

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

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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

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B - 25 AUGUST 2024

Staying in the game with God

It must have been tough being a disciple of Jesus, an eloquent public speaker, who could sway large crowds with his rhetoric. He healed the sick, cast out demons, stilled a storm at sea, walked on water and raised the dead. Jesus appeared to bear all the hallmarks of the expected Messiah.

And yet, there were times when Jesus said and did things that made him look like he was demented or demon-possessed.

At one point in Mark's gospel, as we heard back on the Tenth Sunday of the Year, Jesus' family sought to "restrain him" because people were saying "He has gone out of his mind" (Mk 3:21).

The gospel presents us with another of these episodes where Jesus' claims proved a threat to the cohesion of his team of disciples. Last week, we heard how Jesus said he was "the bread of eternal life" whose "flesh is real food and [whose] blood is real drink" (Jn 6:55), and "anyone who eats [his] flesh and drink [his] blood has eternal life" (Jn 6:54).

This week, we learn that numerous members of Jesus' team found this teaching "intolerable" (Jn 6:60). But, instead of offering an explanation, Jesus chose to *up the ante* by making an even more outrageous claim about his pre-existence as a being come down from heaven.

The reaction of his teammates was perfectly understandable. Such claims were "intolerable" on purely rationalistic grounds. Jesus refused to compromise, saying, in effect, "take it or leave it". John tells us that "many" decided to "leave it". They turned aside from their commitment to Jesus; or, as we would say, "they took their ball and went home" (Jn 6:66).

By contrast, when challenged, the Twelve through their spokesperson, Peter, admitted that despite their confusion they were prepared to stick with Jesus, because Jesus alone "had the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:68).

In Peter and the Twelve, we find our models of discipleship – women and men who, despite doubts and dark moments of uncertainty, choose to stay in the game. Faith is not built entirely on reason – although it is far from completely irrational. It is built on a relationship with a personal God whom we have experienced as one who stays in the game with us. And so, like Peter we stay and say back to God, "To whom [else] can we go?" (Jn 6:68)

Every time I read this gospel story, I am reminded of these words from the prayer of Thomas Merton:

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end...

But I know you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it.

Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.

Ian J Elmer © Magellan Media 2024

This week in the Parish

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Sunday 25 | 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Morning Tea with MSPC Ignatius & Lisieux Colour Houses 10:15 am - Baptism 11:00 am - Baptism |
| Tuesday 27 | 11:00 am - Requiem Mass Harrie van den Broek |
| Wednesday 28 | 5:30 pm - Mass |
| Thursday 29 | The Passion of St John the Baptist 8:15 am - Mass |
| Friday 30 | 9:30 am - Legion of Mary Parish Meeting Centre 11:00 am - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12 noon - Mass |
| Saturday 31 | 9:00 am - Rosary 4:30 PM - ROSARY 5:00 PM - VIGIL MASS Last week at 5pm |
| SEPTEMBER | |
| Sunday 01 | 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass |

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

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 4.30 pm - 4.50 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.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Each Friday
11 am - 11:45 am

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Harrie van den Broek, Neville Smith, Sr Maria Marin PVBM, Iris Burns, Carmel O'Reilly, Susan Hennessy, Godfrey Longstaff.

ANNIVERSARIES: Maria Procopio

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Rita Anderson, Des Thornton, Narelle Martin, Alex Lever, Peter van den Broek, Ben Martin, Baby Levi Courtney, Pam Willock, Patrick Fox, George Flack, Margaret Traves, Lorraine Green, Colin Brooks, David Burke, Malcolm Reid, Paul Calvino, Maureen McCabe, Fr Anthony Lemon

Names removed after a considerable time. Please assist the Parish Office by advising if you wish names to remain.

READINGS | ROSTERS

READINGS FOR TODAY AND NEXT SUNDAY:

21ST SUNDAY IN ORD TIME - Year B

Josh 24:1-2, 15-18; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

22ND SUNDAY IN ORD TIME - Year B

Deut 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27;

Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

READING ROSTER

31 Aug/1 Sept 22 Sunday in Ord Time | B

5pm - Barbara Grant

9am - Jan Bruce

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Sat 31 August | Jana Lofts & Grace Severs

Sun 1 Sept | Charlotte Dowling & Sienna Alexander



BAPTISMS:

Please welcome
Finley Mark Rabinski-Bishop
& **Lincoln James Gallard**
to our faith community.

PLEASE NOTE...

From Saturday 7 September the Saturday Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 6pm (not 5pm). The 5pm trial time will finish next Saturday 31 August.

