

Parish Invocation: Father I love you, Jesus I thank you, Holy Spirit help us

St John's Catholic Parish

Brunswick Valley

"I am here among you as one who serves." Luke 22:27



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed of Joseph, a son of David.

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel,
a name which means 'God-is-with-us'. When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

Reflection

Reflecting on the Second Vatican Council's teaching on dialogue with other religions, Pope Leo reminds us that 'it is the task of the Church to promote unity and love among men and women, and among nations.'

Our celebration of the coming of Christ each year should put us in mind of this calling. We are not authentic followers of Christ if we do not truly follow his way of peace.

As the Pope explains, the Church teaches quite clearly that 'we cannot truly call on God, the Father of all, if we refuse to treat in a brotherly or sisterly way any man or woman created in the image of God.'

We may well disagree with other people at times, and their hardheartedness may often distress us. But, as the Pope says, we are called to dialogue. In our nations, parishes and families we Christians are called to engage in 'a journey of the heart that transforms everyone involved, the one who listens and the one who speaks.'

Sometimes the best gift we can give another person is our attention. In that spirit, this Christmas let us proclaim the incarnation of our Lord by listening as well as speaking.

© Nick Brodie

21 December 2025

4th Sunday of Advent, Year A

1st Reading:

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalm:

*(R.) Let the Lord enter;
he is king of glory.*

2nd Reading:

Romans 1:1-7

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel:
God is with us.
Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 1:18-24



**Next weeks
readings**

**The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph, Year A**

1st Reading:

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalm:

Ps 127:1-5, R see v.1

2nd Reading:

Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel:

Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23



St John's Catholic Parish
Brunswick Valley

Address: 15 Murwillumbah Road
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mullumbimby@lismore.catholic.org.au

Parish Pastor

Fr David Gilbey
Phone: (02) 6685 6260
Mobile: 0419 401 447

Parish Office

Office hours
Tuesday 8.30-5pm
Wednesday 8.30-5pm

Parish Secretary

Charmaine Patterson
Phone: (02) 6684 2106

Parish School

St John's Primary School
Principal
Dave Birmingham
Phone: (02) 6684 2386

Our Church's

St John's Church Mullumbimby
Our Lady of Lourdes Brunswick
Heads

ROSTERS

24 & 25 December 2025

CHRISTMAS EVE

O.L.O.L. 24 December

Reader: Michael S
Minister of
Communion: Sandra S

St John's 24 December

Reader: Nicci N
Minister of
Communion: Olga F

CHRISTMAS DAY

St John's 25 December

Reader: Pam L
Minister of
Communion: Lisa De C

WEEKDAY MASSES

O.L.O.L. Brunswick Heads
Thursday 5.30pm

St John's Mullumbimby
Sunday 8am

Weekday Liturgy

O.L.O.L. Brunswick Heads
Christian Meditation
Tuesday 9.30am
Wednesday Adoration
6pm-7pm

St John's Mullumbimby
Friday Adoration
9am -10am

O.L.O.L. Brunswick Heads
Reconciliation
Thursdays 5pm—5.20pm

PLANNED GIVING CONTRIBUTION
ENVELOPES / DIRECT DEBIT

Option 1: Collection Boxes at Church entrance

Option 2: Church Collection Plate

Option 3: Direct Debit, details as follows

1st COLLECTION (Clergy) **2nd COLLECTION** (Parish)

BSB: 082 729

BSB 082 729

A/C: 5097 97032

A/C: 5097 96718

Thank you for your continued Parish financial support. Fr David Gilbey

COLUMBAN CALENDARS 2026 FOR SALE - \$10

See Silvana to pay and collect calendar or ph 0414 315 939

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

ST JOHN'S PARISH - Brunswick Valley

24 December - Christmas Eve

5.30pm Our Lady of Lourdes, Brunswick Heads
7pm St John's, Mullumbimby

25 December - Christmas Day

8am St John's, Mullumbimby



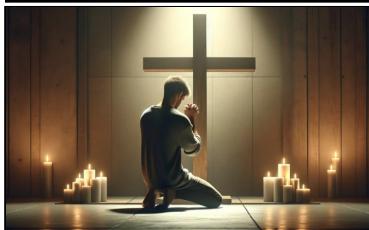
HOLY SPIRIT PARISH - Bangalow/Byron Bay

24 December - Christmas Eve

5.30pm St Kevin's, Bangalow
8pm St Finbarr's, Byron Bay

25 December - Christmas Day

7.30am St Finbarr's, Byron Bay
9.30am St Kevin's, Bangalow



Please Pray for the Recently Deceased

Denise O'Donnell, Fernanda Marinelli.

