

1917 St John's Catholic Parish 2017  
***Centenary***

*'All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be.'* John 1:1-5



*Fr Richard 'Dick' Williams  
First Parish Priest 1917 - 1938*

***Celebrating ...***

**100 years of Catholic Faith  
in the Brunswick Valley**

*Mullumbimby, Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores, Billinudgel  
& surrounding area.*

***"I am here among you as one who serves." Luke 22:2***

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."*  
**Jeremiah 29:11-13**

*"I am the good shepherd, I know my sheep and they know me" John 10:14*

<b>COVER &amp; CONTENTS .....</b>	<b>1 - 2</b>
<b>CENTENARY MESSAGES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>BACKGROUND .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>PRIESTS .....</b>	<b>5 - 11</b>
<b>TRIBUTE TO Fr Bill Mills .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH .....</b>	<b>13 - 16</b>
<b>PARISH Helping hands ... ..</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>ST JOHN'S School Community .....</b>	<b>18 - 19</b>
<b>PARISH LIFE GALLERY .....</b>	<b>20 - 27</b>
<b>PARISH LIFE - SNAPSHOT .....</b>	<b>28- 29</b>
<b>PARISH LIFE - Buildings .....</b>	<b>30 -31</b>
<b>BACK PAGE .....</b>	<b>32</b>

**Parish Centenary Committee Message**

*In planning for this the Centenary of St John's Parish, we acknowledge the foresight of our predecessors in establishing a visible sign of God's presence in the Brunswick Valley.*

*As we journey back in time, we also acknowledge the important role played by the Sisters of St Joseph and the Parish Priests in caring for the education and spiritual needs of the families entrusted to their care.*

*I would like to thank the Centenary Committee and all who contributed in any way towards the Parish celebration. It was truly a team effort.*

Mark Russell  
 Chairperson  
 Centenary Committee 2017



**Acknowledgement:**  
 Special thanks to all those who contributed to the compilation of the Centenary Souvenir Booklet.  
**Editorial Team:**  
 Jenny Tucker, Pam Lang, Viv Pyke, Mark Russell  
**Produced by HEART Publications**  
 abn 70 370 766 283  
 Mark & Lisa Russell



# Centenary Messages

*'We must take things quietly and just do what our Good God enables us, and no more.'* Mary Mackillop 1875



**Bishop Gregory Homeming OCD**  
**Bishop of Lismore**

One hundred years is a momentous anniversary. I doubt that there is anyone with us today who was alive at the blessing of our church; that is of course, no one other than God and the saints.

Put this way, a centenary reminds us of Our Lord's faithfulness and love. The church is His body, and He has given life to this community through the church. In 50 years time another parish community will say the same things. We are members of this church in continuity with the past looking towards the future. We take our place by handing on the faith to the next generation. Let us give thanks to God for the last 100 years and look forward with hope to the gifts of the future.

**Rev Chris Wallace**  
**Parish Pastoral Minister**

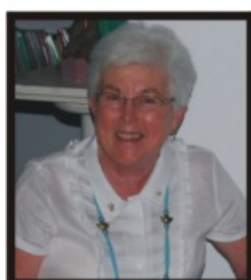


The celebration of any Centenary is a chance for each of us to rejoice in God's wonderful providence over a span of time that, to human beings, is certainly significant. How much more when we are celebrating the first one hundred years of a Parish, whose whole reason for existence is to give glory to God in many and varied ways.

As I consider the work of my predecessors who laboured in the vineyard of our Parish, some long and others for short periods of time, I consider the amount of Grace God has given to the vast numbers of the faithful who have been a part of this wonderful community. "Grace has brought us safe thus far and grace will lead us on" said the old hymn. Certainly, it is for this Grace that we now give thanks.

This Centenary booklet is a small token of all the memories that will be brought to mind by this milestone. I thank the Centenary Committee and those involved in the booklets compilation and production which has given us a 'keepsake' to treasure into the future, as it reminds us of the past.

Through good times and bad, with happy and sad memories, the parishioners of St John's have run the race and kept the faith over the past one hundred years. We pray for those who have gone before us and we pray also for ourselves as we follow in their footsteps, that we will continue to be a beacon of truth, hope and love for our local community, in the years ahead. May we wholeheartedly engage with this commemoration and give thanks to God for His blessings upon us.



**Sr Maureen McDermott rsj**  
**Parish Pastoral Associate 2010 - 2016**

It is with joy and gratitude that I congratulate the dedicated and faith filled people of the Brunswick Valley as the Centenary of St John's Parish is celebrated. The kindness, love, generosity and commitment of the

Parishioners are treasures that were shared with me during the time I was privileged to minister among you; treasures that continue to hold a special place in my heart. My prayer for you is that you will know even more the depths and wonders of God's love for and faithfulness towards you as you journey into the future. Congratulations on a wonderful and inspirational one hundred years. In the words of Mary MacKillop, "We have cause to be grateful for God has done much for us." (1890)



**Tim Bleakley Principal**  
**St John's Primary School**

St John's Catholic Primary School is an integral part of the St John's Parish. The school serves the communities of Mullumbimby, Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores and surrounding villages.

