

# 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

Erin Cornale

### Pastoral Associate

Barbara Grant

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## PARISH OFFICE

Tuesday 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

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

Principal: Mr. Gavin Dykes

### Mt. St. Patrick Primary School

Mooball Street, Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1821

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

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

### St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR A | 22 MARCH 2026

## *Jesus is the true messiah*

What an extraordinary Lenten journey it's been! Five weeks ago, we began with the temptation of Jesus. We heard that Jesus was subjected to tests and trials, just as we are, yet without sinning. The following week, the gospel called for a decision. After his transfiguration, and with the assurance of being God's beloved Son, Jesus faced a difficult choice to journey to Jerusalem. Over the next two weeks, we encountered two unique faith stories. For the Samaritan woman, faith called her to be an apostle to her village, and for the man blind from birth, faith resulted in him being driven out of his community. Today, we contemplate the reality of death, and Jesus' promise that "whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

The dramatic story of Lazarus' resurrection is Jesus' last sign and miracle before his own passion and death. In a way, Lazarus' death and resurrection, points to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Both events show that Jesus is the true Messiah. However, while Lazarus was raised to a renewed earthly life, Jesus was raised forever.

Martha and Mary show the vulnerability of faith in the midst of heartache. They have faith, but they demand Jesus' physical presence, which gives rise to a sense of hopelessness when Jesus doesn't arrive in time to prevent Lazarus' death: "If you had been here my brother would not have died." But the promise given is that God's gift of eternal life breaks the constraints of mortal life. Jesus says to Lazarus, "Unbind him. Let him go free." Death is *never* the end of the road.

'Hopelessness' doesn't exist in the vocabulary of those who believe in the resurrection that Jesus promised. Jesus embraced hopelessness and became hope for the world. Fear loses its control over those who believe in the resurrection. Just as Jesus took away the stone from Lazarus' tomb, he takes away the stones of despair in our lives. Our disappointments, failures, frustrations and losses become the seedbeds of hope and new life.

To Martha, and to us, Jesus poignantly asks: "Do you believe this?" We must never underestimate the power of this question. It's asked of us every time we bury a loved one, and it's central in preparing for our own death. Martha's response to Jesus' question, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ the Son of God," is an extraordinary act of faith in Jesus *before* his resurrection.

Jesus shows that there is a life beyond the grave, even as our mortal bodies await resurrection at the end of time. While physical life will cease, the God-life (eternal life) that has been given to us through Jesus will never cease. Jesus made eternal life possible for all of us through the gift of his life, and it's already at work in our lives.

David J Hore CSsR @ Majellan Media 2026

# This week in the Parish

## MARCH

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YR A

Sunday 22	8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass   <b>Sacred Heart</b>
Monday 23	No Mass <b>11:00am - Chrism Mass   St Carthage's Lismore</b>
Tuesday 24	No Mass 1:00 pm - Lenten Group   Parish Admin Centre 6:00pm - Second Rite Reconciliation   <b>Kingscliff</b>
Wednesday 25	9:00am - Mass   <b>OLPS</b> 6:00pm - Second Rite Reconciliation   <b>Sacred Heart</b>
Thursday 26	8:00am - Mass   <b>Sacred Heart</b>
Friday 27	12:30pm - Mass   <b>Sacred Heart</b> 1:00 pm - Stations of the Cross   <b>Sacred Heart</b>
Saturday 28	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass   <b>Sacred Heart</b>
Sunday 29	<b>PALM SUNDAY - YR A</b> 8:30am - Liturgy   <b>Sacred Park</b> 9:00 am - Mass   <b>Sacred Heart</b>

## 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 weekend Mass

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

This Friday 27th March  
11:30am- 12:15pm  
at **Sacred Heart**

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays during Lent  
1pm

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Norma McDonald

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Fr Bill Mills, Lydia Cuadro

### THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Anthony Rodighiero, Kath Dawson-Malone, Leo Kelly, Alex Lever, Rita Loughman, Isobel Grant, Fr Joseph Guinea, 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.*

