

# Sacred Heart Catholic Parish



## PARISH CHURCHES

### Church of the Sacred Heart

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

### Our Lady of Perpetual Succour

River Street, South Murwillumbah

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## PARISH STAFF

### Administrator

Fr. Peter Wood

### Parish Manager

Mary-Ann Thackray

### Parish Secretary

Beth Gorton

### Pastoral Associate

Barbara Grant

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## 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

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## PARISH SCHOOLS

### Mt. St. Patrick College

Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 2340

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

Principal: Mr. Gavin Dykes

### Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

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

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

### St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C | 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

### Carrying The Cross For Jesus

The good news revealed by Jesus includes many demanding and sometimes scandalous teachings. As the writer of today's first reading discerns, we probably would not have come to the same conclusions as God if we were in charge. When it comes to living how God wants us to, "who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom, and sent your holy spirit from above?"

To be a Christian is to believe that God has shown us who he is and what he wants from us, even if that means embracing what the rest of the world derides as shameful foolishness.

The second reading presents a perfect example of the wisdom of God colliding with the wisdom of the age. Paul, writing from prison, exhorts a fellow Christian, Philemon, to welcome and free his runaway slave, Onesimus. This was a powerfully countercultural appeal in a status-obsessed Greco-Roman society where slavery was as common as owning cars is today.

Runaway slaves could expect severe punishment or execution if they were caught. The culture was so dependent on the practice that society stood against any show of leniency to slaves. But Paul doesn't just ask Philemon to receive Onesimus back as his slave. He encourages Philemon to free the runaway slave and embrace him as a brother.

The wisdom of God teaches that baptism into Christ establishes an identity that is apart from and superior to all other kinds of social and cultural affiliations. Paul is encouraging Philemon to reject the entire social and moral order that his world was built upon, in order to testify to the love and wisdom of God.

In this week's gospel, Jesus takes it one rather startling step further and explains that following him requires a willingness to hate even our own relatives. Here Jesus is using a Jewish idiom that uses hyperbole to indicate a clear preference and priority. This is, after all, the same Jesus who commands us to love our enemies, let alone our own flesh and blood.

But the point still stands: God takes priority, even over every other good thing in our lives. Jesus is saying that to follow him means not letting rejection by or condemnation from the world, or even from our own loved ones, stop us from following him.

There will be times in our lives when we face difficult consequences for living the way God wants us to, whether it's because we're standing up to the social and moral injustices of our time or because we prioritise God over other things, activities and people. This is why Jesus said, "Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple."

If we believe that Jesus is who he says he is, the one who 'straightens our paths' and 'saves us by his wisdom', then let us join him on the road to Calvary and choose his ways over the ways of the world.

Joseph Doyle © Magellan Media 2025

# This week in the Parish

Sunday 7	<b>23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C</b> <b>FATHER'S DAY</b> 8:00 am - Holy Doors Open until 1 pm 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Parish Cuppa/Morning Tea
Monday 8	<b>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> <b>PARISH OFFICE CLOSED</b>
Tuesday 9	8:00 am - Mass 11:00 am - Christian Meditation Group 1:00 pm - Scripture Study Group 5:30 pm - Baptism Preparation Meeting
Wednesday 10	8:00 am - Mass
Thursday 11	8:00 am - Mass 5:00 pm - Christmas Carnival Planning Meeting
Friday 12	9:30 am - Legion of Mary   Parish Meeting Centre 11:00 am - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 12:00 pm - Mass
Saturday 13	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 PM - VIGIL MASS
Sunday 14	<b>THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - YEAR C</b> 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptism

**RECONCILIATION**  
Saturday: 4.30 pm - 4.50 pm  
Sunday: 8.30 am - 8.50 am

**PRIVATE PRAYER**  
8:30am - 9am after 8am  
weekday Masses.  
(Subject to change - depending  
on activities in the Church)

**ROSARY**  
The Rosary is prayed on  
Saturday morning at 9:00 am.  
As well as half an hour before  
each weekday & weekend Mass

**WEDNESDAY WORD**  
Copies of Wednesday Word,  
are available in the Church.

**EXPOSITION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
this Friday 12 September  
11:00 am - 11:50 am

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Marj Seddon-Bryant, Gregorio Santillan, Lindsay Howard-Smith, Joan Kean, Leslie Wallace, John Higgins

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Leah Ryder, Des Thornton, Harry Turner, Mary & Joe Mills

**THOSE WHO ARE SICK:** Gabrielle Hackenberg, Bill Guinea, Albert Albertini, Maive Collett, Narelle Martin, Pam Willock, Patrick Fox, Margaret Traves, Lorraine Green, David Burke, Paul Calvino, 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 CUPPA | MORNING TEA

