

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

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

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH - YEAR C

29 DECEMBER 2024

WELCOME FR MICHAEL ALCOCK...

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

Jesus and his family

We are indebted to St Luke for giving us some insight into the life of Jesus some forty days after his birth and then at the age of twelve. On both occasions, Jesus is depicted being with his parents, Joseph and Mary, on a hundred-mile round trip from Nazareth to visit the Jerusalem temple. At best, their "caravan" would have consisted of mules and donkeys along with lots of Nazarenes travelling together to protect themselves from being robbed.

On the first occasion, Jesus as the first-born son is presented to the Lord in the temple as Mosaic custom required. On the second occasion, which we heard in today's Gospel, the parents take the twelve-year old Jesus to the temple in celebration of the feast of Passover. This is the holiest feast on the Israelite calendar commemorating Jewish freedom from slavery in Egypt and the beginning of their journey towards the Promised Land.

Luke, himself a Gentile (non-Jew), demonstrates strong links between the Holy Family, Jewish traditions and the God of Israel. However, the narrative of Jesus being lost on the homebound journey, only to be discovered "three days later" teaching in the temple, is a remarkable story! How are we to interpret this strange and somewhat challenging turn of events?

In some ways this is the common story known to all parents as children approach adolescence and begin to express their independence. Moreover, on finding that Jesus is not among their "relatives and acquaintances" in the returning caravan, you can imagine the fear and anguish that Joseph and Mary experienced. Then on finding him, their relief and joy are evident. But, so too, is their incomprehension of Jesus' actions evident in the encounter between Jesus and Mary.

First of all, we note it is Mary rather than Joseph who confronts Jesus asking him directly: "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been so worried looking for you." Jesus' response - "Why were you searching for me?" - carries a hint of annoyance that his parents understood him so poorly. So, he asks them: "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"

Here, the tension between Jesus and his parents is palpable with Luke telling us directly: "They did not understand what he was saying to them." Quite evidently we are witnessing a poignant moment in the life of the Jewish village boy, Jesus, discovering his vocation in the service of God takes priority over family ties. Nonetheless, we are told, Jesus returned to the family home in Nazareth where he grew to maturity as an obedient and faithful son.

This is the last we hear of Jesus until he begins his public ministry around the age of thirty. We may well surmise that, in the meantime, Jesus took up Joseph's carpentry trade while he continued to develop his knowledge of the Jewish Scriptures. Yet, this temple incident reminds us that Jesus' messiahship comes to birth in the context of family life and relationships.

Gerard Hall SM © Magellan Media 20235

This week in the Parish

Saturday 28	5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 29	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH - C 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass
JANUARY	HAPPY NEW YEAR
Wednesday 1	MARY, the HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Friday 3	6:00 am - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 4	5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 5	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - YEAR C 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass

RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 5.30 pm - 5.50 pm
Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am

ROSARY

The Rosary is prayed 30 mins before each weekend Mass. You are welcome to join us.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

First Friday | 6 am - 6 pm

ROSARY STATUE

To resume 5 January

THE HOLY FAMILY - YEAR C

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (83)

R: How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord, to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

LEGION OF MARY

12 hour Eucharistic Adoration - 1st Friday of each month, in honour of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Friday 3 January.

At the back of the Church is a roster to print your name and phone number and the time you prefer. Starts from 6am to 6pm. Chose the time slot that suits you. There must be 2 or more people present for each hour of the day. Contact Trish Jandura for more information.

WEDNESDAY 1 JANUARY | MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Mass times in nearby parishes

Kingscliff - 9 am | Tweed Heads - 9:10 am

PLEASE NOTE: There are NO weekday Masses during January. Mass is celebrated at Tweed Heads at 9:10 am each week day.

2025 JOSEPHITE CALENDARS
on sale in the church
\$10.00 each

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us. - Baruch 3:38

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Office is closed until 9am Monday 6 January 2025. Phones and emails will be monitored throughout the holiday period.

VIEW MASS AT HOME -

- Freeview TV - Channel 10 Sunday 6 am

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Sr Ursula O'Dwyer, Brian Sullivan, Brian Gillett, Henryk Drewek, Ian Konrad, Joy Rose, Rita Anderson

ANNIVERSARIES:

Pope Benedict XVI, William Wood, Irene Hall, John Irby, Tony Simpson, Doss Dodds, Vera Paine

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

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.

ROSTERS | READINGS

READING ROSTER

4/5 Jan| The Epiphany | Yr C

6pm - Barbara Grant

9am - Jan Bruce

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK & NEXT SUNDAY:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - Yr C

1 Sam 1:20-22, 24-28; 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

The Epiphany of the Lord - Yr C

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