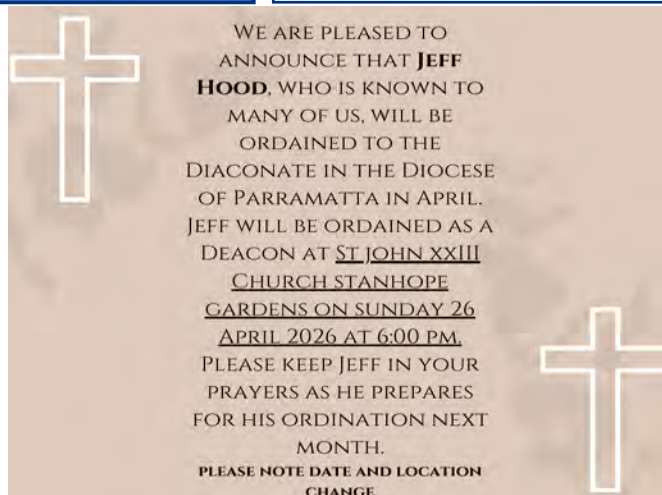
## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*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)



WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT **JEFF HOOD**, WHO IS KNOWN TO MANY OF US, WILL BE ORDAINED TO THE DIACONATE IN THE DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA IN APRIL. JEFF WILL BE ORDAINED AS A DEACON AT **ST JOHN XXIII CHURCH STANHOPE GARDENS ON SUNDAY 26 APRIL 2026 AT 6:00 PM**. PLEASE KEEP JEFF IN YOUR PRAYERS AS HE PREPARES FOR HIS ORDINATION NEXT MONTH. PLEASE NOTE DATE AND LOCATION CHANGE

## READINGS | ROSTERS

### READINGS FOR TODAY & NEXT SUNDAY:

#### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YR A

Ezek 37:12-14, Rom 8:8-11, Jn 11:1-45

#### PALM SUNDAY - YR A

Is 50:4-7, Phil 2:6-11, Mt 26:14-27:66

#### READING ROSTER

#### 28/29 March | Palm Sunday - YR A

6pm - TBA

9am - TBA

#### ROSARY STATUE

22/3 - Trish Jandura

29/3 - Debbie Kaehler

# Holy Week

## SCHEDULE

Wednesday | 25 March

6pm | Second Rite of Reconciliation

Palm Sunday | 29 March

8:30am Liturgy | Sacred Park  
9am Mass | Sacred Heart

Holy Thursday | 2 April

7pm | Lord's Supper + Eucharistic Adoration

Good Friday | 3 April

9am | Stations of the Cross  
3pm | Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Easter Saturday | 4 April

7pm | Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday | 5 April

9am | Sunday of the Resurrection

## A REMINDER FOR WEEKDAY MASS

### ATTENDEES ABOUT STREET

### PARKING

As we return to week day Masses at Sacred Heart Church, please be aware that the parking area immediately outside Sacred Heart Church is a **No Parking Zone between 8 am and 9 am on school days.**

The fine for parking in this zone from 8 am to 9 am is often over \$300. Being within a school zone means that the fines may be significantly higher and may exceed \$380.

The parking area from the top of the street down to the carpark entry is a **BUS ZONE from 8 am to 9:30 am on school days.** The fine for parking in this zone during these times may exceed \$380. Please note that Tweed Shire Council rangers are often in the school zones on school days monitoring for illegal parking.

### PALM SUNDAY

29 March | 8:30 am

**Blessing of the Palms in Sacred Park (Banner St) with our Anglican friends | followed by Mass at 9 am**



### II Rite & First Reconciliation

St Anthony's Kingscliff | 6pm Tues 24 March  
Sacred Heart Murwillumbah | 6pm Wed 25 March

### LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TWEED VALLEY FUN DAY

25th April 2026 Murwillumbah Show Grounds  
Sign up sheet at the back of the church.  
Further Enquiries: Jenny Wallace  
0407 740 428



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (129)

**R:** With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

*Praise and honour to you Lord Jesus;  
Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ!*

**I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in me will not die for ever.**

*Praise and honour to you Lord Jesus;  
Praise and honour, Lord Jesus Christ!*

### 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.



Save the date  
Parish Dinners

21 April  
18 June  
18 August  
20 October

More information closer to dates



**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

### Fifth Sunday of Lent 21-22 March 2026

Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.