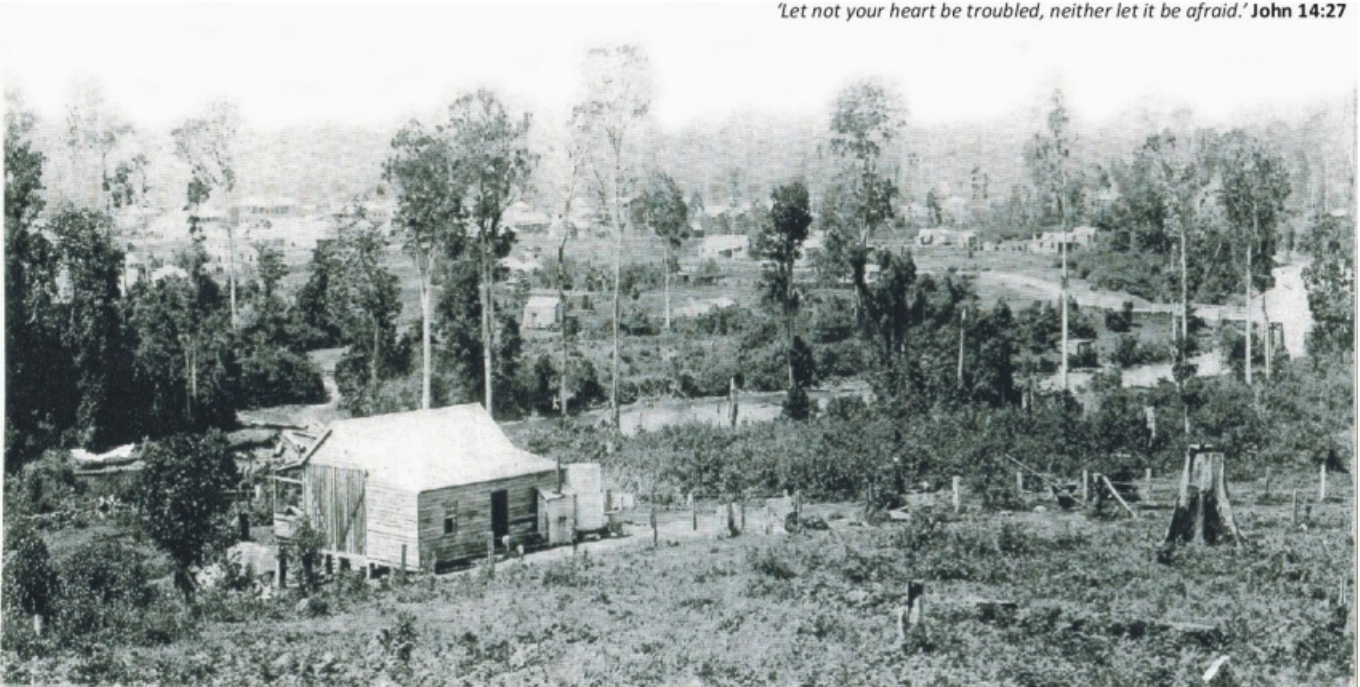
St John's is very proud of its long history and outstanding reputation as a school of quality teaching and learning. Great importance is placed on the role of evangelisation through faith filled experiences and a prayerful school environment to enable children to develop a closer relationship with Jesus.

The school continues to grow in numbers and has excellent resources to promote contemporary learning for all students. The beautiful school grounds provide an exciting, safe and stimulating space for learning and leisure.

Many St John's students continue their Catholic educational journey in High School at Mount St Patrick Murwillumbah or Xavier College Ballina. I am excited by the challenge of continuing to build closer links between the school and parish community. The experience of families enrolling their children at St John's can be a reconnection with their faith or for others it may be the beginning of a lifelong relationship with the church. We are blessed to be in the privileged position of working in partnership with families to guide the development of our students. I would like to thank all parishioners for the constant support they have offered the school. Without this support over the past one hundred years we would not continue to grow and prosper. Congratulations to the hard working team who have made this celebration possible and given their time generously to ensure the St John's Parish builds on its strength to go forward for the next one hundred years.

# BACKGROUND ... the early days.

*'Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.'* John 14:27



*Looking towards Mullumbimby township (early 1900s) across the land donated to the Parish.*

## The Early Days (1900's)

In the early days of Mullumbimby, settlers dotted the green countryside with their dairy farms and banana plantations beneath the shadow of a mountain called Chincogan. There were no resident priests and the Eucharist was celebrated in a room at the Railway Hotel by a visiting priest. Prior to 1917 St John's Parish was part of Bangalow Parish.

In 1910 a cottage near the Railway Station was acquired for a convent and the first community of 3 Sisters of St Joseph arrived to teach 28 children in a room adjoining the new brick church. A new wooden convent was built on the hill above the church about 1911, and the Sisters moved in. Unfortunately, the whole convent was burnt down and the Sisters had to reside at Mr Gerald O'Conner's home for some days.

Mr Dan Buckley gave his house and three blocks for the present convent until on April 18, 1920 Rev Monsignor McGuire V.G. laid the foundation stone of the new brick convent. This was built by Fr McEvoy while Fr Williams, the Parish Priest, was on leave in Ireland.

There was no bridge across the Brunswick River and Mass times had to coincide with the tide so the people could get across on foot or in their buggies.

The School opened in 1910, and the new Convent and Presbytery erected and opened in 1920. All the buildings were brick and were positioned in the picturesque surroundings overlooking the magnificent Brunswick River. The School, Convent and Presbytery were constructed under the direction of Rev Richard (Dick) Williams, (1917) the first Parish Priest of St John's Parish Mullumbimby.



*Re enactment by John Mills of the river crossing at low tide near Federation Bridge*

The foundation stone of the Catholic Church, Mullumbimby was laid on May 13, 1906, by the late Bishop Doyle. At this particular period Dean Welsh was in charge of the district.



*Looking across Federation Bridge to St John's Parish with Mt Chincogan in background circa 1920's*



*Mullumbimby main street early 1900's*

# PRIESTS TIMELINE 1917 - 2017 ...

'In God alone I trust.' Mary Mackillop1874



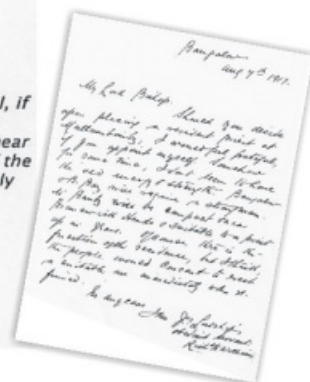
Bangalow  
Aug 7<sup>th</sup> 1917

My Lord Bishop

Should you decide upon placing a resident priest at Mullumbimby, I would feel grateful, if you appoint myself. Somehow, for some time, I don't seem to have the old energy & strength. Bangalow & B Bay will require a strong man. M'Bimby will be compact and near Brunswick Heads & suitable to a priest up in years. Of course, there is the question of the residence, but I think the people would consent to erect a suitable (house?) immediately when (?)

