

**The Clergy, Wardens and Office welcome your enquiries and calls.**

**Rector:**

Rev'd Canon Grahame Yager  
6684 3552

**Administration Centre:**

**Office Manager:** Anne Wareing

38 Stuart Street

Mullumbimby

Phone: 6684 3552

Email: office@byronanglicans.org.au

Office hours: 9am – 4pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Facebook: Anglican Parish of Byron

Website: www.byronanglicans.org.au

**Office Support:**

Sue Williams

14 Kingsley Street

Byron Bay

Email: admin@byronanglicans.org.au

Phone: 6684 3552

Office Hours: Wednesday 9am-3pm

Friday 9am-12.30pm.

**Wardens** Patricia Ellis (Rector's Warden),  
Ian White, Laura East.

**Acknowledgement of Country**

*We, acknowledge the Bundjalung people, traditional custodians of this land.*

*We pay tribute and respect to the elders both past and present.*



# Advent 4/ Christmas Eve

**24th December 2023**



Pixabay

*A Christian presence in the community, living by faith,  
known by love, sharing a voice of hope.*

## From Grahame

There is a new post apocalypse movie which stars a Pretty Woman. It actually stars Julia Roberts whose break through role came in 1990 opposite Richard Gere. Don't worry no spoilers here. The point is that from time to time we become preoccupied with the end of things. We hear of wars throughout the world and think they may be signs of the end of everything. We are completing the season of Advent and the cries from John the Baptist, that the time is at hand, are still ringing in our ears. Apocalypse tends to be understood as end times. We forget that in the context of our faith it means fulfilment.

How does it change our approach to our lives now, and our hope for the future if we focus on fulfilment rather than ending? Our hope is based in our faith in the promises of God in Jesus the Christ, of God's love and care for us. Promises which speak of fulfilment and a future which does not end. As we journey into this future we share the love and care we know, with others.

Terrible things are happening now. Terrible things have happened in our history. The only thing which has ever made a lasting difference is an increase in care for others, an increase in love for others. Not so that others may become more like ourselves, but so that they too may come to know the fulfilment God offers in their context. In Advent we prepared to be reminded of the fulfilment God promises. At Christmas we remember and celebrate again, the new beginning which Jesus brings into our world.

Whatever your situation this season, it is my prayer that you may receive the care and love you need, and that you may make the most of opportunities to care for and share love with others.

With Every Blessing  
Grahame

# Weekly Happenings

Clergy & Staff can be contacted via email or phone

<b>TUESDAY</b>	Mullumbimby Closed
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Byron Bay Office Closed
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Mullumbimby Closed
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Byron Bay Office Closed Mullumbimby Office Closed

## 24th December Advent 4 / Christmas Eve

7.30am	St Thomas Brunswick Heads
9am	St Martins Mullumbimby
9am	St Pauls Byron Bay
11am	St Columba Ewingsdale
6pm	All Souls Bangalow

## 25th December Christmas Day

7.30am	St Thomas Brunswick Heads
9am	St Martins Mullumbimby
9am	St Pauls Byron Bay
9am	All Souls Bangalow

## 31st December New Years Eve

11am	St Pauls Byron Bay followed by a bring and share lunch.
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## Op Shop Opening Hours

<b>Bangalow</b>	Wednesday—Friday 10am-2pm Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm
<b>Byron Bay</b>	Closed
<b>Mullumbimby</b>	Closed

## Parish Direct Debit details for tithes.

Anglican Parish of Byron **BSB:** 705 077 **Account:** 00041263

## Prayer Focus This Week:

**Missions** Little Brothers of Francis  
Brother Wayne, Brother Howard, Brother  
Geoffrey

### Diocese of Grafton Senior Leadership Team

**Bishop** The Right Rev'd Dr Murray Harvey  
**Archdeacon** Tiffany Sparks

### Diocese of Wangaratta

Bishop Clarence Bester & Michelle, Clergy & Laity

### The Parish of Tweeds Heads

The Rev'd Dway Goon Chew & Leeza, The Rev'd Sue  
Woodcock, The Rev'd Cameron Smith

