

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

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

Principal: Mr. Jason Clarke

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD YEAR A | 17 MAY 2026



Mountain Top of Christ's Ascension

When I was a boy, Sir Edmund Hillary came to speak at my school. I can remember the fuss surrounding the visit of the first person to scale Mt Everest. And though there is now a school of thought that holds that he was beaten to the summit by Tenzing Norgay, his Tibetan colleague, there was an aura around this New Zealander who had been to the top of the world. Some of my usually dour teachers were in awe of Sir Edmund. There was more than a little hero worship going on that day. Rather surprisingly in his address Sir Edmund did not say very much about his adventure to the peak. He was much more interested in what we do to each other on the plains than what he did on the mountain top. He spoke about justice, peace and the dignity of humanity. I can vividly remember him sending us out at the end of his speech to create a better world for all people everywhere. When questions came, there were several about whether he felt closer to God at the top of Mt Everest, and although he said he did, he mentioned there were life and death moments on the way up and down, where God's presence and companionship were much more real to him. Hillary's visit to my school is not far from what happened to the disciples in today's Gospel. Matthew tells us that the eleven men who worshipped Jesus were commissioned by him to go out to the world and they were promised that he would stay with them until the end of time. Worship is a word Catholics don't use all that often. While other denominations describe their liturgy as 'worship', we tend to use it only in a more secular way like in 'hero worship' or 'not an altar at which I worship'. The concept behind this word, however, is an important one. To worship God is to admit that we are not God. We are creatures and our worship is directed toward our Creator, Saviour and Sustainer. Whether we realise it or not we are commissioned to go out to the world at the end of every liturgy, 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.' This changes our worship. We are not here just for ourselves. Mass, which comes from a word meaning 'to be sent', indicates that our liturgy is about celebrating what God has done in the world in and through us, and is a preparation for what God still wants to accomplish. Finally, we continue to experience the abiding presence of Christ in our daily lives or else we wouldn't be here. God, as revealed in Jesus Christ, is not distant to our lives or impervious to our needs; we believe in a Companion-God who seeks our company as much as we need his. Let's thank God for the mountain top of Christ's Ascension that lifts us up out of our everyday life to celebrate that we are creatures, not the Creator. Let us hear again Christ's call to each of us to move away from the complacency of a spiritual cafeteria to a church moving out to change the world. And let's rejoice in Christ's presence which abides before us, behind us, over and in us, within and without, now and forever.

@Richard Leonard SJ

This week in the Parish



MAY	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
Sunday 17	9:00 am - Mass Sacred Heart
Monday 18	Parish Office Closed
Tuesday 19	NO MASS TODAY 1:00 pm - Scripture Group Parish Office
Wednesday 20	NO MASS TODAY
Thursday 21	NO MASS TODAY
Friday 22	NO MASS TODAY
Saturday 23	9:00 am - Rosary 5:30 pm - Rosary 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass Sacred Heart
Sunday 24	PENTECOST SUNDAY 8:30 am - Rosary 9:00 am - Mass Sacred Heart 10:00 am - Pentecost BBQ

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
WEDNESDAY WORD Copies of Wednesday Word, are available in the Church.
BAPTISM Sunday 24 May 10:15 am

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Cheryl Ann Franks, Andrew Holstein.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Joe Johnson.

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.

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:

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mt28:16-20

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13; Jn 20: 19-23

READER ROSTER :

23 & 24/5: Grace Molloy | Mary-Ann Thackray
30 & 31/5: TBA | Beth Gorton

ROSARY STATUE

17/5: Susan Kean | 24/5: Evelyn Cook

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

24/5: Jenny & Ros | 31/5: Jenny & Jan

ALTER SERVING ROSTER

23/5: Leah Gorton & Meadow Chapman
24/5: Bailey Clarkson

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)



St Joseph's Parish
Tweed Heads

**Weekday
Mass Times
Tweed Heads**

Monday - Friday 9:00am

Ascension Day of Jesus Christ

May the Ascension of our Lord remind you
that Heaven is our true home.
Have a blessed day!



PENTECOST SUNDAY BREAKFAST

RISE AND SHINE ON
24 MAY 2026

Breakfast after Mass
College Canteen/ Basement



DATE CHANGE!