ROSARY STATUE

25 August | Dana Fuller

1 September | Jenny Wallace



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.

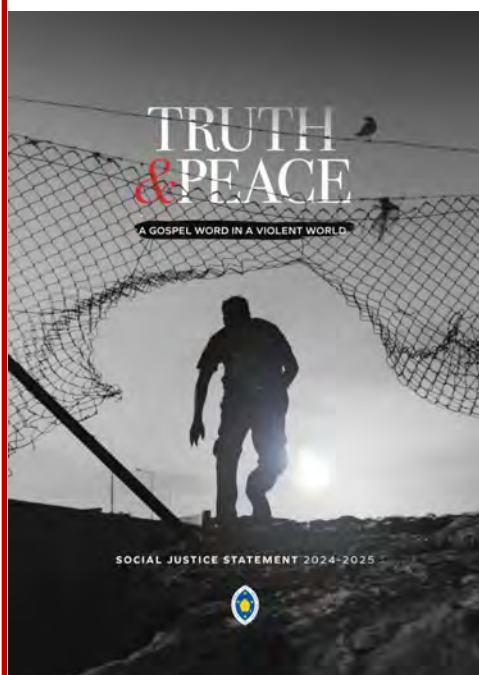
VIEW MASS AT HOME -

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)

TODAY IS SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World



In this year's Social Justice Statement, Australia's Catholic bishops say peace is possible if people commit to speaking the truth and redouble efforts to end war.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has released the Social Justice Statement for 2024-25, titled **Truth & Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World**.

Every year, the bishops seek to make a substantive comment on a key social issue and this year the focus is on the promotion of peace and the need for truth in public life.

"Words are never enough to make peace – action is required," said Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB.

"Words such as those found in this statement can help us understand the current situation and how we might work together to create a world which better matches both human desire and the divine plan."

The statement examines rising tensions around the world, the nature of truth, the spread of misinformation and disinformation, the arms race, domestic cohesion, the need for dialogue and education for peace.

It also lists practical action which can be taken to make a real difference.

Limited copies of the Social Justice Statement are available in the church today. For further details, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website: www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or call (02) 8306 3499



CONGRATULATIONS

John & Margaret Reynolds

as you celebrate your
60th Wedding Anniversary
this Thursday 29 August

PARKING | VIGIL MASS 31 AUGUST ...

Tweed Regional Museum Street Party

Saturday 31 August | 12 noon - 7pm

The Museum will expand into the surrounding streets for an afternoon of exhibitions, activities, and entertainment for all ages.

Therefore, parking for the 5pm Vigil Mass will be harder to find close to the church. There will be no parking on Queensland Road.

52 SUNDAYS" A REFLECTIVE GUIDE TO THE MASS

A book for you recommended by Bishop Greg Homeming to enrich your experience of participation in Mass by Deacon Anthony Gooley of Ballina parish, **52 Sundays: A Reflective Guide to the Mass. Coventry Press. 2024.**

Available online from Coventry Press. This is a book that is meant to be read over 52 weeks and invites you to deepen your own experience of the celebration of the Mass. Readers are saying what a positive impact the book is having on their experience of the Mass.

FATHER'S DAY COLLECTION FOR SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS SUNDAY 1 SEPTEMBER

Next weekend there will be a special collection for the support of Sick and Retired Priests in the Diocese. Envelopes will be provided and can be placed on the Collection plates. Thank you for your support.



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - B

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (33)

R: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life.

Alleluia!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Retreat Day - Tuesday 3 September

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Tuesday 3 September

Sacred Heart Church

PRAYER FOR CONFIRMATION CHILDREN

Jesus you are our teacher, our helper and our friend. Fill these children with your love, so that they know how to see things as you see them.

Send them your Spirit to be the light of your love, so that they can love others as you did.

Give them strength to live the way you want them to, in all that they think, and say and do, so that the world will be a better place because they are here.

We ask this in your name. Amen.

9am Mass & Morning Tea

Welcome...

Mt St Patrick College students and teachers from **Ignatius** and **Lisieux** Houses will join us for Mass this Sunday 25 August. After Mass, we will come together for morning tea.

We hope you can join us to welcome College students and teachers from **Ignatius** and **Lisieux** Houses.

EVERYONE WELCOME!



SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH



Safeguarding in our parish is a community responsibility. If you believe someone is being harmed please speak to your priest or the Safeguarding Office (02) 6621 9444. There are procedures in place to guide how best to help victims - whether children or adults at risk.

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 (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.

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

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