Please join us for a Cuppa | Morning tea after 9am Mass this Sunday 7 September

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

## READINGS | ROSTERS

### READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

**23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr C**  
Wis 9:13-18; Philemon 9-10, 12-17;  
Lk 14:25-33

**THE EXALTATION OF THE CROSS - Yr C**  
Num 21:4-9; Philemon 2-6-11; Jn 3:13-17

### READING ROSTER

**13/14 Sept | Exaltation of the Cross | Yr C**  
6pm - Barbara Grant  
9am - Jan Bruce

### ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

13/9 - Mia Cook & tba  
14/9 - Bonnie Lindsay & tba

### ROSARY STATUE

7/9 Annette Lofts  
14/9 Paula Thornton

## Top End Youth

'Top End Youth' is an initiative to combine the three parishes of Kingscliff, Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads. It is a bold and inspiring Catholic youth ministry initiative designed to unite, uplift, and ignite faith in the young people of our parishes. At a time when many young people are searching for meaning, connection, and belonging, Top End Youth seeks to offer a space where they can encounter Christ, build authentic friendships, and grow as confident missionary disciples within the life of the Church.

**WHEN:** 19<sup>th</sup> September 5:00pm

**WHERE:** 16 Pearl St, Kingscliff NSW 2487 (St Anthony's Parish, Kingscliff)

Contact: [topendyouth@outlook.com](mailto:topendyouth@outlook.com)



## NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

7 - 13 September



This year National Child Protection Week will continue to champion the overarching message: **Every child in every community needs a fair go**. Last year we encouraged communities and individuals across Australia to start a new conversation,

one that forged a better future for young people everywhere

**To build on last year's focus, our theme for 2025 is:**

**Every conversation matters:**

**Shifting Conversation to Action**

For over 30 years, NAPCAN has been running the annual NCPW campaign. Each campaign builds on the strengths of previous years and has evolved to provide support to communities to act on the core message, **"protecting children is everyone's business"**.

### CHURCH CAR PARK UPDATE

Mt St Patrick College have some planned maintenance works commencing Friday 5 September for 3-4 weeks for the College Staff Room that is directly over the Church Carpark.

**What does this mean for us?** It means that the church carpark will be unavailable during this period of time as scaffolding will be erected around the College buildings above the carpark and tradesmen will be using the carpark and driveway area. We ask that parishioners use street parking for all Masses during this time. We apologise for this inconvenience.

We also take this opportunity to give notice that our own parish remediation works for the remainder of the retaining wall/fence, and the church grounds are also due to start in the coming weeks and this will cause some major inconvenience for us all. Whilst these parish works are in progress we are working on moving Masses to South Murwillumbah. Watch this space for future notices about changes to mass times and venues.

If you have any queries or concern about the College works or the future Parish works, please speak to Parish Manager, Mary-Ann.

## JUBILEE ART EXHIBITION

The Jubilee Art Exhibition is on display this weekend in the Sacred Heart Church.

For centuries, art has helped express the beauty of faith – drawing people closer to God through colour, image and imagination. The Jubilee Art Prize continues that tradition, offering a space for creativity, prayer, and personal reflection.

We have received entries from across our three northern parishes, created by students, families, and parishioners of all ages, each reflecting the Jubilee theme of Hope.

On the table are voting forms for the people's choice awards. Just place your entry in the box provided. Voting closes after the 9am Mass Sunday 14 September.

Please join us this weekend and be inspired by their work, enjoy a cuppa at the morning tea after the 9am Sunday Mass, and celebrate the gift of faith expressed through art.

## ~LEGION of MARY RETREAT~ "To Jesus Through Mary"

The Annual Retreat is on September 27th at Legion House, 377 St Paul Terrace, Fortitude Valley in Brisbane.

Facilitated by Fr Pius Jones sm, the retreat will be a time of prayer, reflection, meditation, learning and fellowship. It runs from registration at 8.30 until Benediction and Mass scheduled to be finished at 3.30.

We bring our own lunch. Tea and coffee are provided. Transport by car to Varsity Lakes then the 50c train to the heart of Brisbane (There's some car pooling available)

The venue is 100m from the station. No parking available at the venue.

For further information contact:

Lesley Dowling 0419143117

Philomena Zambelli 0414201940



## 23RD SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME - YR C

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (89)

**R:** In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your laws! Alleluia!**

### CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL | NATIVITY TABLEAU PLANNING MEETING

**Thursday 11 Sept 5 pm in the Parish Office**

All are welcome to join us for the first Planning Meeting for this year's Carnival/Tableau. If you are keen to see the Carnival continue, we need volunteers to help coordinate/run the Carnival. We cannot proceed without your help.

Please note the proposed date for the 2025 Christmas Carnival and Nativity Tableau is **Saturday 29 November** (last Saturday in November).

See you next **Thursday 11 September at 5 pm** for this critical planning meeting.

### FATHER'S DAY COLLECTION FOR SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS THIS SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER

This 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.