In any case  
Your Lordship's obedient servant  
Rich H Williams

PS What about masses in M'Bimby & B following retreat Sunday?



## 1917 - 1938 Fr Richard (Dick) H Williams - First Parish Priest.



Fr Richard (Dick) H Williams (left) 1938.

### Assisting Fr Williams

1920 - 1921 Fr Francis McEvoy

1924 - 1926 Fr Charles Smith

1926 - 1929 Fr William Nichol

1929 - 1931 Fr Patrick O'Mahony

1931 - 1935 Fr Raymond Smith

1936 - 1938 Fr Thomas McEvoy



## Pioneer Priest, Aged 80, Dies In Retirement

A pioneer and respected priest of the Lismore diocese, the Rev. Father R. H. Williams, died at Neutral Bay, in retirement on Wednesday, May 20, at the age of 80 years.

Father Williams was born at Rathmines, Dublin (Ireland), in August 80 years ago. He was educated at Blackrock College, and then went to St. Sulpice College, Paris, and from there was selected to continue his studies at Rome, where he attended the Gregorian Seminary. In September, 1885, he was ordained in Paris by his Grace Archbishop Leroy, in the Church of the Holy Ghost, and he then returned to Dublin and was appointed professor of Summerhill College, West Ireland, and after about nine years went to Armagh College. Father Williams came to New South Wales about 38 years ago, and was appointed to the Lismore diocese, where he worked in different parishes until selected as the first pastor of Mullumbimby.

The affection in which Father Williams was held by the parishioners of Mullumbimby was manifest on the occasion of his retirement from that parish in October, 1938, when he was entertained by priests and people, and presented with a wallet of notes and a chalice.

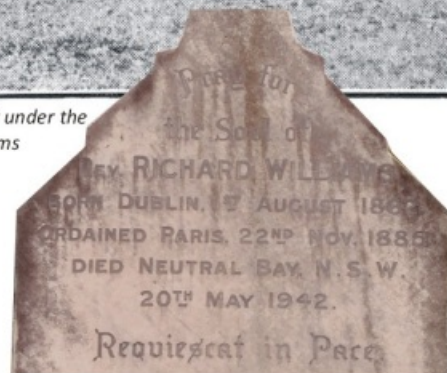
For the past year Father Williams had not enjoyed good health, and during his last illness was attended by the priests of St. Joseph's, Neutral Bay, when the Rev. Father P. J. Brennan administered the last rites of the Church.

A Solemn Office was chanted and Requiem Mass celebrated for the repose of the soul of Father Williams in St. Joseph's Church, Neutral Bay, on Friday last at 10 o'clock. The Right Rev. Monsignor E. O'Brien, P.P., was celebrant of the Mass, with the Very Rev. Father F. King, C.M., deacon, and the Rev. Father R. O'Mara, S.J., sub-deacon. The cantors were the Rev. Fathers J. F. Byrne, H. Boland and T. O'Neill, with the Rev. Father Brennan as master of ceremonies.

An inspiring panegyric was preached at the close of the Mass by the Provincial of the Vincentian Fathers, the Very Rev. Father R. Macken, C.M., who paid a graceful tribute to the labors of Father Williams during his years in Ireland and his missionary life in the Lismore diocese.



Parish buildings built under the direction of Fr Williams



## Dog Stays By Death-Bed — Refuses Food, Dies

When the Rev. Father Williams died in retirement at the age of 80 years last week (see page 8) his constant companion, a lively little Irish terrier named Paddy, crawled underneath his master's bed and refused to be comforted.

For five days he touched neither food nor drink and resisted every temptation to come out.

On Tuesday morning, still lying under the bed, Paddy died.

In life, Father Williams and the dog were inseparable.

If the priest could not take Paddy with him, the faithful animal would remain by the gate until his master's return.

As Father Williams' health be-

gan to fail, the little terrier became morose, and when the priest was compelled to remain in bed, Paddy stayed beside him.

When death finally came, Paddy crept quietly under the bed and remained there. He would not leave, even for the funeral.

He died of starvation on Monday night alongside a choice dish of meat and biscuits and a bowl of water.

# PRIESTS TIMELINE 1917 - 2017 ...

'Feed My Sheep'. John 21:16



Fr Adrian Curran Administrator 1938-40



Fr Thomas McEvoy in Brunswick Heads - circa 1936-38s



Fr George Cranney Administrator 1941-42



Fr Tom O'Byrne (left) circa 1942-1971

1938 - 1940 Fr Adrian Curran - Administrator

1941 Fr George Granney - Administrator

1942 - 1971 Fr Thomas O'Byrne PP

1957 Fr Eamon Leonard

1964 Fr James Anthony Hoade

1967 - 1970 Fr Francis Devoy (Curate)

1971 Fr J Naylor



Fr Laurie Smith from Woodlawn who helped with Masses in the 1950's



Fr Tom O'Byrne (middle) Bishop Farrelly (left) Bishop Satterthwaite (right)

# PRIESTS TIMELINE 1917 - 2017 ...

'Gratitude is the memory of the heart.' **Mary Mackillop 1907**



Fr. Tom O'Byrne going turkey shooting with Phonse O'Neill (L) and Vince Walker.

**1971 - 1976 Fr John Roger PP**

**1973 - 1974 Fr W Murphy, Fr Stephen Nolan**



Fr John Roger 1971 - 1976



Fr John Naylor Administrator 1971



Fr Tom O'Byrne feeding his cows!



