

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

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

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR C 12 January 2025

Being zealous for good deeds

After our joyful celebration of the feast of Christmas, followed by the feasts of the Holy Family and, last week, the Epiphany, we come to the end of the Christmas season. We now enter what we call Ordinary Time and, on its first Sunday, we have the Baptism of Our Lord.

Following on from last week's Feast of the Epiphany, the gospel reading for the Baptism of Our Lord offers an even more vivid manifestation, another epiphany, revealing the identity of Jesus: "this is my beloved Son."

In our first reading, the prophet Isaiah consoles the people of Israel, then in exile in the desert, reminding them of God's promises, telling them "prepare the way of the Lord" and assuring them that "the glory of the Lord shall be revealed ... the Lord is coming with power."

The Responsorial Psalm then proclaims, "You send forth your spirit ... and you renew the face of the earth."

Today's reading from Luke's gospel shows the realisation of these promises.

In preparation for the Lord's coming, John the Baptist had been preaching repentance for sin and a baptism of repentance in the waters of the River Jordan. So powerful was his preaching that many wondered if indeed John was the Christ, the One who was to come.

But John vehemently denied it, insisting that he was not even worthy to touch Christ's sandal, and that, while he baptises with water, the coming one, "someone who is more powerful," will baptise "with the Holy Spirit and with fire."

On the brink of his public ministry, Jesus, about thirty years old, emerges from the crowd and comes to John the Baptist for baptism. John, recognising that Jesus is the One, at first resists Jesus' request, but then agrees and baptises Jesus.

An extraordinary epiphany then follows. While Jesus is at prayer after his baptism by John, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in bodily shape, like a dove, and a voice from heaven was heard, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The dove reminds us of the story of creation when God's spirit was described as hovering over the waters like a dove and of the story of Noah and the flood when the dove proclaimed a new beginning, a new era.

The words of the Father reveal Jesus' unique relationship to the Father, a relationship of sonship: he is the Beloved Son. It is no accident that this Feast of Our Lord's Baptism opens Ordinary Time, because it reminds us of our identity as daughters and sons of God, granted through the grace of our baptism.

Through our baptism, we enter into the family and hospitality of God. Our second reading reminds us that, as members of that family, we are called to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, to give up everything that does not lead to God, and to be a people who are zealous for good deeds.

Anne Hunt © Magellan Media 2025

This week in the Parish

Sunday 12	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR C
	8:30 am - Rosary
	8:30 am - Reconciliation
	9:00 am - Mass
Tuesday 14	9:30 am - Mass
Wednesday 15	9:30 am - Mass
Thursday 16	9:30 am - Mass
Friday 17	9:30 am - Mass
Saturday 16	5:30 pm - Rosary
	5:30 pm - Reconciliation
	6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 19	2nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME - YR C
	8:30 am - Rosary
	8:30 am - Reconciliation
	9:00 am - Mass



The 2025 Jubilee Year, themed 'Pilgrims of Hope', invites Catholics to embark on a spiritual journey of renewal, reconciliation, and hope. The year-long celebration, which is rooted in Biblical tradition and Church history, began on 24 December 2024 with the opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica and concludes on 6 January 2026, the Feast of the Epiphany, with the closing of the Door.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Carmel Donnelly, Sr Ursula O'Dwyer, Brian Sullivan, Brian Gillett, Henryk Drewek

ANNIVERSARIES:

Lily Mason

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.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (103)

R: Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Alleluia!

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR C

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Titus 2:11-14, 3:4-7;
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

ROSTER | READING

18/19 Jan | 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | Yr C

6pm - Mike Brennan | 9am - Mary-Ann Thackray

ROSARY STATUE

12/1 Pauline Weber 19/1 Kay Ryder

JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

2025 Josephite Calendars are on sale in the Church. Only a few left. \$10.00 each.

FINAL MASSES UKI AND BURRENBAR

The Bishop has given approval for the churches at Uki and Burringbar 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 Burringbar - 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.

LEGION OF MARY MARIAN VALLEY BUS TRIP Saturday 15 February 2025

The cost is \$30 per couple (bring a friend / plus one) or \$25 per person. (*Murwillumbah Auxiliary Legion Members \$15 with Murwillumbah Members - FREE*). Book tickets now with Legion Of Mary President | Philomena Zambelli | 0414 201 940

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

DETAILS:

Pick Up: Mt St Patrick College | 0830 NSW time

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

Return Departure Time: 1330 QLD time

Estimated Time to Arrive in Murwillumbah: 1630 NSW time

Wheelchair Access: NO