

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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
16 AUGUST 2026 | YEAR A

A woman of great faith

Boundaries – geographical, cultural, religious and gender – are crossed in today's gospel. In fact, it's one of the few stories in Matthew's Gospel that takes place outside Jewish territory. Matthew understands the ministry of Jesus being directed firstly to the house of Israel. Only when the good news of the Kingdom of God has been offered to them, will it be offered to "all nations". (Matt 28:19) Jesus enters the pagan regions of Tyre and Sidon. Both towns were located on the coast north of Israel, and were historically hostile to the Israelites. It's here, in foreign territory, that Jesus is boldly confronted by a Canaanite woman; a descendant of one of Israel's ancient enemies. She symbolises all those who are regarded as 'unclean' by Jesus' own people. As a mother, she is 'beside herself' with worry and fear for her precious daughter, whom she says is "tormented by a demon". There is no doubt that they would have been subjected to exclusion, suspicion and rejection, based on the false understanding of the time, that such an affliction was a result of sin. Despite the fact that she is a woman, and an 'outsider', out of desperation and driven by a strong and unrelenting mother's love for her child in need, she calls out to Jesus, declaring him to be, "Lord, Son of David" – a remarkable confession of faith for a non-Jew. Perhaps surprisingly to us, Jesus initially remains silent; seemingly ignoring the woman and excluding her from his ministry. The disciples are impatient and don't want to get involved with her, and they ask Jesus to "send her away". By way of a further rebuke, Jesus declares that his mission is only to "the house of Israel". But the woman is not deterred. Her daughter's life is at stake, and she draws on deep courage and raw nerve to plead with Jesus a second time: "Lord, help me". Jesus' reply seems insensitive: "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs". This seeming harsh 'put down' of the woman, strengthens her resolve further, and she seizes her opportunity with both hands to challenge Jesus on 'who' are to be the recipients of his ministry. Pet dogs are allowed to eat the crumbs that fall from table, and she is simply asking for one such crumb for her daughter and herself. The Canaanite woman's single-mindedness, tenacity and persistence, lead Jesus to praise her great faith, and heal her daughter. In doing so, Jesus moves into new territory of understanding himself and his mission. He demonstrates who he really is – the Saviour; and he acknowledges their rightful place among the saved. The encounter between Jesus and the Canaanite woman reveals the unconditional and unrestricted mercy of Jesus, the power of faith and the promise of salvation for all who believe.

David J Hore CSsR @ Majellan Media 2026

This week in the Parish

AUGUST

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 16

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

10:15 am - Baptism

11:00 am - Baptism

Monday 17

Parish Office Closed

Tuesday 18

NO MASS TODAY

5:30 pm - **Parish Dinner | RSL**

Wednesday 19

NO MASS TODAY

Thursday 20

NO MASS TODAY

Friday 21

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

8:30 am - First Communion Retreat | **SH**

9:00 am - Legion of Mary | Meeting Centre

Saturday 22

9:00 am - Rosary

5:30 pm - Rosary

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

Sunday 23

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

8:30 am - Rosary

9:00 am - 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 9:00 am.

Also half an hour before each weekend Mass

WEDNESDAY WORD

Copies of Wednesday Word are available in the Church.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP

Tuesday & Thursday

6:50 am

Sacred Heart Church

(Not held when there is no weekday Mass)

SCRIPTURE GROUP

Tuesday 1pm

Parish Office

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ethel Guinea nee Donnelly, Ron McCalman, Paul Taffa, Lorraine McDonald, Kathleen Gallagher.

ANNIVERSARIES: Sr Teresa Joan Fitzgerald, Lindsay Howard-Smith, Joan Kean, David Gorton, William G Dorrough, Dominic Guinea Snr, Teresa Palmer.

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.

READINGS FOR TODAY AND NEXT WEEK:

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 56:1,6-7; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is 22:19-23; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

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)

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.

READER ROSTER :

22 & 23/8: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

29 & 30/8: Marg Mumford | Philly Zambelli

ALTAR SERVING ROSTER

22/8: Ted & Scarlett | 23/8: Bonnie & Nadia

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

23/8: No Children's Lit | 30/8: Jenny & Benice

ROSARY STATUE

16/8: Narelle Gear | 23/8: Philly Zambelli

St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal will take place in our Parish this 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 support our Murwillumbah Conference through prayer and, if possible, through a financial Contribution this weekend **15/16 August** Through our **annual winter appeal**.

Grateful thanks for your generosity.

Diocesan Art Prize



There is still time to submit your entry!

This year's theme is *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.

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.



DIOCESE OF
LISMORE



Scan to learn more
lismorediocese.org/artprize

THE LEGION OF MARY

invites you to

A Bus Trip to the MARIAN VALLEY

A day of faith, fellowship and devotion.

**SATURDAY
5 SEPTEMBER**

A PLACE OF PRAYER

A PLACE OF PEACE

A PLACE OF BEAUTY

OUR BLESSED MOTHER'S loving care covers us always.

A beautiful day to grow in faith, spend time in prayer and enjoy fellowship with our Parish community.

LEAVING MURWILLUMBAH
7:45am
from the front of Sacred Heart Church.
Park in church car park or Murwillumbah Street.

PICKING UP PASSENGERS
Ampol Chinderah
between 8:15am and 8:30am

LEAVING MARIAN VALLEY
3:00pm

BYO LUNCH, DRINKS AND SNACKS
Tea and coffee available at Marian Valley.

COST:
\$15 per person

RSVP BY SUNDAY 23 AUGUST

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST OR RSVP:
EVELYN COOK ☎ 0423 394 622 OR PHILOMENA ZAMBELLI ☎ 0414 201 940

All are welcome! ♥ We look forward to sharing this special day with you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

22 & 23 AUGUST 2026

PARISH DINNER

JOIN US FOR DINNER
MURWILLUMBAH RSL
TUESDAY 18 AUGUST
6PM

TABLES BOOKED
ALL ARE WELCOME

BAPTISM

WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

STELLA GARNER
&
ELLA YEO

BAPTISED 16 AUGUST 2026

Northern Cluster Parish Collaboration

A Reflection Day, was held on Saturday 8th August for the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils of St Anthony's Kingscliff, St Joseph's Tweed Head and Sacred Heart Murwillumbah. The day, facilitated by Brother Bill Sullivan, Marist House of Light Lismore, provided an opportunity for council members to reflect on and nurture their Spiritual Life and how that supports them in their role as council members. It invited all present to make time in their lives for meditation, prayer and reflection; to give thanks at the end of each day for the blessings and the gifts received in their everyday lives, "The Golden Threads". It was a great opportunity for Council Members to meet one another.



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

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (66)
O God, let all the nations praise You!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.
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%

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