Fr Tom O'Byrne (front centre) circa 1923

**1971 Fr John Naylor (Administrator)**

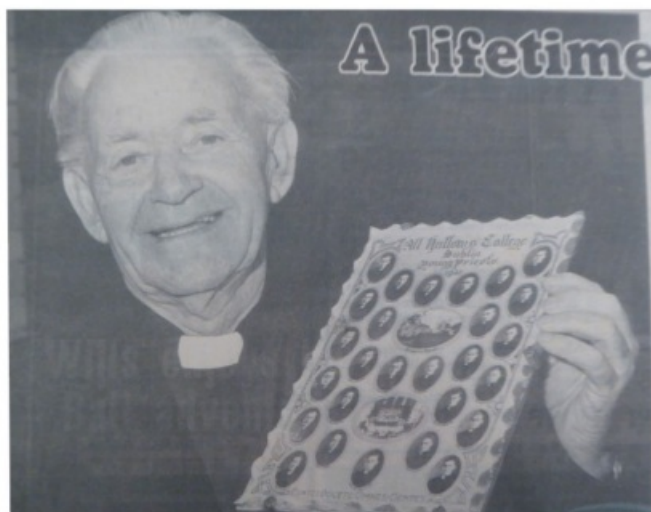
**1973 Fr Stephen Nolan**

**1975 - 1976 Fr Vince Doyle (Locum Tenens)**

**1976 - 1982 Fr Dennis Mullins PP**



Fr Dennis Mullins 1976 - 1982



Fr Dennis Mullins 1976 - 1982

# PRIESTS TIMELINE 1917 - 2017 ...

*'Blessed are those who have not seen him, and yet believe.'* John 20:29

1982 - 1999 Fr Tony Hoade PP



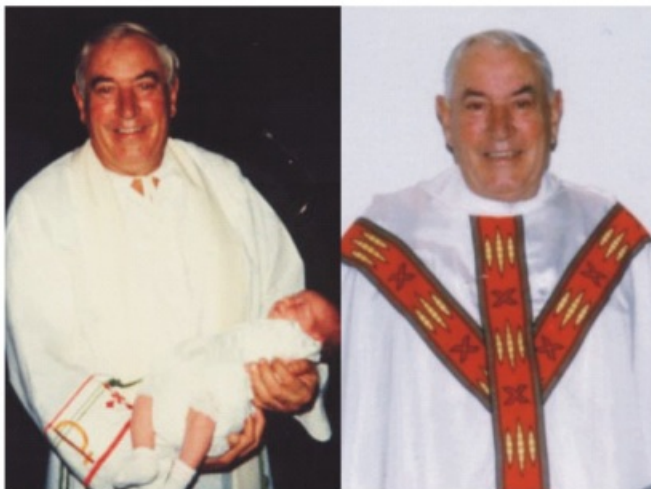
*Fr Tony Hoade circa 1964*



*At his Jubilee Mass St Carthages Cathedral Lismore 2004*



*Cutting the cake with the First Communion children*



*Celebrating a Baptism circa 1986*



*Celebrating Mass at St John's Mullumbimby*



*A Patron of the Mullumbimby Giants Rugby League Football Club  
2017 Centenary Souvenir Booklet p 8*



*Admiring the Devereaux stained glass window in the Multi Purpose Centre in 1993*



# PRIESTS TIMELINE 1917 - 2017 ...

*'I have come that you might have life and have it to the full' John 10:10*

**1999 - 2008** Fr David Gilbey PP



*Fr David Gilbey 2008*



*Fr David's creative work at St John's Church*



*At the World Youth Day Cross Service Byron Bay 2007*



*With Uniting Church Minister & Meals on Wheels staff*



*Celebrating final Mass at Billinudgel Church*



*With Carolyn Storey at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.*



*Thank you Fr David !*

# PRIESTS TIMELINE 1917 - 2017 ...

*'Do not let your hearts be troubled.  
Trust in God; trust also in me.'* John 14:1

## 2008 - 2014 Fr Anthony Lemon PP

Twinned Parishes of St John's Parish & Holy Spirit Parish.



Fr Anthony Lemon



At Brunswick Heads Church



Reading to a little one



L to R Silvana Smith, Fr Anthony, Kerry Scanlon, Pat Gadowski  
at the School Centenary 2010



With Parish youth at his 50th



With Fr Felix, India (WYD08) return visit to Parish



Mixing with the school students at St John's Primary



Parishioners blessing 'at his farewell' Our Lady of Lourdes Church



Celebrating Mass at Brunswick Heads Church  
with Fr Bill Mills & Fr John Fitzwalter

# PRIESTS TIMELINE 1917 - 2017 ...

*'Go on then, all of you, faithfully in your duties-go on.'* Mary Mackillop1875

## Assistance given during Twinned Parish era ... 2008 - 14



Fr John, Anthony & Bill Mills



Fr Bill, Anthony & John



Fr John & Fr Bill



Fr Colin Reinhard



Fr John Fitzwalter



Fr Colin, John & Sr Maureen

## Sept 2014 - April 2017

Fr Lyall Cowell - Administrator



Fr Lyall



Our Lady of Lourdes Brunswick Heads wedding ceremony

## April 2017

Deacon Chris Wallace - Parish Pastoral Minister



Deacon Chris with Fr David Gilbey



Deacon Chris Wallace

A tribute to our local Priest...

# Fr Bill Mills

9 September 1929 - 26 March 2017



Fr Bill Mills (circled) with class mates in his Class Photo 1936

*'Love One Another as I Have Loved You'. John 13.34*

Fr Bill's childhood was spent on the family dairy farm in Main Arm. In the early days of his life, church and school played a very big part in Fr Bill's formation and training. Of those days, Fr Bill wrote that above all he remembered the kind and compassionate Sisters of St Joseph who had a calming and soothing influence throughout his years of schooling. After primary school Fr Bill moved onto the strict discipline of seminary life. The story goes that Fr. O'Byrne was doing the rounds when he called in on Fr Bill's parents, Bill and Lizzie Mills. He stridently announced that with nine boys that one should go to the seminary. Fr Bill used to add to the story that his dad said to Fr. O'Byrne, 'you can have Bill he can't milk'. Fr Bill remains the only parishioner of St John's to have been ordained a priest. Fr Bill was so very good to St John's Parish. He had a love of both churches and enjoyed saying Mass at Brunswick Heads and Mullumbimby. Fr Bill would always reinforce the need for the people to be responsible for making the parish work. On the Saturday before he died he said that he wanted to say just one more Mass at St John's – and how we would have loved that.