**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

**Or online at:** [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)

**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

SACRAMENT OF

## Reconciliation

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THOSE WHO WILL BE  
MAKING THEIR FIRST  
RECONCILIATION  
WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH

YOU WERE ONCE IN DARKNESS; NOW YOU ARE  
LIGHT IN THE LORD, SO WALK AS CHILDREN OF  
LIGHT.

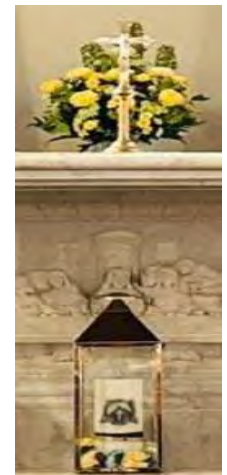
Ephesians 5:1-14



**Interest Rate - 3.40%**

**For further information and our current interest rate,  
please visit our website [www.dif.org.au](http://www.dif.org.au) or contact us on 1800 802 516**

# Mount St Patrick College Centenary Celebrations



## Diocesan Pastoral Council and Diocesan Youth Council Formation and Commissioning

- The Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) held its first meetings in February and March, beginning online with sessions focused on getting to know one another and exploring the Council's mission and role.
- The Council then gathered in Lismore from 13 -15 March for its first face-to-face retreat formation program, and Commissioning Mass.
- The retreat was facilitated by Lana Turvey-Collins from Catholic Mission, with sessions led by Dr Chris Cotter, Director of Mission and Pastoral Life in the Diocese of Sandhurst, and under the guidance of Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD.
- Dr. Cotter shared insights from establishing a new DPC in Sandhurst, including processes for synodal decision-making. Bishop Greg reflected on discernment and encouraged Council members to exercise humility and to be confident in who they are: for that is why they were chosen. The retreat challenged participants to pray, speak boldly, and listen with humility.
- The retreat concluded with a joyful dinner shared with the Diocesan Youth Council (DYC).
- On Sunday 15 March, Bishop Greg celebrated a Commissioning Mass for the DPC and DYC at the Cathedral, co-celebrated by Fr James Foster, Fr Paul McDonald, Fr Joy D'Souza, and Deacons Anthony Gooley, Shane Hyland, Chris Wallace, and Graeme Davis.
- In his homily, Bishop Greg reflected on the nine-year journey to this moment: *"The living God has provided. He has provided two wonderful councils commissioned today. I know with the help of God they will provide what I need."*



The Members of the Diocesan Pastoral Council are: James Baby (Kyogle), Judy Brady (Macleay Valley), Adam Gallagher (Kingscliff), Gerald Lewis (Nambucca Valley), Emma McDonald (Casino), Maxine Miller (Bellingen), Peter Murphy (Wauchope) John O'Brien (Casino), Br Bill Sullivan (Lismore), and Christine Wightley (Murwillumbah).  
Ex Officio Members are: Madeline Beveridge (Lismore), Fr James Foster (Macleay Valley), Fr Paul McDonald (Kingscliff) and Adam Spencer (Tweed Heads)

The Youth Council Members are: Deacon Anthony Gooley (Ballina), Deacon Shane Hyland (Port Macquarie), Hogan Rogers (Lismore), Christa Morrow (Port Macquarie), Alice Magner (Bowraville), Sr Dedith Moralde CM (Lismore). Daniel Pereira (Sawtell). Ex Officio Members are: Fr Joy D'Souza, OCD (Sawtell), Zac Parnell (Port Macquarie), Madeline Beveridge (Lismore)