

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

**Rector:**

Rev'd Canon Grahame Yager  
6684 3552

**Associate Priest**

Rev'd Brenda Yager

**Administration Centre:**

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**Office Support:**

Sue Williams

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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.*



**Byron Anglicans**  
We are one

# Christmas Season

## All are welcome



Caravan Advent Study ABM Stephen Daughtry & Vanessa Daughtry

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

## From Grahame

As Christmas arrives this year, we focus on the birth of Jesus through the perspective of the Gospel according to Luke. The shepherds with their flocks in the fields and the reminder from Titus 2.11 remind us - "For the grace of God which brings salvation has appeared to all."

One of the greatest challenges of our lives of faith, is whether we really believe we need saving; do we really believe we need a saviour? Our answer will determine how we react to the message the Holy Scriptures bring us. If we are seeking salvation then the announcement that God's grace is our salvation should be the best news we would ever hear and we would want to know more about it. If we are confident we are saved, then I would expect we will be so grateful we could not help but thank God every day in every way, and take every opportunity to share what this means for us. Sometimes we might even use words to do this, but mostly it would be in the way we treat each other; the way we live.

For weeks, if not months, we have been bombarded with messages about how we should feel. We have received the messages of commerce, telling us we need this or that new and shiny thing, to save us time; to save us money, to save us from sadness.

As we gather in our church buildings or in our homes, if we are fortunate, may we put aside the images of consumption and focus on the true meaning of Christmas, the Christ Mass, and experience something of the hope, peace, joy and love of those shepherds long ago.

The media attempts to smother us in fantasy of a world where elves do what we can't, where a jolly man struggles to judge who should receive gifts and who should be left out. I even managed to get in a photograph with him this year and exchange pleasantries. Well he was wearing the uniform.

In our worship we will hear again about something we have become all too familiar with, in the hope of reminding us that God's grace is open to all, God's grace is sufficient, with the gift of God's grace in our lives everything we thought we knew is turned upside down and we are transformed. Mary and

# Weekly Happenings

**Clergy & Staff can be contacted via email or phone**

<b>TUESDAY</b>	Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Byron Bay 9am-3pm
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Byron Bay Office 9am-12.30pm Mullumbimby 9am-4pm
<b>SUNDAY</b>	Advent Study Rectory Bangalow 5pm-6pm

## **22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent**

7.30am	St Thomas' Brunswick Heads
9am	All Souls Bangalow
9am	St Martin's Mullumbimby
9am	St Pauls Byron Bay

## **Op Shop Opening Hours**

<b>Bangalow</b>	Monday - Friday 10am-2pm Saturday - 9.30am-12.30pm
<b>Byron Bay</b>	Monday - Saturday 9am - 1pm
<b>Mullumbimby</b>	Monday - Friday 9.30am - 3.30pm

## **Parish Direct Debit details for tithes.**

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

## **Parish News**

### **From the Offices**

Anne and Sue would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2025.

**AOK** in St Pauls Byron Bay is in recess until February 2025. Look forward to seeing you then.

## Prayer Focus This Week:

**Mission:** National Council of Churches  
**President:** The Reverend John Gilmore

**Diocese of Grafton Senior  
Leadership Team**

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



## THE DIOCESE OF SYDNEY

Archbishop Kanisha Raffel & Cailey, Bishop Chris Edwards & Belinda, Bishop Peter Hayward & Julie, Bishop Gary Koo & Pearl, Bishop Peter Lin & Isobel, Bishop Malcom Richards & Elizabeth, Bishop Michael Stead & Felicity. Clergy and Laity

## The Parish of Orara Valley Anglicans

The Reverend Ruth Pobjoy & Stan.  
**LLM:** Susan

## Local Prayer Focus

Tina, Mitch, Harriet and extended family, Brett, Greg, Jean, Janie, Marjory, Geoff, Lin, Hilary and Paul, Lorretta, Chris, John, Matthew, Lucy, Sigrid, George, Liz, Gladys, Heather, Chris, John, Sophie, Karen, Carol, Karen, Fran, Rebecca, Thea, Ros, Ann, Wayne & Robyn Elliot.

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

## Mission of the Month for January

### Westpac Rescue Helicopter:

'Always be there for the community delivering the highest standard of aeromedical and rescue services to those in need.'

Joseph were not believed to have the right connections and so the inn keeper, following the custom of the time, could not give them preference. But being an understanding bloke, he probably had a family of his own, he let them use what shelter was available.

From a manger and the mouths of fringe dwellers, came the news of the messianic birth. In the busyness of our lives, it is too easy to forget that we come from a heritage of fringe dwellers. Our centre is Christ but the message was first told on the fringe. Perhaps we might spend a bit less time striving to be in the right kind of room at the inn, and a bit more time contemplating the manger which was the prime location of that first Christmas.

With every blessing  
Grahame

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

## Christmas Closing Times

### Parish Office:

Closed 23rd December reopening Tuesday 14th January

### Mullumbimby Op Shop:

Closed Monday 23rd December reopening Monday 20th January

### Byron Bay Op Shop

Closed Tuesday 24th December reopening Monday 6th January

### Byron Bay Op Shop

Closed Tuesday 24th December reopening Monday 6th January

### Bangalow Op Shop

Closed public holidays and open intermittently only until 2nd January when normal trading begins.

## Services

### 22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent

7.30am St Thomas' Brunswick Heads  
9am All Souls Bangalow  
9am St Martin's Mullumbimby  
9am St Pauls Byron Bay

### 29th December First Sunday after Christmas

#### No Services in the Parish.

Christchurch Cathedral Livestream via  
<https://www.graftoncathedral.org.au/livestream>

### 5th January 2025 Second Sunday after Christmas

9am All Souls Bangalow

### 12th January 2025 The Baptism of Our Lord

9am St Martins Mullumbimby

### 19th January 2025 Second Sunday after Epiphany

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

## Readings

### 22nd December 4th Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a, Song of Mary, Hebrews 10: 5-10,  
Luke 1:39-45

### 29th December First Sunday after Christmas

1 Samuel 2:18-20,26, Psalm 148, Colossians 3: 12-17,  
Luke 2:41-52.

### 5th January 2025 Second Sunday after Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14, Psalm 147:12-20, Ephesians 1:3-14,  
John 1:10-18.

### 12th January 2025 The Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-22

### 19th January 2025 Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5, Psalm 36:5-10, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11,  
John 2:1-11.



**Celebrate Christmas with  
The Anglican Parish of Byron**

**Christmas Eve 24th December 6pm**  
*'Family Christmas Extravaganza'*  
*All Souls' Ashton St Bangalow*

**Christmas Day 25th December**  
*7.30am St Thomas'*  
*21 Fingal St Brunswick Heads*  
*9am St Martin's*  
*38 Stuart St Mullumbimby*  
*9am St Paul's*  
*14 Kingsley St Byron Bay*

### **Advent 4 C Sunday 22 December 2024**

Micah 5.2-5a; *The Song of Zechariah* (APBA p. 31); Hebrews 10.5-10; Luke 1.29-45 [46-55]

Micah speaks of the paradox of Bethlehem, one of the least, being the birthplace of a great one who will rule over Israel. Those who knew only the insignificance of Bethlehem but who had forgotten this prophecy would criticise Jesus for his origins. The paradox remains for us, that out of smallness can come greatness.

We pray that our senses are open to see God's greatness even in the small and seemingly insignificant.

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