Name: Catholic Church Murwillumbah

TRINITY SUNDAY

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (32)

R: Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: to God who is, who was, and who is to come.

Alleluia!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

will be celebrated in the Parish at the Vigil Mass next Saturday 1 & the 9:00 am Mass on Sunday 2 June.

Please keep these thirty children, and their families, in your prayers.

PLEASE NOTE: PARKING

At the 9am Mass next Sunday, when First Holy Communion will be celebrated, **please DO NOT PARK in front of the Uniting Church.**

Thank you to everyone who has been praying for me; for the regular visits with me at home and for the love you have shared with me. I will miss you all. Joan Kean (*moved to Grafton with family*)

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 (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.



SUNDAY MISSAL UPDATE...

A note to the parishioners who have ordered a new Sunday Missal - we have placed an order, however they are out of stock and are in the process of reprinting - the approx. waiting time is 6 weeks.

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.





Sacred Heart Parish

Murwillumbah

Financial Report to the Parish for the year ended 31 December 2023

A message from the Parish Finance Council on behalf of Fr Peter Wood, Parish Administrator

This financial summary has been prepared so that you are aware of the financial activity of our parish during the period 1 January to 31 December 2023.

Members of the Parish Finance Council during 2023 were Peter McDonald-Chairperson, Jim Grennan, Kevin Twohill, Ray Daley, Wayne Bartesko and Jennifer Wallace.

The financial summary for the year ended 31 December 2023 shows a loss of \$(76,646); whilst noting that the Parish cash reserves remain healthy with \$835,360 held in cash assets.

While our income stream remains stable, our operating costs keep increasing. We continue to explore ways to attract or modify income streams for the Parish and to modify our operations to reduce expenses.

2023 was another challenging year for the Parish, with the floods of February/March 2022 continuing to have an impact on the overall operations of the Parish through 2023. Additional claims were lodged in 2023 for the retaining wall surrounding the presbytery and an escape of liquid claim has also been lodged for an unidentified leak under the Sacred Heart Church which impacts the entire area surrounding the church and hall and the retaining wall behind the church and hall. We remain in negotiations for the settlement of these two claims, each exceeding \$1 million in repairs.

Insurance costs have increased significantly in 2023 and have had a subsequent effect on our expenses for 2023. Whilst there was an increase expected, the actual increase was larger than anticipated. Catholic Church Insurance is no longer our insurer so we, along with the entire Diocese, are now paying market rates for property insurance. It should be noted that there is NO coverage for flood and the excesses payable for all other insurance products have increased significantly.

Our aging Parish buildings are in constant need of repair and maintenance. Major maintenance works scheduled for early 2023 were put on hold due to the ongoing rectification and reinstatement claims related to flood and storm damage from February/March 2022. The complexity of some of the maintenance work is a challenge, partly for safety

reasons – for example the bell tower and front façade of the Sacred Heart Church require high ropes or scaffolding attention which both attract higher costs.

We are grateful that numbers attending weekly Mass remain stable. We are aware that our parishioner base is an integral part of the continuing viability of our Parish and we note that our Pastoral Council have, during 2023, sought to engage us as a community through a number of initiatives including the Peter Kearney Concert and the Grief and Loss Workshops offered in 2023; and most recently in the Vision and Mission Workshop; and we remain committed to supporting the Pastoral Council helping to form our parish community in our faith lives.

The Parish Finance Committee remains committed to the ongoing financial viability of the Sacred Heart Parish.

Your continued generosity through both the Planned Giving Program and/or donations helps to keep the Parish financially stable. We sincerely thank you for your ongoing financial commitment throughout 2023.

Since the Parish Planned Giving Program was established 60 years ago by Monsignor O'Rourke in 1964, the program has remained an important part of our parish's income sources. We encourage all Parishioners to participate in the program according to your financial capability.

*Give and it shall be given to you,
a full measure...overflowing (Luke 6:38)*

If you are new to our Parish, we invite you to please consider joining the program. Please contact the Parish Business Manager to discuss how you can participate.

If you have any questions about the Planned Giving Program; or other ways you can donate to Parish life; or simply want to know more about the parish finances generally, please contact the Parish Business Manager or the Parish Finance Council Chair.

We thank you sincerely for your continuing presence in our parish community and your ongoing support of the Sacred Heart Parish.



Sacred Heart Parish

Murwillumbah

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
INCOME			
Second Collection – Planned Giving		71,466	70,237
Second Collection – Loose Plate		11,956	11,151
Donations & Sponsorships	2	21,734	6,504
Miscellaneous Income	3	29,707	5,305
Pastoral Income		5,789	7,403
Rental Income		212,474	202,309
Extraordinary Income – Bequest		1,000	0
Extraordinary Income – Insurance		1,341	407,467
Total Income		355,467	710,376
EXPENSES			
Diocesan Quotas	4	0	0
Donations & Sponsorship		0	500
Electricity & Gas		12,173	10,795
General Operating Expenses		55,398	41,534
Insurance		56,912	24,717
Interest on Loan Parish Administration Centre		14,857	9,270
Motor Vehicle Expenses		12,987	19,978
Pastoral Expenses		3,710	763
Payroll Expenses	5	172,232	152,622
Rates Water		16,435	11,937
Rental Commission & Charges		10,530	10,369
Repairs Maintenance Improvement		76,879	54,350
Extraordinary Expense - Impairment		0	407,000
Total Expenses		432,113	743,835
Net Surplus / (Loss) for 2023		(76,646)	(33,459)

Notes:

1. Cash Reserves available for Parish use at 31 December 2023: \$835,360 (2022: \$956,128).
2. Includes donations towards upgrade to Sound System in Sacred Heart Church.
3. Includes interest income on DIF investment accounts.
4. Diocesan Quota was suspended in 2022 pending Diocesan Review – expected to be reintroduced in mid-2024.
5. Payroll expenses includes 13 months of wages and related payroll expenses.
6. A copy of the full audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 for the Parish is available for inspection at the Parish Administration Centre.