2017 Centenary Souvenir Booklet p 12

He was a wonderful reflector on life who kept up to date with emerging theology. Fr Bill generously and with ongoing dedication shared his gift of being able to speak the word of God in a way that stretched the hearer, inspiring him/her to go deeper.

Fr Bill took a very special interest in our Aged Care facility, Coolamon Villa. He said a monthly Mass for residents and all were most welcome at these Masses. Many not of our faith attended because he was committed to sharing the love of God with everyone and also committed to anointing the elderly, frail and sick. Fr Bill was real and related to people in their real situations – he met the people where they were.

*'You have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.'* John 15:16



At his Ordination 1956 with parents Elizabeth & William

Over 60 years of priesthood Fr Bill was often the person who shared a word or a gesture that became the turning point for another person's life. He radiated the love of God because he was friends with God in a most intimate way.

Fr Bill lived the resurrection of Jesus and he preached a Risen, gentle, hope filled Christ to all whom he met, loved and served. Fr Bill always said that we die to many things in our lives, we can often be entombed and our lives in despair, which is really a measure of our distance from God. Then God loves us back into life and resurrection.

*(We thank Fr Anthony for the extracts taken from his homily given at Fr Bill's Requiem Mass)*



Fr Bill Mills (circled) Fr John Roger & Fr Tom O'Byrne with the First Communion children 1956





## Sisters of St Joseph

The Sisters of St Joseph, have had a long association with St John's Parish.

This association and the sisters' commitment to catholic education began in 1910 when Sr Malachi Reardon started classes in a small room attached to the church building. Since that time there has been a long succession of Sisters of St Joseph appointed to the school and parish.

In 2016 the Parish said goodbye to the Sisters when Sr. Maureen McDermott, our Pastoral Associate, left the Parish to work in western NSW where the need was great. We give thanks for the presence of the sisters over a period of 106 years. We appreciate the witness and challenge these dedicated women have given us to live the Gospel in our everyday encounters.

*'God's will and glory and in these, the good of our Australian children, is alone what we seek.'*

**Mary MacKillop 1873**



*This photo is believed to be of the community of sisters residing at the Convent in 1938. Srs Cuthbert Bagshaw, Patricia Burford, Francis Paul Mc Laughlin, Marcellin Maloney & Theodore Hansen.*



*Sister Athanasius 1952 - 1956*



*Sr Margaret (Ellen Keane) Sr Carthage 1959*

### 1910 - 1923

Srs Malachi Reardon, Carmel Moore, Vincent Pound, Oda Groves, Edna Purcell, Dominic O'Grady, Julitta Condon

### 1924 - 1935

Srs Bega Fitzgerald, Clare Walsh, Julitta Condon, Leonardine Jackson, Columbiere Scanlan, Avellino Pola, Remigius Fitzgerald, Patricia Josephine McEnery, Genevieve Flood, Marcellin Moloney

### 1936 - 1951

Srs Cuthbert Bagshaw, Virgilius McCarthy, Cecilia Agnes Hogan, Pauline Page, Julitta Condon, Marcellin Moloney, Patricia Burford, Francis Paul McLaughlin, Theodore Hansen, Maureen Warnes, Josephine Cahill, Teresa Noon, Cecilia Rose, Candice Coughlan, Aelred Callaghan, Thecla Sullivan, Anne Ryan

### 1952 - 1959

Srs Beatrice Evans, Alphonse Caulfield, Teresa (Althanasius) Mitchell, Thecla Sullivan, Josephine Dunn, Margaret Casey (Martin de Porres), Edward Haggerty, Macartin O'Toole, Eustace Byrne, Ellen (Teresa Margaret) Keane, Mildred Heriot, Josephine Byrne, Miriam Gittins, Sylvester Geraghty, Carthage Kelly, Theresa (Francesca) Conroy



# Sisters of St Joseph

## 1960 - 1963

Srs Sylvester Geraghty, Catherine (Ignatius) Smith, Margaret (Feargal) Lambert, Theresa (Francesca) Conroy, Ellen (Teresa Margaret) Keane, Carthage Kelly, Catherine (Loreto) Histon, Josephine Byrne, Helena Delaney, Maria Goretti Wheatley, Valerie (Frances Mary) Mason

## 1964 - 1968

Srs Clotilde Evans, Catherine (Ignatius) Smith, Josephine Byrne, Carthage Kelly, Guiseppi Walsh, Valerie (Frances Mary) Mason, Bernadette Stephens, Mary (Salome) Quinlan, Ethel (Anne Elizabeth) Daniels, Gabriel Buckley, Marguerita Shuetrim, Imelda Clancy, Claire Dawson, Mary (Zita) Cooney, Eilish (Postulant), Patricia (Celestine) O'Neill, Eileen Patricia (Bernard) Cashman, Carmel (Canisius) Channon

## 1969 - 1977

Srs Madeleine Carroll, Agnes Cecilia Boyle, Patricia Burford, Carthage Kelly, Eileen P Cashman, Carmel (Canisius) Channon, Therese Conroy, Mary Cooney, Anne-Maree (Bertrand) Rosenberg, Marcia Holland, Marie Louise Attard, Teresa Norbert Ireland, Raymund McAlpine, Coral Anne Flemming, Margaret Harnett, Janice Baker, Rosita Kiss, Pauline Wicks, Judith Mary Ellis

'I give you peace, the only peace I can give.' John 14:27



*Sr Sylvester, Sr Edward with other Sisters at Minyon Falls 1959*



*Srs Sylvester, Francesca, Edward, Miriam (back)  
Sr Carthage & Margaret (Ellen Keane) 1959*