### CONFIRMATION



**Last Wednesday evening  
3 September, Bishop Gregory  
Homeming administered the  
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION to  
twenty-five children in our Parish.**

**Thank you to parents, teachers and catechists  
who helped prepare the children for this  
sacrament, and to our parish community, for  
the prayers and support that you offered the  
children and their families.**

**Special thanks to Pastoral Associate Barbara  
Grant for the preparation, and decoration on  
the Sanctuary. Thanks also to our Acolytes and  
Altar Servers who served with Fr Peter and  
Bishop Greg.**

HAPPY  
*Father's Day*

"Heavenly Father,  
you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary,  
to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.  
Bless all fathers, as they care for their families.  
Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and  
patience; support them in the work they have to do,  
protecting those who look to them,  
as we look to you for love and salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender.  
Amen."

### 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.



### INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND

[www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) Phone 1800 802 516 Paying 3.65%

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

## CANONISATION OF BLESSED CARLO ACUTIS AND PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

This weekend, on 7 September in Rome, Pope Leo XIV will canonize  
Blesseds Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati.

### CARLO ACUTIS

*To always be close to Jesus: that's my life plan.*

Blessed Carlos Acutis, a Catholic Italian teenager was born in London on 3 May 1991. He was a gamer and computer programmer who loved soccer and the Eucharist.

Pope Francis referred to Carlo as a model of holiness in a digital age. Carlo's life should teach today's young people how to properly use and enjoy technology, including the internet and social media.

He was only 15 years of age when he died of leukemia, in Monza Italy 12 October 2006.

Archbishop Domenico Sorrentino of Assisi said "Carlo is a boy of our time. A boy of the internet age, and a model of holiness of the digital age, as Pope Francis presented him in his letter to young people around the world. The computer ... has become a way of going through the streets of the world, like the first disciples of Jesus, to bring to hearts and homes the announcement of true peace, that which quenches the thirst for the infinite that inhabits the human heart."

Feast Day: 12 October - 'The patron saint of the Internet' and 'the first millennial saint'.



### PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

*Verso L'Alto - to the heights.*

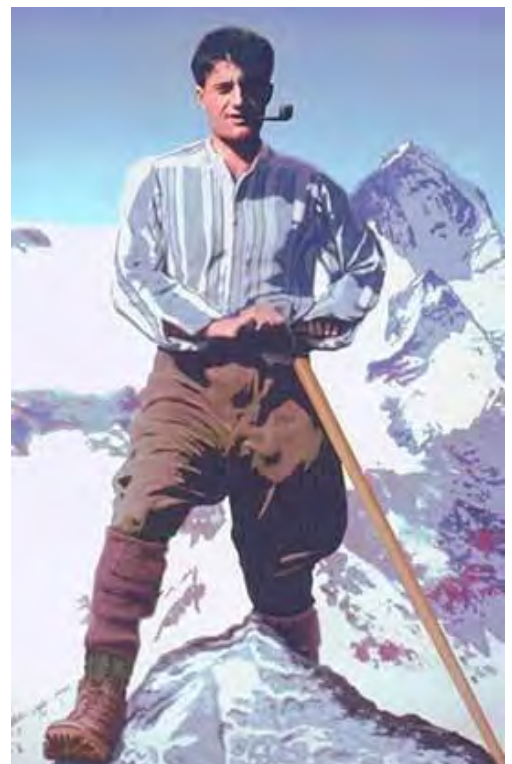
Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, born on 6 April 1901, in Turin, Italy, was a remarkable young Catholic whose brief life left a unique mark on those around him. Frassati developed a deep faith and compassion for the poor. He balanced his studies in mining engineering with an active spiritual life, daily Mass attendance, and extensive charitable work through the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Frassati was known for his joyful demeanor, love of out door activities, and ability to inspire faith in his peers. His political activism against the rising Fascist movement in Italy and his commitment to Catholic social teaching made him a voice for justice in his time.

Tragically, Frassati contracted polio, likely from his work with the sick and poor, and died 4 July 1925, at the age of 24.

St Pope John Paul II called him a '*man of the eight beatitudes*'.

Feast Day: 4 July - The patron saint of students, Catholic youth, mountain climbers, skiers, and Dominican tertiaries.





## BISHOP of LISMORE

— GREGORY HOMEMING OCD —

2 September 2025

The Council of Priests and I have decided that it is time to re-establish the Diocesan Pastoral Council in the hope of drawing on the many talents in the Diocese. A Diocesan Pastoral Council will be in keeping with the synodal process of renewal, which began a few years ago.

The Diocesan Pastoral Council brings together clergy, religious, and laity to advise the Bishop, reflect on the needs of the Diocese, encourage participation and consider diverse perspectives.

We are seeking nominations from people of prayer and discernment, passionate about the Church's mission, good listeners and collaborators, willing to grow in faith, and active in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church. The first Council meeting is expected in early 2026.

If you know someone who you think would be suitable or feel that you yourself might make a good member of the Diocesan Pastoral Council, please fill in the nomination form using the following link [bit.ly/LismoreDPC](https://bit.ly/LismoreDPC).

With my prayers and good wishes,

Most Revd Greg Homeming OCD  
*Bishop of Lismore*

Nomination and Expression of  
Interest Form - Diocesan Pastoral  
Council

