1st Sunday in Advent, Sunday 29 November 2026

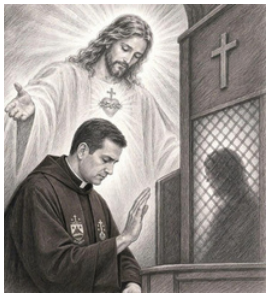
St Augustine's Catholic Parish
Coffs Harbour

*This Sunday we light the first candle on our **Advent wreath** for **HOPE**.*





WEEKDAY MASSES THIS WEEK
Tuesday -9am Coffs Harbour
Wednesday - 9:30am Woolgoolga
Thursday - 9am Coffs Harbour
Friday - 9:15am Coffs Harbour



CONFESSION TIMES
Fridays after Mass
Coffs Harbour 9:45am-10:15am

Saturday
Woolgoolga 8am - 8:20am
Coffs Harbour 4:45pm - 5:15pm

Contact Us
Phone: 6651 0000
parish@coffscatholic.com
www.coffscatholic.com

Opening Hours Monday to Friday
8:30am - 3:30pm

Parish Business Manager:
Debbie Willoughby
dwilloughby@coffscatholic.com

Youth Coordinator
Luke Schaefer
lschaefer@coffscatholic.com

Pastoral Associate:
Teresa Olid-Pryer
TOlid@coffscatholic.com

Accounts:
Adelle Gould
coffsadmin@coffscatholic.com

Digital donations to St Augustine Parish please scan QR Code

WEEKEND MASS TIMES
Saturday 8:30am Woolgoolga
Saturday 5:30pm Coffs Harbour

Sunday 9am Coffs Harbour
Sunday 5:30pm Coffs Harbour

Sunday 11am Coramba
(1st Sunday of the month)

Fr Joe DSouza OCD - Administrator
Fr Vinod Lobo OCD - Assistant Priest

Parish Office
Curran Centre, 12 Gordon St, Coffs Harbour

Parish Church
St Augustine's, Gordon St, Coffs Harbour

Station Churches
St Francis Xavier, Scarborough St, Woolgoolga
St Therese, Gale St, Coramba



Advent: A season of Hope and Light



Advent is a beautiful season of waiting, hope and expectation. As the world around us becomes busy with Christmas decorations, celebrations and preparations, the Church invites us into a deeper and more meaningful journey.

The word Advent means 'coming' or 'arrival'. It reminds us that God is not distant from us. He comes into our world, enters our human story and makes His home among us through Jesus Christ.

Advent is more than remembering the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. It is also celebrating His presence in our lives today and looking forward with hope to His coming again.

Each candle on the Advent wreath tells a beautiful story. The growing light reminds us that darkness never has the final word, because Christ is our light. His presence brings hope to uncertainty, peace to troubled hearts, joy to difficult moments and love to a world longing for meaning.

May this Advent fill our hearts with renewed hope, deepen our joy and strengthen our faith. May the light of Christ shine within us and through us, making His presence a blessing to everyone around us.

Mass Readings

Entrance Antiphon - To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First Reading Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1,3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down - at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours is like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm - Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Communion Antiphon The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

SAFEGUARDING IN THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contacted if you have any Safeguarding concerns.
We will listen to you respectfully, offer support, and discuss all options available.
Contact the Safeguarding Office:
Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



- **First Friday Devotion** - this Friday 4 December there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions available from 5:30pm followed by Mass at 6pm at St Augustine's Church. Please note there will be *no morning Mass* and Confessions on 4 December.
- Please note there will be ***no Parish Luncheon in December nor January***. Our monthly Parish Luncheon will resume in February 2027.
- **Youth Group** - there will be no Youth Group this Friday 4th and 11th December. Our final Youth Group for the year is on 18 December with our Christmas Party to celebrate a Great year of St Augustine's Youth Group and Jesus' Birth!
- **ADVENT is here!** ***Presence*** is a pocket-sized book that includes daily reflections from the beginning of Advent to the Baptism of the Lord. The booklet also includes beautiful artwork from the Masters with accompanying artwork reflections."*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.*" LUKE 1:46. Get your copy today and join an Advent group. Together, let us journey through this season of hope and reflection as we prepare our hearts to welcome Christ. Our Pastoral Associate Teresa will be leading an Advent Reflection group (4 weeks) at ***10am - 11am*** commencing this ***Friday 4 December***. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join in. The **ABIDE Women's group** invites you to join their Advent program starting 7pm Tuesday 1 December.
- Our parish **Nativity & Christmas Carols** will be held at 5:30pm on Friday 11 December at St Augustine's Church, followed by supper and children's games at the Curran Centre. Children are invited to come dressed as Nativity characters. Parish & Ethnic Groups are invited to lead a song. Please contact Maria Woods or the Parish Office if your group is interested in singing. A reminder to please bring a plate of food to share for the supper.