*Srs L to R 1967: Imelda, Gabrielle, Marguerite, Ignatius, Carthage, Zita, Anne  
Parishioners L to R Narelle Wiley, Pat Plater, Nita Ottery, Maureen Ball & Nancy James*



*Srs and Boarders at St Joseph's Convent 1963*



*Sr Coral Anne with 4th Form students 1975*



*Srs visiting Pyke's Banana Plantation 1970*



# Sisters of St Joseph

*'When we remember all God has done for us, we simply cannot but turn gratefully to St Joseph and thank him for such marks of his watchful care. Mary MacKillop*

## 1978 - 1987

Srs Anne Love, Mel Ryan, Louise Reeves, Anita Vagg, Austin Keane, Imelda Sinclair, Judith Vinton, Clare Noonan, Anna Maria Trinca, Julie-Maree Simpson, Carthage Kelly, Maureen Houston



Srs L to R Janice, Rosita, Margaret (Hartnett), Coral Anne, Pauline, Raymond (front) 1976

## 1988 - 2000

Srs Catherine Teresa Kane, Rosita Kiss, Carthage Kelly, Marie Fields, Valerie Mason, Kathleen McGettigan, Eugene Ryan, Clare Grealy, Srs Margaret Keane

## 1978 - 1987

Srs Anne Love, Mel Ryan, Louise Reeves, Anita Vagg, Austin Keane, Imelda Sinclair, Judith Vinton, Clare Noonan, Anna Maria Trinca, Julie-Maree Simpson, Carthage Kelly, Maureen Houston



Sr Louise Reeves 1978-80



Sr Anna Maria Trinca 1982-86

## 1988 - 2000

Srs Catherine Teresa Kane, Rosita Kiss, Carthage Kelly, Marie Fields, Valerie Mason, Kathleen McGettigan, Eugene Ryan, Clare Grealy, Srs Margaret Keane



Sr Clare Noonan with Santa 1982



Srs Anita Vagg, Amelda Sinclair, Ann Love & Judith Vinton 1981



Sr Carthage Kelly



Sr Clare Grealy 1995-96



Sr Maureen Houston 1985-86



Sr Valerie Mason 1991-92



Sr Carthage Kelly & Margaret Keane 1998



# Sisters of St Joseph

*'We have cause to be grateful to God who has done so much for us'*  
**Mary MacKillop 1890**

## Parish Pastoral Associates

**2000 - 2003**

**2004 - 2010**

Sr Margaret Keane

**2003 - 2004**

Sr Anne O'Connell

**2010 - 2016**

Sr Maureen McDermott



*Sr Margaret Keane*



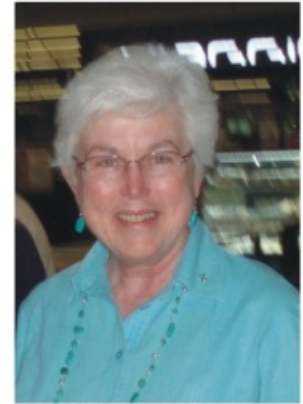
*Sr Anne O'Connell*



*Sr Maureen McDermott*



*Sr Margaret Keane*



*Sr Maureen McDermott*

## Parishioners of St John's Parish who entered the community of the Sister's of St Joseph...



*Srs Joan & Anne Mills with Parents Elizabeth & William Mills*



*Sr Ann Condon*



*Jubilee Celebrations*



*Sisters at the School Centenary*  
*Photo taken 2010*



# Parish Helping Hands ...

'All things were made through Him.' John 1:3



Inaugural Parish Pastoral Council 2004



Catechists : L to R Doreen Watson, Elaine Mitchell, Julie Hampson, Sr Margaret, Jenny Tucker, Lena Toman and Glenda Stein



St Vincent De Paul Mullumbimby



Founders of St Vincent De Paul Mullumbimby - Hazel & Keith O'Meara.



Music Ministry with Jean Walker (centre)



Music Ministry with Judy Nicholls (seated centre)



D'Arcy O'Meara (left) was an Altar Server in the early days of Our Lady of Lourdes.



Altar Server : Palm Sunday Service St John's Mullumbimby.



Altar Servers : L to R John Dailhou, Brigid & Kathryn Scanlon, Brodee Emery, Sadie, Ivy, Henry, Cienna, Oliver, Francesca, Grace. Insert: Bridget Wallace

# St John's School - Community

*'All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out.'* John 6:37



1923



Boarders 1964



Christmas play, old church hall 1977



With Sr Anne and mission priest Fr Goss 1978



St John's Primary School Mullumbimby — Some of the Building Committee — Fr Tony Hoade P.P., Mrs Kay Holmes, Mr Frank Cornale, Sister Rosita Kiss, Principal and architect Mr Rafael Buldrini reviewing the partially completed tuck shop for the school.



1980's



PE & Craft shed 1980's



Year 6 1980's

# St John's School

'Near the Sacred Heart we are strong and without fear,' Mary Mackillop



School Sacred Space



Girls sport



Music Class



Boys sport



Creative Class Activities



Cutting of the School Centenary Cake 2010

L to R: Marge Buckley, Mary Walker, Frances Godbee, Ruth Slattery, Norah Porthouse, Bill Shay.



Absent: Greg Flint, Greg Hayes, Naomi O'Dwyer

Back L to R: Pauline East, Robert Cook, Rosalie Hnatick, Janene McMullen  
Front L to R: Bernadette Woodhouse, Myree Loane, Tim Bleakley (P) Amanda Bottle, Lisa Russell, Courtney Wells ... Parish Centenary Year 2017

# Parish LIFE Gallery ... Weddings

*'Let us all pray that the spirit of St Joseph will accompany his children,  
and that they may do much good for themselves and others.'*  
Mary Mackillop



James & Maree Jennings (nee Lang) March 18, 2000



Joe & Viva Walker with family at their Golden Wedding



Maureen Ball nee (Mudge) with father Ken Mudge 3 August 1957.



