

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

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@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Gavin Dykes

Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

mshpmurwillumbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

mshpmurwillumbah@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS | YEAR C | 14 SEPTEMBER 2025

The cross that symbolizes our faith

This week's feast is an ancient one, known as The Triumph (or The Exaltation) of the Cross. Legend has it that on this date, September 14 in 330, St Helena, a Christian, the mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, discovered "the true cross" on which Jesus had died in Jerusalem.

Over the centuries, the cross has become the universal symbol of our Christian faith. Some people wear it around their necks. Many have a crucifix at home. A cross hangs in every Catholic Church. We venerate the cross during the liturgy on Good Friday. And every day we, like our forebears who have gone before us in the Faith, begin and end our prayers, including the celebration of the Mass, making the Sign of the Cross while we say, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

In this one simple gesture and prayer, the Sign of the Cross, we express the two great mysteries that lie at the very heart of our faith as Christians: God is Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the One God – and God revealed his great mercy and steadfast love for us in Jesus' death on a cross, for "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (Jn 3:16).

We can easily forget how shameful and humiliating death by crucifixion was. In the Roman Empire crucifixion was an oft-used form of execution that was calculated to instil fear and dread in the people and to discourage any would-be political agitators or subversives.

As St Paul writes, the cross was a scandal, a stumbling block, to the Jews and a folly, sheer foolishness, to the Greeks. No wonder that it was about three centuries before the symbol of the cross was represented in Christian art, life and worship, so shameful a death it was. And yet, as St Paul insists: "We preach Christ crucified."

The second reading is one of the most important of St Paul's writings. He writes that Christ, though enjoying a divine status, "emptied himself," freely taking "the form of a slave," humbling himself, even to death on a cross. "Therefore, God highly exalted him" so that all should confess that "Jesus Christ is Lord." His crucifixion was not his defeat or failure but rather his victory and triumph.

St Paul exhorts his readers, including us: "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." St John captures succinctly what this "mind of Christ Jesus" involves: "Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another" (1 Jn 4:11).

When we make the Sign of the Cross, we also symbolise the cross that is ours to carry in our own lives, mindful at the same time of the resurrection and life of the world to come that Jesus' victory wrought for each one of us. May the cross be our comfort in times of suffering, our refuge in times of trouble, and our safeguard on life's journey.

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This week in the Parish

Sunday 14	THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - YEAR C 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:15 am - Baptism
Monday 15	Our Lady of Sorrows PARISH OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 am - Widows & Widowers Cuppa & Chat
Tuesday 16	NO Mass today 11:00 am - Christian Meditation Group 1:00 pm - Scripture Study Group
Wednesday 17	8:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Men's Group Morning Tea
Thursday 18	8:00 am - Mass
Friday 19	9:30 am - Legion of Mary Parish Meeting Centre NO Mass or Adoration today 5:00 pm - Top End Youth - (see note page 3)
Saturday 20	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 PM - VIGIL MASS
Sunday 21	25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C 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**
No Adoration this
Friday 19 Sept.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

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

ANNIVERSARIES:

Michael Dusi

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



BAPTISM:

Please welcome
Arlo Timothy Clarkson
to our faith community.

SAVE THE DATE...

**2025 CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL
& NATIVITY TABLEAU
Saturday 29 November**

READINGS | ROSTERS

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

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

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Yr C
Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

READING ROSTER

20/21 Sept | 25th Sun in Ord Time | Yr C
6pm - Denise Banner
9am - Jenny Morgan

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

20/9 - Amelia Bennet & tba
21/9 - Sienna Alexander & tba

ROSARY STATUE

14/9 Paula Thornton 21/9 Trish Jandura

WIDOWS & WIDOWERS

'CUPPA & CHAT'

1st & 3rd Monday of month

Mon 15 Sept | 10 am | M'bah Services Club

Enquiries: Christine O'Brien 0418 787 881

**ALL WIDOWS & WIDOWERS
WELCOME**

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

September morning tea

Wed 17 Sept | 10 am | Mbah Services Club

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME



The Catenians
Faith-based friendship

THE CATENIANS GOLD COAST TWEED CIRCLE

Join the Catenian Association, enjoy the benefits of membership and form long lasting friendships.

