

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

mshpmurwillumbah@lismore.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Gavin Dykes

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

[murp@lismore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mshpmurwillumbah@lismore.catholic.edu.au)

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

smurp@lismore.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | YR C
15 DECEMBER 2024**

Joy Through Repentance

The two themes of Sunday's readings are repentance and joy. We do not usually associate these two themes with each other, but they go hand in glove in the kingdom of God.

The prophets of the Old Testament often spoke of what it would mean for God to live with his people. As we read in today's first reading, it would mean the total flowering of love between God and humanity, the permanent establishment of justice and the overthrowing of everything that afflicts and enslaves people. In the words of the prophet Zephaniah, it will be a day for God's people to "shout for joy" and "exult with all your heart".

However, this joyful uniting of God with his people requires our cooperation. A significant theme in the Old Testament is that God will only be actively present in the midst of a just and holy community. This is because to remain close to God is to become like him and for everything else to fall away.

As a result, we have to prepare ourselves to be able to operate in God's presence. For John the Baptist in today's Gospel, the kind of spiritual labour involved in this preparation begins with repentance.

Repentance for John starts with giving up those habits of ours where we get an advantage at the expense of others or where we live in a way contrary to God's love and law. It may mean, as it did for the people in today's Gospel, that we need to change how we use our money, our relationships with others or how we go about our jobs and careers.

However, repentance is not a process that should cause us anxiety. When we are moved to repentance, we know that we do so with God's accompaniment and patience. As Paul says, through prayer, we can invite God into every area of our lives, even those places where we are afraid to let God have control.

When we turn towards God in repentance, we do not find condemnation or judgement but the peace and joy that come from living in lockstep with Christ. This is why the coming of Christ, celebrated at Christmas, is celebrated with such rejoicing. God has come to live among his people and, where there was separation due to sin, God can make the repentant heart both whole and holy.

And our joy is assured because, when we do turn back to God, we are responding to the great love and joy that God has called us with. Zephaniah depicts the moment of God coming to live among his people as God "dancing with shouts of joy". As it says elsewhere in the Gospel of Luke, there is great "joy in heaven over one sinner who repents."

Repentance, then, is nothing to fear but is instead the path to true joy. All it takes is listening to God's daily invitation to turn back towards his way of living and start on the journey of a life lived with Christ.

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This week in the Parish

Sunday 15	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - C 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptisms 11:00 am - Baptism
Tuesday 17	10:00 am - Advent Study Group Hope Reigns 4:00 pm - Christmas Carnival 'Evaluation' Meeting 5:30 pm - Mass
Wednesday 18	10:00 am - Catholic Men's Group (see note page 3) 5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 19	No 8:15 am Mass 10:00 am - Requiem Mass - Brian Gillett
Friday 20	9:30 am - Legion of Mary Parish Meeting Centre NO Exposition or Mass today
Saturday 21	9:00 am - Rosary 10:00 am - Memorial Mass - Henryk Drewek 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 22	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - C 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass

PRIVATE PRAYER

from 4:30 pm before Tuesday & 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, are available in the Church.

Say to the faint of heart:
be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come,
and he will save us.
- Isaiah 35:4

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Sullivan, Henryk Drewek, Brian Gillett, Ian Konrad, Joy Rose, Rita Anderson, Maree Loughman, Michael Collins, Evelyn McGuinness, Marie Ensbey, Terry Twohill

ANNIVERSARIES:

Robert Turner, Tom Sterling, Pattie O'Keefe

THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Libby Varela, Marie (George Flack's sister), Narelle Martin, Pam Willock, Patrick Fox, George Flack, Margaret Traves, Lorraine Green, 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:

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

Zeph 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18:

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year C

Micah 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-44:

READING ROSTER

21 | 22 Dec | Fourth Sunday of Advent | C

6pm - Barbara Grant

9am - Philomena Zambelli

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

Roster will resume 1/2 February 2025

ROSARY STATUE

15 Dec | Jenny Wallace (to resume 5 January)

BAPTISM:

Please welcome

Amelia Lee Quinn,

Jaxson Bernard Dunning

& Aria Willow Dunning

to our faith community.