Pam (nee Pattenden) & Michael Lang 1971



Anna (nee Pyke) and Anthony Armstrong September 2011

**Parish LIFE Gallery ... Weddings**



*Hedley & Carmel Maher (nee Walker) August 1946*

*'Have good courage for God is so very good to us all.'*  
**Mary Mackillop**



*Frank & Lorraine Cornale (nee Walker) 1967 (Fr Tom O'Byrne)*



*Gordon & Alice Tarlington*



*Leo & Maria Alidenes (nee Walker)*



*Harry & Marie Wedd (nee Tarlington) September 30, 1978*



*Keith & Vida Walker (nee Tee) May 1944*



*Kevin & Kerry Scanlon (nee Wilkes) Holy Cross Church*



*Igor & Gosia Isaszek 2016*

# Parish LIFE Gallery ... Debutante Balls

'God loves us all' Mary Mackillop

Taken from the Northern Star Newspaper Tuesday May 9, 1916 ... The St Joseph's Convent Ball.

'People from all denominations looked forward to attending the annual ball. The organising committee made sure the social side of life was not overlooked and all had a good time.'



Debutante Ball circa 1957-58



DEBUTANTES AT MULLUMBIHY CONVENT BALL JULY 24th 1924  
 M. JENKIN E. COLLIS P. CLIFFORD P. WALSH M. MCNAUGHT M. H. NEATH M. GALLEN  
 K. FITZPATRICK J. WALKER N. WALKER J. MADDY A. COLLIS K. COUGHLAN R. WITHERS B. WALKER  
 D. RICE D. GILES J. RUMBERY MATRON OF HONOUR: MRS. E. HARDING J. H. NEATH G. GALLEN B. JOHNSON  
 PAGES: P. HARDING B. BATTERHAM P. HARDING N. HALPIN



Above: Colleen Mudge with the 1985 Debutantes



Debutantes circa 1978 - 1979



Debutantes 1975-76 (centre) Mary Mills with Mayor Bill James & Joan James



Debutantes 1991



Debutantes 1971 L to R Christine Sheather, Julie Pearson, Marie Tarlinton Gail Reilly, Delina Pagura, Catherine Boyle with Monsignor O'Rourke & Kath O'Donnell (front centre)



Debutantes with Fr Hoade, Lorraine Cornale (matron of honour) Senator & Mrs McClelland (bottom right)



Debutantes 1978-79 with Bishop Satterthwaite and Fr Dennis Mullins

# Parish LIFE Gallery ... Baptism & Confirmation

*'I will not leave you orphans;  
I will come to you.'* John 14:18



*Hartnett Family Baptism of 6 sons L to R: Rob holding Emmanuel, Toby, Dylan, Reuben, Gail, Albie, Jacob Oct 24, 1992.*



*Baptism of John & Narelle Williams baby Georgia with Fr David Gilbey*



*Image above: Fr Hoade baptising Jacob Hartnett with Godmother Annie Walters.*



*Fr Hoade baptising Anna Pyke as Mick and Vivienne look on.*



*Anna (nee Pyke) first born Joseph*



*Confirmation Class 1952*



*Altar Server Bridget Wallace: Confirmation Ceremony at St John's Parish 2017*



*Centenary Year Confirmation Ceremony with Deacon Wallace & Bishop Homeming*

# Parish LIFE Gallery ... First Holy Communion

*'I am the bread of life: he that comes to me shall never hunger; and he that believes in me shall never thirst.'*

**John 6:35**



*First Communion with Fr Eamon Leonard 1957*



*First Communion with Fr Tom O'Byrne 1962*



*Convent Boarders First Communion Circa 1960's*



*First Communion with Fr Eamon Leonard 1963*



*First Communion with Fr Tony Hoade 1981*



*First Communion with Fr Naylor 1971*



*First Communion with Fr Tony Hoade 1984*



*First Communion breakfast with Fr Hoade 1985*



*First Communion with Fr Anthony Lemon 2011*



*First Communion with Fr David Gilbey 2002*



# Parish LIFE Gallery ... World Youth Day Sydney 2008

## Days in the Diocese (DITD)



*'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; you will be my witness' Acts 1:8*

DITD Pilgrims enjoying Byron Bay July 2008



Jenny Tucker and Pam Lang (centre) with Pilgrims



Mary Ashton (back to camera) leads prayer service at Cape Byron



BBQ - Peter Plater, Michael Lang, Ted Williams & Mick Pyke



Pilgrims from Tamil Nadu India, Belfast Ireland, Cleveland Ohio USA



Parish Dinner to farewell DITD pilgrims

## Sydney 2008



Praying at the WYD Cross



Pilgrims as far as the eye could see



Bottom left - Parish group L - R Theresa Pyke, Kate Holmes, Taylor Wynd, Kathryn Scanlon, Chris Smith, Mallory Douglas, Caitlin Watson, Bridghid Scanlon, Rebecca Watson, Louise Watson, Joseph Scanlon, Liam Heyen (front)



Bottom right - Amongst almost a million pilgrims we found the DITD Indian group  
2017 Centenary Souvenir Booklet p 25

# Parish LIFE Gallery ... World Youth Day Madrid Spain 2011

## Days in the Diocese - Valencia Spain



*"Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the faith" (Col 2:7)*

*With Sisters of St Joseph of the Mountain Valencia*



*Jenny and Silvana with the Sisters*



*Sisters farewell Cara Maku, Jenny Tucker, Silvana Smith, Chris Smith, Liam Heyen DITD pilgrims*



**Madrid 2011**

*Our Madrid hosts Merche and Begona in Madrid*



*Paella*



*Papal Mass Pope Benedict XVI*



*Papal Mass Pope Benedict XVI*



*Waiting for Pope Benedict Madrid*

# Parish LIFE Gallery - gratitude for the past, hope for the future!

*'Have good courage for God is so very good to us all'* **Mary MacKillop**



Bill Walker celebrated 100 years on April 26 1989 and displays his Papal Blessing.

