

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

Tuesday 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@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

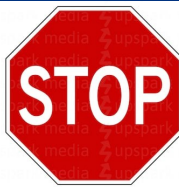
Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

mshpmurwillumbah@lismore.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR A | 7 DECEMBER 2025



The Parish carpark will be **CLOSED** to all traffic from Monday 24 November until further notice as contractors continue the next stage of parish remediation works on the retaining wall and church grounds.

Prepare the way

When we hear the words, 'a voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord ...', what do we hear? A young man wondered whether he was being called to be a priest. But when have we heard a call to prepare a way for the Lord?

In our wilderness have we heard a voice calling us to a change of heart? A woman heard such a voice when she spoke of her grief in a small group. A friend's response enabled her 'to find release from the doubts and fears and self-concern that had imprisoned me.' That's the hope and the joy offered to us in Advent, in the person of the one who is to come.

John the Baptist prepares a way for him, and he reveals how we might do this by calling us to repent, to a change of heart, so the kingdom of heaven might be made real in our lives. When the people were baptised by him, they 'confessed their sins', naming them so they might be forgiven, and their relationship with God and one another, might be restored. These are the fruits of repentance. We can't simply presume like the religious leaders do in the gospel that all is well because we're in good standing with God, as John calls them out for their complacency.

Clearly, he's an agent of change, and as the young man and the grieving woman instinctively understood, it's decision time, because John points to the coming one's role as judge at the end of time. He will baptise us with the Holy Spirit and with fire – a baptism of fire – which a woman experienced a few years ago when a bushfire destroyed her home. She lost everything and slowly came to realise it was an opportunity to do things differently this time, with God at the centre of her life.

She came to understand this judgement is not something to be afraid of, for when it comes it will be the moment when all is revealed, the moment of our liberation, when we will be 'set free to love'. The only question is, do we long for this transformation or cling to what we've known? It's not quite what John had in mind, but it is the hope and joy of Advent; that the Lord's judgment will see the birth of a community of hope, where we might experience the joy of being with one another, both now and forever.

This community is at the heart of the first and second readings. Isaiah speaks of a new life for God's people on returning from exile – renewed relationship with one another and all creation. While Paul speaks of hope in the scriptures and following the example of Christ and our forebears in faith, the building up of a community where we might all give glory to God. In this way we 'prepare a way for the Lord': it's what we're called to do.

Damian Coleridge © Magellan Media 2025

This week in the Parish

Sunday 7	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass 10:00 am - Parish Cuppa Morning Tea 11:00 am - Baptism
Monday 8	The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH OFFICE CLOSED 5:30 pm - Mass OLPS Sth Murwillumbah
Tuesday 9	9:30 am - Mass OLPS Sth Murwillumbah 11:00 am - Christian Meditation Group 1:00 pm - Advent Study Group 5:30 pm - Baptism Preparation Meeting
Wednesday 10	5:30 pm - Mass OLPS Sth Murwillumbah
Thursday 11	5:30 pm - Mass OLPS Sth Murwillumbah
Friday 12	9:30 am - Legion of Mary Parish Meeting Centre 11:00 am - Eucharistic Adoration OLPS 12:00 pm - Mass OLPS Sth Murwillumbah
Saturday 13	9:00 am - Rosary OLPS 10:00 am - Anointing Mass OLPS Church 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday 14	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Year A 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 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 December
11 am - 11:50 am
OLPS Church

PRAYER CHAPEL

Please note:
the Prayer Chapel is **Not Open**
- won't be accessible until at least February 2026.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Peter Ainscough

ANNIVERSARIES:

Brian Gillett, Henryk Drewek

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Margaret Perkins (sister of Brian Donaghy), Isobel Grant, Fr Joseph Guinea, Anne Daley, Gabrielle Hackenberg, 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
Matilda Ann McCloy
to our faith community.



PARISH CUPPA | MORNING TEA

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

EVERYONE WELCOME!

READINGS | ROSTERS

READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR A

Is 11:1-10; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR A

Is 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

READING ROSTER

13/14 Dec | Third Sunday of Advent - A

6pm - Mike Brennan

9am - Christine O'Brien

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER

13 Dec - Amelia Bennett & Nadia McGarry

14 Dec - Sienna Alexander & Bailey Clarkson

ROSARY STATUE

7/12 Pauline Weber

14/12 Kay Ryder



Last Saturday evening we witnessed the presentation of the true Christmas story at the 2025 Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau.

The Sacred Heart Catholic Parish and our Parish Schools thank everyone who worked so hard or contributed to making the Christmas Carnival & Nativity Tableau such a great success.

THANK YOU to all who generously supported this very special annual event in our parish calendar.