We meet on 3rd Thursday of each month. Why not come along to one of our meetings and share a meal with us - it might be just what you need! Your first dinner is on us. No pressure to join if it's not for you.

South Tweed Sports Club

Thurs 18 September | 6 pm

Contact:

Bernard Nolan 0419 023 108 | 02 6672 3733

Chris Gallagher 0428 416 288

JUBILEE ART EXHIBITION

This is the final weekend the Jubilee Art Exhibition is on display in the Sacred Heart Church.

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 this Sunday 14 September.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER

Today we are gathered on Safeguarding Sunday, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable. In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about justice, compassion, and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled church.

In our everyday lives, let's be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalised. Who are the "silent" ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them. Whether it's through prayer, support, or direct action, we are invited to participate in God's work of justice.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY • 14 SEP 2025

WE ARE A SAFE, HOPE-FILLED AND WELCOMING CHURCH



FOR MORE INFO FOLLOW
@TOPENDYOUTH

TOP



END



YOUTH



LAUNCH

WHEN:
5:00PM - 7:00PM
FRIDAY
19TH SEPTEMBER

WHERE:
ST ANTHONY'S
PARISH -
16 PEARL ST,
KINGSCLIFF NSW
2487

PARENT FORM:



Diocesan Pastoral Council – Seeking Nominations

The Diocesan Pastoral Council, guided by the principles of communion, participation, and mission, collaborates with the bishop to discern and promote the pastoral mission of the Diocese through prayerful listening, dialogue, and shared responsibility between clergy, religious, and the lay faithful.

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 complete the nomination form online using the following link <https://bit.ly/LismoreDPC>

For those who prefer to submit a paper nomination, forms are available at the back of the church and from the Parish Office.

Paper nomination forms must be returned to the Parish Office for collation and submission to The Chancery for final consideration.

Nominations for the DPC close Friday 10 October 2025.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY BLESSING

We pray that through your Spirit and your Church fully trusting in your word, victims will become victors and their mess become a precious message to your love and restoration in their lives.

We ask this in your name and for your glory.

Dear God, we pray for all those who serve in a Safeguarding role within our Church.

EXALTATION OF THE CROSS - YR C

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (77)

R: Do not forget the works of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed
the world. Alleluia!**

Legion of Mary

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

FIRST YEAR CELEBRATION

Over 280 hrs of Adoration in our Parish.

To celebrate this great milestone, the Legion of Mary is giving away 2 prizes as a 'Thank-You' for your support. Name of Prayers who were on the roster during the year, including Oct '25, will go into the draw of two prizes of 1 x night at Marian Valley Retreat Cabins for 2 people. Fr Peter will draw the names after the 9am Mass, 5 October. The roster is at the back of the church for you to include your name and phone number. Everyone is very welcome.

Holy Hour: spending an uninterrupted hour of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament in the presence of the Lord. Great Graces Abound - - Christianity is not a philosophy nor abstraction, but a relationship with a Person - a Divine Person -

~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

When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself, says the Lord. *John 12:32*

RCIA and RRFC Network

We are planning to establish a network in the Diocese of Lismore for those who work in the ministry of RCIA for unbaptised people and RRFC for Christians entering into full communion with the Catholic Church.

If you are someone in the parish leading these processes or working with those who do, this network is for you. This initiative is supported by Bishop Greg Homeming.

The first meeting is Tuesday 7th October, 7-8 pm. Please register, with your name and parish, to receive a zoom link via email to Deacon Anthony Gooley agooley@lismore.catholic.org.au

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.



Diocesan
Investment
Fund

INVEST WITH PEACE OF MIND

www.dif.org.au Phone 1800 802 516 Paying 3.65%

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