Those whose Anniversaries occur at this time

Antonio Pinna, James Jonathon Roberts, Searl Browning, Harold Gooley,
Athol Sawtell, Anne Carolan, Sheila & Bruce Pentland,
Robert (Mick) Bellenger, May Walker.

As a faith community, we pray with our brothers and sisters in their time of need

Paul Murphy, Martin Taylor, Jan Mangleson, Anne Carolan, Mary Pollidano.

(Due to Privacy Laws, names are only placed on this list when requested by the sick person or family member and will remain on this list for at least 6 weeks. As we are not aware if illness improves or continues, you are welcome to make a further request for inclusion)

Deceased priests of the Diocese - December

Frs: Jeremiah Joseph Dineen, Patrick Kerwick, John Conway, Thomas Farrelly, Michael Quinn.

ADVENT

The **4th Sunday of Advent** holds significant meaning in the Christian liturgical calendar as it represents the final stage of anticipation and preparation for Christmas.

It is marked by the **lighting of the fourth candle** on the Advent wreath, symbolising the imminent arrival of the Messiah.

The theme of this Sunday focuses on **God's love** for humanity, as it reflects on the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

This day also emphasises **God's faithfulness** in sending Jesus and looks forward to His second coming. Additionally, the fourth candle, often referred to as the "**Angel Candle**", symbolises peace, reminding believers of the peace that Jesus brings.

Overall, the 4th Sunday of Advent is a time for reflection on love, hope, and the promise of Christ's arrival.



OUR FINAL COFFEE CLUB FOR 2025 - SEE YOU ALL IN 2026



DID YOU KNOW! 1st & 2nd COLLECTIONS

The **1st Collection** is your donation to the support of our Priests and the Clergy of the Diocese. The **2nd Collection** is your donation to the upkeep and running of the Parish. This includes expenses such as electricity, insurances, building maintenance and upkeep of Church equipment.

A sincere thank you to all that continue to support our parish through planned giving and weekly collections. Your generosity supports the ongoing mission and pastoral life of our parish community.



Safeguarding Office.

The Safeguarding Office is available:
to listen to your concerns respectfully, offer support, and provide guidance in embedding Safeguarding Standards.

Phone (02) 6621 9444

email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



Interest Rate – 3.40%

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

*Save
the Date*

**WEEKLY
Confession**

Thursdays 5-5.20pm
Our Lady of Lourdes,
Brunswick Heads

MONTHLY

Sunday Morning Tea

1st Sunday
St John's Church, Mullumbimby,
after Mass

Coffee Gathering

2nd Wednesday 10.30am,
Mullumbimby Ex Services Club

Rosary Team Meeting

2nd Saturday
Day and time to be advised
monthly - in Bulletin



**HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH
WEEKLY MASSES**

St Finbarr's, BYRON BAY

Friday 9.30am
Saturday 6pm

St Kevin's, BANGALOW

Sunday 9.30am



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

Link to St John's Primary School Newsletter

[St John's Primary School Mullumbimby eNewsletter](#)



On Monday, our school community was filled with pride and bittersweet emotion as we celebrated the **Year 6 Graduation Ceremony**. It was a beautiful occasion to recognise the achievements, growth, and unique spirit of each of our graduating students.

We commend this wonderful group for their commitment to their studies, their dedication to living out our Catholic values, and the positive contributions they have made to our school over the past seven years.

To our graduating Year 6 class: As you embark on the journey to high school, we send you off with our prayers and the deepest belief in your potential. Remember the lessons learned within these walls—to walk with Christ, to treat others with kindness and respect, and to always strive for excellence. Carry the light of the Holy Spirit with you, be courageous, be curious, and know that you will always be a cherished part of our school family. God bless you as you take your next steps.

As the school year draws to a close, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated staff, supportive parents, and the entire Parish community for your unwavering commitment to our students.

We now look forward to celebrating the joy and hope of the Advent season and the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. May the true meaning of Christmas fill your homes with peace, love, and happiness.

I wish everyone a **Merry Christmas and a safe, relaxing holiday break**. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year, refreshed and ready for a new chapter.

God bless.

Dave Bermingham, Principal of St John's



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL and ST JOHN'S SCHOOL
ST JOHN'S CONFERENCE**

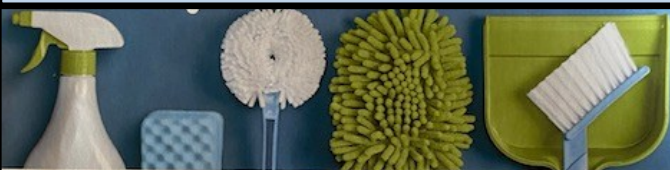
A BIG thank you to Parishioners for your contributions to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal and your donations for the Christmas hampers.

Our St John's School were able to help 18 single parent families with a hamper as well as provide some Christmas goodies for many others in need.

Well done to all.



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