

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@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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
2 AUGUST 2026 | YEAR A

Paul's purple passages

The widely acclaimed Jesuit Scripture scholar, Nicholas King, has produced a wonderful translation of the scriptures, striving to present the message in a form of colloquial English, designed to reflect the way the authors would have spoken in their own time. For example, Archbishop Desmond Tutu described "a splendid piece of work" that "hits you between the eyes." Nicholas also adds his own commentary and, when I glanced to see what he said about the readings for the 18th Sunday of the Year, I was fascinated to find the following comments. He spoke of "this lovely passage" from Isaiah, of Paul's "purple passage" and of "this charming story" in Matthew. The fact that many scripture passages become very familiar may mean that, in time, we fail to notice just what "lovely" or "purple" passages they are and therefore fail to be "charmed" or moved by the message they are conveying. Like all the prophets, Isaiah often feels the need to warn us of the dangers that can lead us astray, but by the same token, he also sees beyond, to how God always wants the best for us and that the best is accessible.

The "lovely" picture of God wanting to quench our thirst and satisfy our hunger is part of that unfolding narrative in the scriptures which sees the Kingdom of God in terms of a great banquet. It links us to the underlying message of this week's gospel – the 'Feeding of the Five Thousand' – which, in turn, points us to that banquet which we have in the gift of the Eucharist. And notice how Jesus uses the occasion of the feeding as a lesson for the apostles and for us, that we are called to be the providers. The instinct of the apostles was that this was all too much for them and that the people should be sent away to find food for themselves, but, of course, the Eucharist will become the ultimate sign and reminder that this is how we are to look after one another and be united through Christ with our Father in Heaven. Finally, notice how Paul presents us with one of his many purple passages. There are times when Paul seems to be a very hard taskmaster. Often, he seems to be weighed down with his struggles and even irritated with the lack of response from some of the early Christian communities.

In chapter eight of his letter to the Romans he does indeed wrestle with the huge challenge of a disordered world, but has no problem in concluding that ultimately Christ will triumph over every problem that presents itself: "neither death nor life, nor angels or rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

May we have the confidence and the courage to go forth and proclaim that message to our troubled world.

Timothy Buckley CSsR @ Majellan Media 2026

This week in the Parish

AUGUST

Sunday 2

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 am - Mass | **Sacred Heart**

10:00 am - Parish Cuppa

Monday 3

Parish Office Closed

Tuesday 4

8:00 am - Mass | **Sacred Heart**

1:00 pm - Scripture Group | Parish Office

Wednesday 5

9:00 am - Mass | **OLPS**

Thursday 6

8:00 am - Mass | **Sacred Heart**

Friday 7

6:00 am - All Day Adoration

9:00 am - Legion of Mary | Meeting Centre

12:30 pm - Mass | **Sacred Heart**

Saturday 8

9:00 am - Rosary

5:30 pm - Rosary

6:00 pm - Vigil Mass | **Sacred Heart**

Sunday 9

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:30 am - Rosary

9:00 am - Mass | **Sacred Heart**

10:00 am - Baptism

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.

Also half an hour before each weekend Mass

WEDNESDAY WORD

Copies of Wednesday Word, are available in the Church.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED

SACRAMENT

Friday 7 August

6am - 6pm

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

GROUP

Tuesday & Thursday

6:50 am

Sacred Heart Church

(Not held when there is no weekday Mass)

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Lorraine McDonald, Kathleen Gallagher (Chris Gallagher's Mother) Maria Annecca, Joan Nolan (Bernard Nolan's Mother)

THOSE WHO ARE SICK:

John Reynolds, Max Harris, Lorraine Grennan, Vera Albertini, Terry Bryant, Judith Jackson-Hope, Anthony Rodighiero, Kath Dawson-Malone, 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

READINGS FOR TODAY AND NEXT WEEK:

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 55:1-3; Rom 8:35, 37-39; Mt 14:13-21

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 Kgs 19: 9, 11-13; Rom 9: 1-5; Mt 14: 22-33

READER ROSTER :

8 & 9/8: Mike Brennan | Jan Bruce

15 & 16/8: Barbara Grant | Christine O'Brien

ALTAR SERVING ROSTER

8/8: Yasmin & Milania | 9/8: Nadia & Bonnie

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

9/8: Donna & Ros | 16/8 Jenny & Jan

ROSARY STATUE

2/8: Christine Stratigos | 9/8: Lisa Dusi-Fox

SAVE THE DATE

Legion of Mary

Bus trip to Marian Valley

5 September 2026

More information to follow closer to the date.



All young people across the Diocese are invited to join us for the launch of Catholic Youth Lismore. Come and celebrate this exciting new chapter in youth ministry as we gather for Mass, hear about the vision for Catholic Youth Lismore, receive exciting announcements about upcoming opportunities, and enjoy a meal together. The Gathering will be held at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 2 Fourth Ave, Sawtell, NSW 2452 on Saturday 12th September at 11:30am - 2:30pm

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal will take place in our Parish on weekend 15/16 August

A sudden crisis, unaffordable rentals, domestic violence, reduced working hours are just some of the things that can force people into poverty & homelessness.

The St Vincent de Paul Society, through its Conferences, was founded to respond with Jesus' love to the needs of the vulnerable, poor & marginalised.

Please, can you support our Murwillumbah Conference through prayer and, if possible, through a financial contribution?
A few envelopes are usually available near the Church entrance,
but on **15/16 August** we will conduct our **annual winter appeal**.
Very grateful thanks for your previous generosity.

GENTLE REMINDER

As winter and cold & flu season continue, we gently remind those who are kneeling and/or receiving *Communion* on the tongue to please wait until the end of the Communion line.

Thank you for your consideration of others in our parish community.

≡ *We are* ≡

HIRING

**ST JOSEPH'S
TWEED
HEADS**

Parish Secretary Position

- Located in Tweed Heads
- Supporting St Joseph's Parish
- Permanent, part time role
- Work hours negotiable with family friendly options.

For full job description and to apply go to **SEEK.COM**



SUNDAY CUPPA

JOIN US AFTER
MASS
2 AUGUST 2026

NATIONAL VOCATIONS WEEK 2 - 9 AUGUST

Is God calling you?

Are you ready, to say, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening," and to begin listening to know if God may be calling you to be a priest, deacon or religious?

To begin that journey of discernment contact the
Director of Vocations Lismore

E vocations@lismore.catholic.org.au

M +61 0494 656 854 | P 02 6621 9444



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

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (144)

The hand of the Lord feeds us: He answers all our needs.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

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 (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.

Liturgy & Lector Formation

SAVE THE DATE | SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

In collaboration with Kingscliff and Tweed Heads Parishes, we are extremely fortunate to have Dr Clare Schwantes, Director of Liturgy Brisbane and Chair of the National Liturgical Council, and Mr Michael Mangan, Chair of the Australian Pastoral Musicians Network, and liturgist, for a morning of Liturgical Formation.

This will include:

Foundational liturgical principles, which will greatly benefit all liturgical ministers, no matter their role.

Formation specific to the role of Lector (Reader)

Where: St Anthony's Church Kingscliff

When: Saturday 12 September

Time: 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Morning tea provided.



Interest Rate - 4.15% eff 1/8/2026

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