Parish Raffle Results
1st Prize: Anita McGarry
2nd Prize: Kay Ryder
3rd Prize: Michael Brennan

'MASS OF ANOINTING'

10AM | SATURDAY | 13 DECEMBER

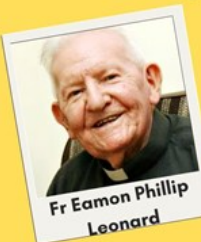
**OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL SUCCOUR CHURCH,
SOUTH MURWILLUMBAH**

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is a prayer of healing which may be celebrated individually and communally, and may be received more than once.

All Parishioners Are Welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY

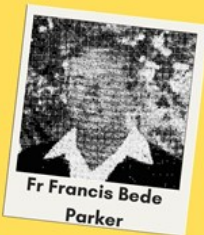
are searching for memories and photos of



Fr Eamon Phillip
Leonard



These are the
only images
we have.



Fr Francis Bede
Parker



email memories and scanned photos
directly to smurp@lism.catholic.edu.au



Write your memory down, sign your name
on it, and place it in the St Joseph's box
at the back of the church OR drop into
our school or Parish Office.



Place your **labeled envelope** of hard copy
photos at the St Joseph's school or Parish
office, or in the St Joseph's box at the back
of the church, for an ASAP return.



MORE INFO:

Contact: St Joseph's (02) 66721867

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL

Wednesday 24th December

6:00 pm | Murwillumbah

5:30 pm | Carols | Kingscliff

6:00 pm | Kingscliff

6:00 pm | Pottsville

6:00 pm | Tweed Heads

8:00 pm | Tweed Heads

Midnight | Murwillumbah

Midnight | Tweed Heads

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday 25th December

7:30 am | Pottsville

8:00 am | Tweed Heads

9:00 am | Murwillumbah

9:00 am | Kingscliff

CHRISTMAS MASS ROSTER

Volunteers are needed for the Christmas Mass liturgy roster for **6pm Vigil, Midnight and 9am Christmas Day** - please add your name & your ministry to the sheet on the Mass that you are available - located on table near the Church entrance or contact the Parish Office.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YR A

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (71)

R: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Changes to Mass Venue whilst remediation works continue around Sacred Heart Church

For safety reasons and to allow maximum work to be completed on the Sacred Heart site over the coming weeks, we'll be moving to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour 22-24 River Street South Murwillumbah

For WEEK DAY MASSES from Friday 5 December until Tuesday 23 December.

There will be NO weekday Masses from Friday 26 December until the first week in February.

Christmas Masses will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church.

For WEEKEND MASSES we will move (*after Christmas*) from Saturday 27 December until late January/early February.

The WEEKDAY Mass time whilst at South Murwillumbah will generally be 9:30 am.

Please check the Mass times in weekend Bulletins for any possible changes to Mass times as from time to time over the coming weeks we may need to make a change.

For the coming week Monday 8 December to Friday 12 December week day Masses at South Murwillumbah will be as follows, noting the addition of Mass on Monday:

Monday 8 December – Feast of the Immaculate Conception – 5:30 pm

Tuesday 9 December – 9:30 am

Wednesday 10 December – 5:30 pm

Thursday 11 December – 9:30 am

Friday 12 December – Adoration 11:00 am and Mass at 12:00 pm.

For those unable to handle the stairs at South Murwillumbah, there is ramp access at the back of the church in Wardrop Lane.

Thanks for your patience and understanding as we move through the construction mess and noise around Sacred Heart Church over the coming months. Weather permitting the works should be completed by early to mid February.

Any queries or concerns, please contact Mary-Ann in the Parish Office.

ADVENT WREATH

The season of Advent invites us to renew our lives in preparation for the coming of Jesus. The people who heard the message of John the Baptist repented for their sins and were baptized as a sign of God's forgiveness.



In Baptism, our sins are forgiven, and we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, who helps us in our life of discipleship. Led by the Holy Spirit, we use this Advent season to renew our lives so that we, like John the Baptist, might prepare the way for Jesus.

Prayer: God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

ADVENT CHANT | Phil Porter

Twilight, then darkness,
night falls and candles glow.
Gently surrounding us a new birth of Peace.
Watching, waiting, awak'ning
a new birth of Peace.
(Used with permission: One License A-641466)

Gloria | Advent

There is no 'Gloria' during Advent. As Advent is a time of preparation for the great celebration of Christmas, it is like we are "fasting" in the liturgy to prepare for the "feast" of Christmas! Also, remembering where the first words of the Gloria came from: the Angels sang it to the shepherds the very night that Jesus was born! So we wait until the Christmas Masses to sing it again.

2026 JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

on sale at the Church & Parish Office. \$10.00 each.
This is the final edition of the Josephite Calendar.

In Holy Stillness | 2025 Advent Resource

Short daily reflections through until Christmas Day.
\$8 each | available from the Church & Parish Office



Interest Rate - 3.40%

For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516