**LLM** John, Maria, Adrain, Deborah, Yvonne.

## Local Prayer Focus

Greg, Rev Gloria Shipp, Janie, Jean, Marjory, Geoff, Judith,  
Lil, Lin, Hilary and Paul, Lorretta, Chris, John, David Williams,  
Matthew, Lucy, Sigrid, George, Liz, Gladys, Heather, Chris,  
John, Sophie, Karen, Carol, Karen, Fran, Rebecca, Irene,  
June, Thea, Elaine, Ros, Ann.

The Community Centres and their work with the homeless.  
The Liberation Larder, The Mullumbimby & District  
Neighbourhood Centre, Ministry of Byron Bay &  
Mullumbimby Christian Education.

## Bulletin News Items

For inclusion in the weekly bulletin please forward to Sue  
Williams by Wednesday morning. Sue Williams Phone 66843552  
Email: admin@byronanglicans.org.au



All through this day dear Lord, let me touch as  
many lives as possible for you, and every life I  
touch please bless by your Holy Spirit, whether  
through the words I speak, the prayer I breathe  
or the life I live; so shall your kingdom come  
on earth as in heaven. Amen.

Adapted from the daily prayers of  
Mary Sumner founder of Mother's Union and Brother John Dent Martyn BGS

## Services

### 24th December Advent 4 / Christmas Eve

7.30am St Thomas Brunswick Heads  
9am St Martins Mullumbimby  
9am St Pauls Byron Bay  
11am St Columba Ewingsdale  
6pm All Souls Bangalow

### 25th December Christmas Day

7.30am St Thomas Brunswick Heads  
9am St Martins Mullumbimby  
9am St Pauls Byron Bay  
9am All Souls Bangalow

### 31st December New Years Eve

11am St Pauls Byron Bay followed by a bring and share  
lunch

### 7th January Baptism of the Lord

7.30am St Thomas Brunswick Heads  
9am All Souls Bangalow

### 14th January Epiphany 2

9am St Martin's

### 21st January Epiphany 3

7.30am St Thomas Brunswick Heads  
9am St Pauls Byron Bay

### 28th January Epiphany 4

11am All Souls Bangalow

## Readings

### 24th December

Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 9, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14

### 31st December New Years Eve

Isaiah 60:1-6, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

## Parish News

### Back Packs for Kids



Grahame recently had the opportunity to deliver backpacks to the Women's Resource Centre in Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre. The backpacks contained items to support young people dealing with family and domestic violence situations. The staff were very grateful for the gifts which were put together by members of the parish from donations received. Great job everyone!

### Parish Pantry

Thank you to all who donate to our Parish Pantry. The demand for support has been very high. We have been including Christmas items in the food parcels. These have been very gratefully received.

### Change in Office Hours over Christmas

Anne & Sue would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a relaxing New Year. The Parish offices in Mullumbimby and Byron Bay will be closed until 16th January 2024.

## Christmas Day I Monday 25 December 2023

Isaiah 9.2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2.11-14; Luke 2.1-14 [15-20]

We hear again our favourite account of the Nativity from the Gospel of Luke on this holy day. There is order and process, named people and places, animals, darkness and angels.

What all the prophets and generations of Jews had been hoping and waiting for is born. Many witness God's act of salvation, even if they do not realise it. The light has come. God becomes one with our humanity in the birth of Jesus and we praise God.

God, with the angels I praise you. Glory to God in the highest.

Give thanks for the work and witness of the Anglican Church of Melanesia. .

Text: Fr Matthew Smedley, Diocese of Perth © Anglican Board of Mission, 2023

### Mission of the Month Liberation Larder

The Larder provides material aid in the form of hot lunches, bags of fresh produce as well as emergency frozen meals for singles and families in financial distress.

