

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

Erin Cornale

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@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

Principal: Mr. Brendan Ryan

St. Joseph's Primary School

Greville Street, South Murwillumbah

Ph: 02 6672 1867

stj@lism.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR A

3 MAY 2026

Don't stumble but believe

What's all this about *living stones* and *stumbling stones* and *cornerstones* in the second reading (from the First Letter of St Peter)? Let's take a deep dive.

The entire passage takes up some deep themes in the Old Testament prophet, Isaiah. There's hardly a word of St Peter in these few verses that is not echoing him. (Even Psalm 118, which he quotes in the business about the *cornerstone*, is spliced with a line from Isaiah 8.) So, we need to ponder Isaiah, especially chapters 24 and 8, where the key quotations come from.

The prophet's writing in the 700's BC, a time of great stress for God's people. Isaiah's message is about the impending destruction of much of Israel through the empire of Assyria. The "flood" of destruction will rise "to the neck," leaving Jerusalem standing among the ruins. In the midst of it, God, he says, is *laying a stone in Zion*—he's going to rebuild out of this diminished remnant that's left; he's going to reboot the covenant, restart the plan to make Israel the epicenter of his conquest of evil, reunification of humanity, defeat of death, and renewal of all things, thereby accomplishing his original, deep purpose for creation.

St Peter sees Isaiah's word as a pattern for his own writing to the churches in Asia Minor. He says that this reboot is finally being accomplished by Jesus (the *cornerstone*) through the Church (the *spiritual house, holy priesthood, chosen race...*). But the real shock is *how* Isaiah and St. Peter say it is realised: by suffering, trial, temptation, defeat, by fidelity through the worst of it. The *rejected stone* becomes the *cornerstone*. That's the Jesus way that Isaiah anticipated. Don't *stumble* over it, he warns, but *believe*.

Like Jesus, the apostles ate, drank, and breathed the Old Testament. Isaiah, the Psalms, Genesis, Exodus, and so on shaped their imaginations, hopes, fears, and intentions so deeply that the divine word became inseparable from their outlook, words, and actions. In this way they forged their creases in the world in concert with God's deep purposes.

The task St Peter gives us in this letter is to *keep faith*, to run along these apostolic creases, making them the track down which our lives run. In this way we are *built up* together into that *spiritual house* as the *living stones* he's talking about. Meditating on his words (and digging down into their Old Testament roots) will give us a much deeper awareness of what is at stake in our faith, what it is we are hoping for, and how to understand the trials and temptations always threatening to derail our path.

Fidelity to that hope despite its apparent failure—perceiving it, through God's faithfulness, as strangely and wonderfully the first moment of victory—is what he means in this passage by *faith*.

W Chris Hackett @ Majellan Media 2026

This week in the Parish



MAY	FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday 3	9:00 am - Mass Sacred Heart
Monday 4	Parish Office Closed
Tuesday 5	NO MASS TODAY 1:00PM - Scripture Group Parish Office
Wednesday 6	NO MASS TODAY
Thursday 7	NO MASS TODAY
Friday 8	11:30 - Exposition 12:30pm - Mass Sacred Heart
Saturday 9	9:00am - Rosary 5:30pm - Rosary
Sunday 10	6:00 pm - Vigil Mass Sacred Heart SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 8:30am - Rosary 9:00am - Mass Sacred Heart

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

ROSARY
The Rosary is prayed on Saturday morning at 9:00am. 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
11:30am- 12:20pm
Friday 8 May

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Cheryl Ann Franks, Andrew Holstein, David Walsh, Anita Conaghan, Louise Bradford Smith, Vincent McDonnal, Keenan McDonnal

ANNIVERSARIES:

Bishop John Carroll, Bill Potter.

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

Vera Albertini, Terry Bryant, Judith Jackson-Hope, 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, Corrina Thackray.

Names removed after a considerable time. Please assist the Parish Office by advising if you wish names to remain.

READINGS FOR TODAY AND NEXT WEEK:

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pet 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Pet 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

READER ROSTER :

9 & 10/5: Barbara Grant | Christine O'Brien
16&17/5: Marg Mumford |Philomena Zambelli

ROSARY STATUE

3/5 - Narelle Gear | 10/5 - Philomena Zambelli

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

10/5 - Donna & Jenny | 17/5- Kay & Benice

ALTER SERVING ROSTER

9/5: Ted Cornale & Meadow Chapman
10/5: Sienna Alexander & Scarlett Walker

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 WARMLY WELCOME THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PREPARING FOR THE

Sacrament of Confirmation

Welcome & Information
12 May 6pm
Sacred Heart Church

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
MONDAY 15 MAY

AED INSTALLATION

We have installed a new AED in the church

It has been installed on the back wall of the church next to the door to the choir gallery. We are seeking volunteers to undergo training on how to access and use the AED/Defibrillator. If you would like to learn how to use the AED, please put your name and a contact number on the list at the Welcome Table. We'll let you know when training day/s are finalised.



HELP US RESTORE OUR PARISH GARDENS

Join our gardening working bee

SATURDAY 9 MAY FROM 8 AM

As we finalise the construction work around the parish, we need some help to tidy up the gardens around the church, the property and the parish office. There's weeding, pruning, hedging to do to restore our gardens.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP, PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE

Please gather in the Church Carpark at 8 am on Saturday 9 May for general instructions and allocation of areas

WHAT TO BRING?

gardening, pruning and hedging tools, garden gloves, sun hats & sun screen



MORNING TEA WILL BE PROVIDED



Every week we receive a variety of valuable food supplies delivered here from the Sacred Heart Church. This is a welcome and appreciated contribution for our community. All of these items are distributed on to those in need, who visit the Centre.

Most recipients express sincere gratitude, because everything helps in challenging times.

Jenny Ryan
Transitional Manager



EUCHARIST28 UPDATE: RENEWAL HAS BEGUN!

The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation. But this is more than an event in Sydney. It is a national journey, an invitation to renewal for the whole Church, wherever we are. The journey begins now, in our own hearts, in our own parishes. Across the Easter weekend, thousands of catechumens and candidates throughout Australia were baptised and received into full communion with the Church. Our churches were alive with faith - pews filled, hearts renewed. It was a beautiful witness to what the Church is called to be every week, not only at Christmas and Easter. The great gift of the Eucharist is that it is not merely a story remembered over a few sacred days. At every Mass, we encounter the reality itself: we offer ourselves to God alongside Christ, truly present in our midst. How wonderful it would be to see our pews full every week—because people have truly encountered the living Lord in the Eucharist! For more information and regular updates, please register on the website: eucharist28.org

"We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!"
— Pope Saint John Paul II



Diocesan Art Prize

This year's theme is *The Face of Compassion*.



Compassion lies at the heart of the Gospel and the mission of the Church. It is seen in Christ's encounters with the vulnerable, outcast, and broken, and it continues to be lived out in the Church today.

Categories: 0-7 years, 8-12 years, 13-17 years, 18+ years, and group. People's choice awards will also be given at each exhibition.



Scan to learn more
lismorediocese.org/artprize



The Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office is contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss options you have available to you.

To contact the Safeguarding Office, please phone (02) 6621944 or email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (32)**

**Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Lord, we are open to all that you say,
Ready to listen and follow your way,
You are the potter and we are the clay.
Alleluia!**

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.



	<p>Interest Rate - 3.65% For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516</p>
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