St Augustine's Church Roster - 2nd Sunday Advent	5 December	6 December	6 December
	Saturday 5.30pm Vigil	Sunday 9am	Sunday 5.30pm
Co-ordinator	G. McCann & D. Barrett	T.Olid	G. McCann
Commentator	B. Holmes	R. Mott	K. Kachel
Reader 1	E. Holmes	P. Colquhoun	T. Baker
Reader 2	P. Davies	C. Cutmore	C. Robertson
Extraordinary Minister	S. Gooley	S. Cing/A Pius-Usiobaifo/L Watts	M. Carniato
Screen Operator	J. Sercombe	M. Miller	Van Van
Gifts	D. Jackson & N. Jarrett	J. De la Torre	Vacant
Altar Servers		Knights of Mary	
Morning Tea		Filipino Community	
Children's Liturgy		Vacant	
Sacristan	Van Van	V Cauan	K Soo

DIF Diocesan Investment Fund

Interest Rate - 4.40% (effective 1/11/2026)
Please note that DIF nolonger accepts physical cash for investment. Unique EFT details are on the bottom of your quarterly DIF statement.
For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516

St Vincent de Paul Society, Coffs Harbour and Woolgoolga, will be commencing the Christmas Appeal at all Masses next weekend. We will be seeking cash donations, electronic transfer of funds or store gift cards so we can help those in our community needing assistance. If you want to purchase gift cards to donate, these could be from any supermarket, gift store or department store in the Coffs Harbour or Woolgoolga area. More to come next week.

Please pray for

Recently deceased: Col Flanigan, Sr Anne Hannigan RSM, Geoff & Mary Coulter, Ken Bates, Kieran Walsh

Anniversary: Elizabeth Simmon, Ewa Targ, Robert James Jenkins

Sick: Chris Freeman, Pacey Clark, Ellen McLister, Barbara Kacki, Judy Brooks

St Francis Xavier Church, Woolgoolga - **Monday holy hour 5:30-6:30pm**. The final holy hour for 2026 will be on Monday 30 November and will resume on Monday 4 January 2027.

St Augustine's Catholic Parish
Coffs Harbour

NATIVITY & Christmas Carols

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus with carols in many languages, and a beautiful re-enactment of the Holy Night. Children are invited to come dressed as nativity characters.

11 DEC · 5:30 PM

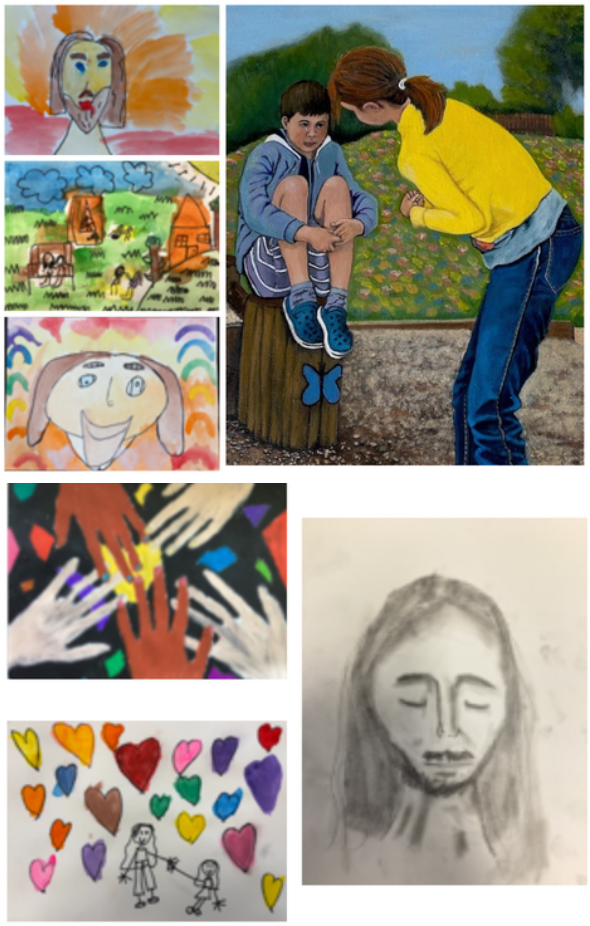
St Augustine's Church, Coffs Harbour

Followed by supper in the Curran Centre



Congratulations to the winners
Diocesan Art Prize

We are incredibly proud of the winners from our community in the recent Diocesan Art Prize Competition. Congratulations to Frances Hunt, a parishioner of St Francis Xavier Church, Woolgoolga, who was awarded 2nd Prize in the Adult Category, and to our talented St Francis Xavier Primary School students: Aleera Sullivan-Njemanze, Abigail Smith, Romola Lawler-Parker, Stella-Rose Robinson, Matilda Maley, and Keira Nutt on their outstanding achievements. Your creativity and reflection on this year's theme, The Face of Compassion, have brought great joy to our parish community.



THIS WEEK AT THE CURRAN CENTRE

Monday 30th - Sunday 6 December

TUESDAY -**Playgroup** - 9am -11am

ABIDE Women's Group 7pm. Advent Reflection,

WEDNESDAY **RCIA** 6pm, **Men's Group** 7:30pm

FRIDAY **Parish Advent Reflection group** - 10am

SATURDAY **English for Hope** - 6:45pm

SUNDAY **Children's Liturgy** (during 9am Mass for Primary age children). **Morning Tea** after 9am Mass at Curran Centre garden

Devotions
St Augustine's Church

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament: 8:30am 1st Sunday of month

Rosary - 8:35am (before Mass) Tuesday, Thursday, Fridays & Sundays *(excluding 1st Sunday of month).*

Rosary cenacle - 11am Tuesdays

Rosary and Novena for Our Lady of Perpetual Help 2:30pm Wednesdays

Divine Mercy - after Friday morning Mass

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our Lady of Mercy Chapel
Located at the Curran Centre.
Ramp access via the Parish Office

Opening Hours for all:
Monday - Friday
8:30am-3:30pm
Access outside these hours is via door code



Parishioners who would like to arrange after hours access please call Maurice 0407 934 088