

# Sacred Heart Catholic Parish



## PARISH CHURCHES

### Church of the Sacred Heart

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

### Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

River Street, South Murwillumbah

---

## 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](http://www.shpmurwillumbah.com.au)

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

Principal: Mr. Gavin Dykes

### Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

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

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

### St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR C | 18 MAY 2025

### A life beyond death

John's vision of a new heaven and a new earth speaks of a time when sorrow, death and suffering will be no more. Some two thousand years later we might think that John's utopian vision is little more than wishful thinking. Moreover, if we take the words of Jesus in this week's Gospel – *"You must love one another as I have loved you"* – we can also recognise that Christians honour this commandment more in the breach than in reality.

In the words of the English playwright, G K Chesterton: *"The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried"*.

However, looking at the gospel, we see the new vision of creation and the new commandment of love emerge in a world of sinfulness and evil. This is demonstrated in Judas' act of betrayal culminating in Jesus' execution on the Cross. Knowing his life was coming to such a brutal and violent end, Jesus says he is entering into God's glory. In other words, even the most barbaric human activity is ever open to the mystery of the Father's forgiveness and love being poured out over the whole of God's creation.

Elsewhere, John tells us *"no one can see God"* (Jn 1:18). And yet the divine glory is manifest throughout the whole of creation – even or especially when humans are too blind to see. Czech theologian, Tomas Halik, says we fail to see God, not because God is too distant, but because God is too close. God is the light by which we see everything, but we do not see the light, only that which the light reveals.

In the Old Testament we are told God's glory is manifest to Moses in a pillar of cloud and in a burning bush. God appears to Elijah in the still, small, gentle breeze. Yet God's glory is also manifest throughout all creation as in every human experience not excluding the reality of the vilest forms of human evil – such as wars, death camps, genocides, and ecological destruction. If God's glory is present in the death of Jesus, how could it be absent from anything in our entire world?

This week's readings about the "new creation" are also signals of life beyond death where we are invited to share in the Resurrection of Jesus. Such "good news" is something we should want to let the whole world know.

This is the story of Paul and Barnabas in the first reading. However, if we are to be real missionary disciples, our first task is to be evangelised ourselves in order to witness to the divine Creator by *"loving one another as Jesus loves us"*.

Yes, this is a profound challenge. Equally what a wonderful privilege, called to be instruments of the "new creation" through our attempts and failures to be faithful disciples of Jesus. As Pope Francis says: *"whoever is in Christ is a new creation"*. And in the words of St Paul: *"nothing can separate us from the love of God"* (Rom. 8:31).

Gerard Hall SM © Magellan Media 2025

# This week in the Parish

Sunday 18	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass
Monday 19	Parish Office is Closed today
Tuesday 20	11:00 am - Christian Meditation Group 12:45 pm - Scripture Study Group ( <i>note page 3</i> ) 5:30 pm - Mass 6:30 pm - First Communion Parent Meeting
Wednesday 21	10:00 am - Catholic Men's Group ( <i>note page 3</i> ) 5:30 pm - Mass
Thursday 22	8:15 am - Mass
Friday 23	9:30 am - Legion of Mary   Parish Meeting Centre 11:00 am - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12:00 pm - Mass
Saturday 24	<b>OUR LADY, HELP of CHRISTIANS</b> 9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 25	<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b> 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptism

## RECONCILIATION

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

## PRIVATE PRAYER

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

## 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.

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

this Friday 23 May  
11 am - 11:50 am

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Bill Potter, Pope Francis

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Joe Johnson

### THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Maive Collett, Barbara McGrouther, Neville Morrin,  
Cade Andrassy, Robert Burton, Marie nee Flack,  
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.*

## 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 is an option 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 channel](https://www.youtube.com/LismoreDioceseAU) - 9:00 am -  
[youtube.com/LismoreDioceseAU](https://www.youtube.com/LismoreDioceseAU)

## PARISH OFFICE

Please note: the Parish Office will be **CLOSED**  
this Monday 19 May.

## VIGIL MASS TIME – WINTER

**PLEASE NOTE:** From Saturday 7 June to Saturday  
30 August 2025 the Saturday Vigil Mass in Sacred  
Heart Church will commence at 5.00pm.