Bill arrived in Mullumbimby as a very young child from Maclean. He celebrated his First Holy Communion and Confirmation in St John's Parish. Bill was almost 102 when he died and his funeral Mass was held in St John's church.



May Walker celebrated 100 years on Dec 14, 2016 and Fr Lyall Cowell presents her with her Papal Blessing.

## 50 + 50 = 100 years



May was born in Mullumbimby and has been a parishioner of St John's all her life. May celebrated all the sacraments in the parish. With her friend Norah Porthouse, May took great care of the priests and St John's Church is still using her needlework with our altar linens.



Centenary First Communion Mass  
Deacon Chris Wallace & Fr David Gilbey

## Centenary First Communion Group 2017



Altar Servers First Communion Mass  
L to R: Henry Irby, Ivy Glynn, Sadie Glynn, Cienna O'Hehir



(Back L-R) Alyssa James, Ella Thomas, Charlotte East, Ayla East, Deacon Chris Wallace, Tahlia D'Amici, (Front L-R) Darcy Irby, Cian Nugent, Minnow Glynn, Bronte Player, Grace Farrell, Hugh Tod



Cutting First Communion Cake with Deacon Chris Wallace

# Parish LIFE Gallery ... Snapshot

*'If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples.' John 13:35*



*'May St Joseph shower many special graces upon each and every one of you.'* Mary Mackillop

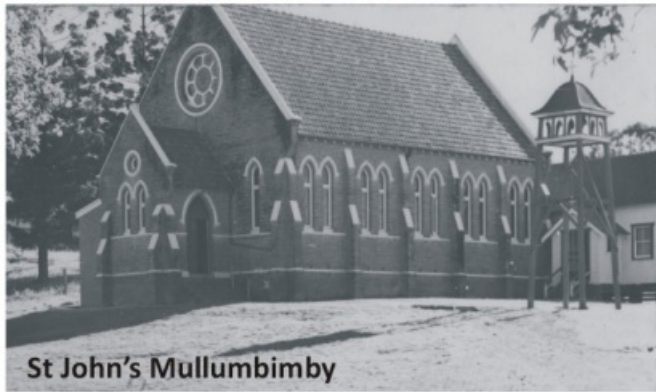
# Parish LIFE Gallery ... Snapshot



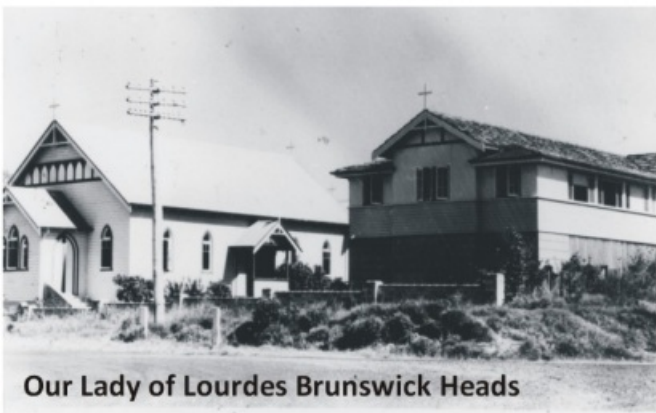
# St John's Parish Buildings



*'I knew God would take care of all and make everything right in the end.'* Mary Mackillop



St John's Mullumbimby



Our Lady of Lourdes Brunswick Heads



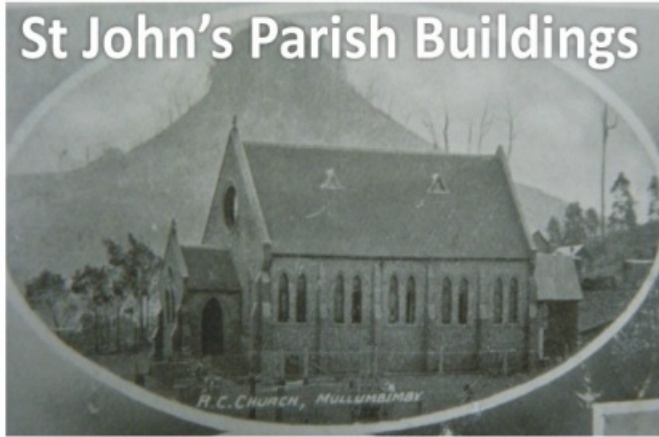
Holy Cross Billinudgel decommissioned 2007



Original St Joseph's Convent circa 1911



New St Joseph's Convent circa 1920



First Church opened 1907

*'Remember, we are but travellers here.'* Mary MacKillop 1866



Opening of the Original Timber Convent by Bishop Doyle 1911



The Presbytery completed 1920



Working-bee volunteers demolishing the old Brunswick church in 1935. Fr McEvoy Parish Priest (back right) can be seen under the building with Bill Peoples, Allan O'Meara, Mr Devine and Mr Reilly.



Inside the old Mullumbimby Church 1939 (left) and inside the new church (right) opened in 1974



The end of an era. Original church demolition 1989



Allan O'Meara (arrow insert) who built the altar which stands in Our Lady of Lourdes Church today. L to R Sean and D'Arcy O'Meara (grandson and son) standing in front of the altar.

# Centenary Celebrations 2017

*'With gratitude for the past and hope for the future'*



**Saint John the Evangelist**

*'You do not understand what I am doing now, but some day you will.'*

**John 13:7**



**Saint Mary McKillop**

*'There, where you are you will find God'*

**Mary MacKillop**



*'Have courage, trust in God, St Joseph and our Blessed Mother, and you need have no fear.'* **Mary MacKillop**

*'Look back and see what our good God has done for us.'* **Mary MacKillop**



*'A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.'* **John 13:34-35**



*"I am here among you as one who serves."* **Luke 22:2**

**1917**

[mullumbimbycatholic.com.au](http://mullumbimbycatholic.com.au)

**2017**