**TOP END
Youth**

22 MAY 5pm-7pm @ Learning Hub
Mt St Patrick College
Murwillumbah

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP 3RD WEDNESDAY MONTH

May Morning Tea
Wed 20 May | 10:00 am

Murwillumbah Services Club

Enquiries:
Stewart Marshall
0435 036 038

ALL MEN ARE WELCOME

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 in groups called Circles. We share a meal and often listen to a guest speaker. Why not come along to one of our meetings - it might be just what you need! Your first dinner is on us. No pressure to join if it's not for you.

Venue: South Tweed Sports Club

Thursday 21 May | 5:50pm

Contact: Bernard Nolan:

0419 023 108 | 02 6672 3733

Chris Gallagher : 0428 416 288



LIMITED ACCESS TO SACRED HEART CHURCH

AND FRONT ENTRY TO PARISH HALL

**From 6am Friday 22 May
to 6am Tuesday 26 May 2026.**

Please note date change due to weather.

Access to the Church will be
VIA THE SIDE DOORS ONLY

During the above dates whilst some final remediation work is completed in the area outside the front doors of the Church and the entry to the Hall. These areas will be cordoned off for your safety.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Queries or concerns, contact Mary-Ann in the Parish Office.

SAFEGUARDING YOUR CHILDREN

Would parents please keep their children **supervised at all times** in the church and surrounding grounds - including taking them to the bathroom. For their safety, please ensure you can always see them while on Parish grounds.



Choir Practise

Choir practise to be held 1st and 3rd
Thursdays of each month at 6pm in the
church.

All are welcome



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

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (46)

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy, a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

See how salvation for all has been won,
Up from the grave our new life has begun,
Life now perfected in Jesus, the Son:
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.

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 be also be given at each exhibition.



Scan to learn more
lismorediocese.org/artprize



THE 54TH INTERNATIONAL
**EUCCHARISTIC
CONGRESS 2028**
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Keep up to date on all the news for the 54th International Eucharistic Congress 2028 through the following link;

PLEASE NOTE...

We take this opportunity to remind everyone that at *The Sign of Peace* some members of the congregation might be more comfortable with a smile or a wave rather than a handshake.

A reminder as we head into cold and flu season to those who are kneeling and/or receiving *Communion* on the tongue to please wait until the end of the Communion line.



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



On Tuesday evening 12 May, Bishop Greg Homeming delivered a homily at an ecumenical worship service at the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel in Sydney, as part of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference May plenary program.

In it, Bishop Greg called for "love and God" in a world of madness:

“We are at a time in the world where we could all say with him ‘madness, madness’. You don’t have to look very far. It is everywhere. Anyone who can think ‘I can make peace by bombing people until they’re totally obliterated’ – that is absolute madness. We are called to experience the darkness and in that darkness be light. And what does that mean for us? We gather together this evening because we all have one thing in common – we have Jesus Christ and he’s the light that has come into the darkness. I think at this time more than ever this is something which we must take to heart because in the midst of a world full of madness there are only two possibilities given to us. The first is we must look to God, and for us that means look to Jesus Christ to walk with him and stand with him. And the other thing which madness calls forth through us is love. Two things: God and love.”

You can read the full article on the [Diocese of Lismore website](#).



2026 Diocesan Art Prize

Following the success of the 2025 Jubilee Art Prize, the Diocese of Lismore is pleased to announce the [2026 Diocesan Art Prize](#).

Bishop Greg Homeming OCD has announced this year's theme as "*The face of compassion.*" Compassion is seen in Christ's encounters with the vulnerable, outcast, and broken, and it continues to be lived out in the Church today. This theme provides artists with the opportunity to recognise the heart of the Church.

Categories

The Diocesan Art Prize is open to artists of all ages and backgrounds who are parishioners within the Diocese of Lismore. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories:

- 0-7 years
- 8-12 years
- 13-17 years
- 18+ years
- Group prize
- People's Choice Awards (awarded at the three local exhibitions and the final exhibition)

How to enter

Entries must be submitted through the [Diocesan Art Prize webpage](#) on the Diocesan website. Before submitting, please read the [terms and conditions](#).

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