## READINGS | ROSTERS

### READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

#### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year C

Acts 14:21-27; Rev 21:1-5; Jn 13:31-35

#### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year C

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Rev 21:10-14, 22-23;  
Jn 14:23-29

### READING ROSTER

#### 24/25 May | Sixth Sunday of Easter | Yr C

6pm - Lisa Dusi-Fox

9am - Philomena Zambelli

### ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

24/5 - Grace Severs

25/5 - Nate Linkins

### ROSARY STATUE

18/5 Annette Lofts    25/5 Paula Thornton

## CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

May morning tea

Wed 21 May | 10:00 am | Mbah Services Club

Enquiries: Alex Lever 0458 817 021

**ALL MEN ARE WELCOME**

## CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

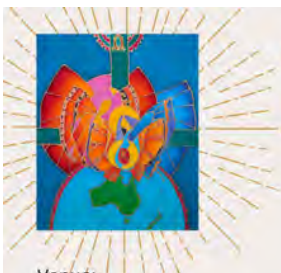
Tuesdays | 11 am | Parish Admin Centre

**ALL WELCOME**

## SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP

Tuesdays | 1 pm | Parish Admin Centre

**ALL WELCOME**



## Mary of the Angelus Community Retreat

Feast of the Visitation of Our Lady

**31<sup>st</sup> May - 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025**

presented by:

**Fr Erick Quinteros & Valerie Murphy**

Venue:

St Francis Xavier Parish Centre  
Cnr of Crane and Cherry St  
Ballina NSW 2478

Cost: \$50.00 (includes all meals)



Register :  
[www.angeluscommunity.org.au/  
upcoming-events/](http://www.angeluscommunity.org.au/upcoming-events/)  
(for catering purposes)

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR  
OUR DIOCESAN BOOK CLUB

## MUSTARD SEEDS BOOK CLUB

Small books, big ideas, growing faith

A chance to come together online, as a community, to share our faith as we read *52 Sundays* and other Church Documents.

Our first book club is on the **28th of May, from 7pm-8pm**. We will be discussing the Introduction and Chapters 1-4 from Deacon Anthony's book *52 Sundays*, and a chapter of your choice from Pope Francis' encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*.

All are welcome and no background or formal education in theology is required! Looking forward to seeing you there.

Zoom Meeting ID: 847 3248 5504

Password: WS6wVx

To register interest, contact: Dr Madeline Beveridge, Pastoral Projects Officer, Diocese of Lismore Chancery, 0491 137 854  
[mbeveridge@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:mbeveridge@lismore.catholic.org.au)

### Dates:

- 28<sup>th</sup> May WEDS
- 24<sup>th</sup> June TUES
- 24<sup>th</sup> July THURS
- 27<sup>th</sup> August WEDS
- 23<sup>rd</sup> September TUES
- 30<sup>th</sup> October THURS
- 24<sup>th</sup> November MON

## POPE LEO XIV



Dear Brothers and Sisters

The election of Pope Leo XIV is a time of great joy for Catholics all over Australia and indeed for well-meaning people throughout the world. We have a new Father who gives us good reason to look to the future with confidence and hope. I believe this man, chosen by the Holy Spirit, will be the Pope needed in these difficult times.

As a young priest, Pope Leo, who is a member of the Augustinian Order, joined the Augustinian Mission to Peru. He has spent most of his life, caring for the poor and marginalised in Peru. Such is his commitment to this mission, that he became a Peruvian citizen. Our Pope's commitment and love marks him as a significant man.

Like Pope Francis, he is also a Religious. He is a member of the Ancient Augustinian Order of which he was the General. This means that Augustinians throughout the world chose him as a man capable of thinking the difficult thoughts and questions proposed by St Augustine, and a man who lived the spirituality and prayer of that great Saint. These two attributes give me even more confidence in the shepherding and care that Pope Leo will bring to the church and to the world.

Please join with me in praying for our new Pope.

*Bishop Greg*



## **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YR C**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (144)**

**R. I will praise your name forever,  
my king and my God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!**

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

**First Holy Communion Parent Meeting:**

**Tuesday 20 May 6:30pm | Sacred Heart Church**

**Parents of children eligible to make their  
First Holy Communion are expected to attend.**

Welcome & Instruction 1 - Sat 24 & Sun 25 May

Instruction 2 - Sat 31 May & Sun 1 June

Instruction 3 - Sat 7 & Sun 8 June

Instruction 4 - Sat 14 & Sun 15 June

Retreat Day - Friday 20 June | Parish Church

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

**Saturday 21 June | 5pm Vigil  
or Sunday 22 June | 9am**

## **Vocations Prayer Champions**

The Diocese of Lismore vocations team is seeking vocations prayer champions. All the baptised share the vocation to be missionary disciples but some in the church are called to other vocations for building up missionary disciples. We want women and men who will join in prayer each day for an increase in these other vocations. This year our focus in prayer will be the priesthood. We want you to register as a vocation's prayer champion. Prayer champions agree to pray at 9am or 6pm (both if you want) for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. At the designated time each prayer champion recites one Glory Be, one Hail Mary, one Our Father for the intention of an increase in priestly vocations.

You can register at [vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au](mailto:vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au) or 02 6681 1048. Leave your first name, parish and your chosen time. We will let you know how many people are in prayer with you at that time.

*Deacon Anthony Gooley. Director of Vocations.*

## **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.

## **INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND**

[www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) Phone 1800 802 516 Paying 3.90%

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