WELCOME!

Welcome to students and teachers from The Bishop Epalle School, Solomon Islands, who are visiting Mt St Patrick College, and celebrating Mass with us this weekend.

Christmas Carnival 'Evaluation' Meeting

Tuesday | 17 December | 4:00 pm

Parish Administration Centre

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)

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL

Tuesday 24th December

6 pm | Murwillumbah | Fr Michael Alcock

6 pm | Kingscliff | Fr Paul McDonald

6 pm | Pottsville | Fr John Darbyshire

6 pm | Tweed Heads | Fr Nicolas Maurice

8 pm | Tweed Heads | Fr Michael Brady

Midnight | Murwillumbah | Fr Peter Wood

Midnight | Tweed Heads | Fr Michael Alcock

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday 25th December

7:30 am | Pottsville | Fr Paul McDonald

8 am | Tweed Heads | Fr Nicolas Maurice

9:00 am | Murwillumbah | Fr Peter Wood

9 am | Kingscliff | Fr Paul McDonald

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

December morning tea

Wed 18 Dec | 10:00 am | Mbah 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.

ADVENT WREATH

HAVE YOU THOUGHT? A TIME TO REJOICE!

This Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent is traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* is the Latin word for Rejoice! Advent was originally celebrated as a five week season and with the same fasting and penitential nature as the season of Lent. The third Sunday, Gaudete, was like a break for rejoicing in the midst of the fasting.

When Advent was reduced to four weeks and the nature of the season altered, Gaudete Sunday was retained. The colour of this Sunday is rose - a celebratory colour - and it is reflected in the vestments worn by the priest and is the colour of the third candle used in Advent wreaths.

- Greg Sunter

LIGHTING THE CANDLE - PRAYER

Fr Peter:

Lord God, may we, your people, who look forward to the birthday of Christ experience the joy of salvation and celebrate that feast with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

All Sing:

O come, Thou Day-spring, from on high,
and cheer us by thy drawing night;
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.

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LEGION OF MARY MARIAN VALLEY BUS TRIP

Saturday 15 February 2025



The Legion Of Mary has booked a bus trip to Marian Valley - Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians - for Saturday February 15th.

The cost is \$30 per couple (bring a friend / plus one) or \$25 per person. (*Murwillumbah Auxiliary Legion Members \$15 with Murwillumbah Members - FREE*)

A light sandwich lunch will be included - you are also welcome to bring your own food/drinks/snacks.

Book tickets now with Legion Of Mary President Philomena Zambelli.

DETAILS:

Pick Up Location: Mt St Patrick College ... 143 Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

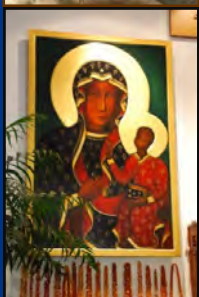
Pick-Up Time: 0830 (for 0900 departure) NSW time

Arrival Time at Marian Valley (est): 0930 QLD time

Return Departure Time: 1330 (for 1400 departure) QLD time (We would be at Marian Valley for approx 4hrs)

Estimated Time to Arrive back in Murwillumbah: 1630 NSW time

Wheelchair Access: NO





THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - C

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Is 12:2-6)

R: Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

FINAL MASSES UKI AND BARRINGBAR

After a lengthy discernment process, the Bishop has given approval for the churches at Uki and Barringbar to be alienated and the properties sold.

As we prepare to close the churches, we will have a final celebration Mass at each church. The dates chosen by Fr Peter are:

St Columba's Uki - 10 am Sunday 9 February

St Brigid's Barringbar - 10 am Sunday 23 February

If you would like to be involved in the planning of the Masses or in organizing morning tea or lunch after Mass, please contact the Parish Office. More information will be shared in the coming weeks.

Thank you! 

Thank you to parishioners for their cooking and help at each of the monthly Parish Morning Teas. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Jan Bruce

Thank you to Mary, Margaret and Kay who helped me sew and put together 20 new outfits for the Nativity Tableau. It was very much appreciated. *Didn't Joseph and the shepherds look great at the Tableau in their new clothing?*

Beth Gorton

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.

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

