

Our Mission:
Building a Loving Christ-Centred Community



Parish Administrator:

Fr Joy D'Souza OCD

Chief Executive Officer:

Michael Darragh

Pastoral Associate:

Margaret Ryan

Church

Corner of East Street & Fourth Avenue, Sawtell

Parish Office - 02/6658 3544

1/44 Boronia Street, Sawtell
NSW 2452. Office Hours are
Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm.

Regular Church Mass Times

Tuesday 9:30am

Thursday 9:30am

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 7:30am & 9am

Reconciliation every Saturday

4:30pm, no appointment necessary

Regular Chapel Mass Times

Our Lady of the Way at SCC

Marian Grove, Toormina

Wednesday 9:30am

Friday 9:30am

PARISH GIVING

First & Second
Collection &
Donations



Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, 13th September 2026

A Prayer for the Season of Creation

Holy God, your Spirit hovered over the waters at creation, giving life to all creatures and land. We gather thirsty for your grace, giving thanks for the waters that sustain our homelands and our common home.

We confess that we have misused this gift—polluting the seas, warming the tides, and ignoring the dry earth and those displaced by climate change. Soften our hearts and bring us to repentance.

Stir us to protect our waters, defend the thirsty, and care for creation. May your Word be a spring within us, bringing healing to the world.

May God sustain us in the desert, Christ the Living Water, refresh us for restoration, and the Holy Spirit carry us until justice rolls down like an ever-flowing stream.

Amen.



Living Water

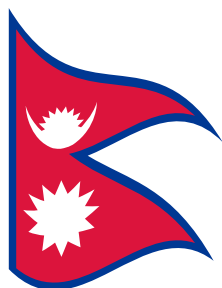
Season of Creation 2026

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to contemplate and care for our common home, the Oikos of God.

This year, we will unite around the theme “Living Water”, with the symbol “Immersion in Living Water”, inspired by Ezekiel 47:9 and 12.

“Season of Creation is an ecumenical initiative to be celebrated from 1st September to 4th October. Environmental justice – implicitly proclaimed by the prophets – can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. For it is a matter of justice – social, economic and human. For believers it is also a duty born of faith, since the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed.”
(Taken from his Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation 2025)

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV.



Caritas Australia Nepal

Floods Appeal

In unity with our 20 Nepalese team members at Sawtell Catholic Care and Mary Help of Christians Parish, we are supporting the brave people of Nepal by raising funds for Caritas Australia’s Nepal Floods Appeal.

Your donation will help deliver lifesaving support and assist affected communities to recover and rebuild. Sawtell Catholic Care will match the donations made by our staff through this appeal, so every dollar you give will be double the support and kindness you are sending their way.

The funds you contribute will help ensure that Caritas and aid partners can work to provide this critical support to those who need it most.

Your compassion will bring swift help for the people and families affected by this disaster, and donations are Tax Deductible.

If you are able to assist, we thank you for your generosity and solidarity.



Scan to donate

First Reading ~ Sirach 27:30 – 28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

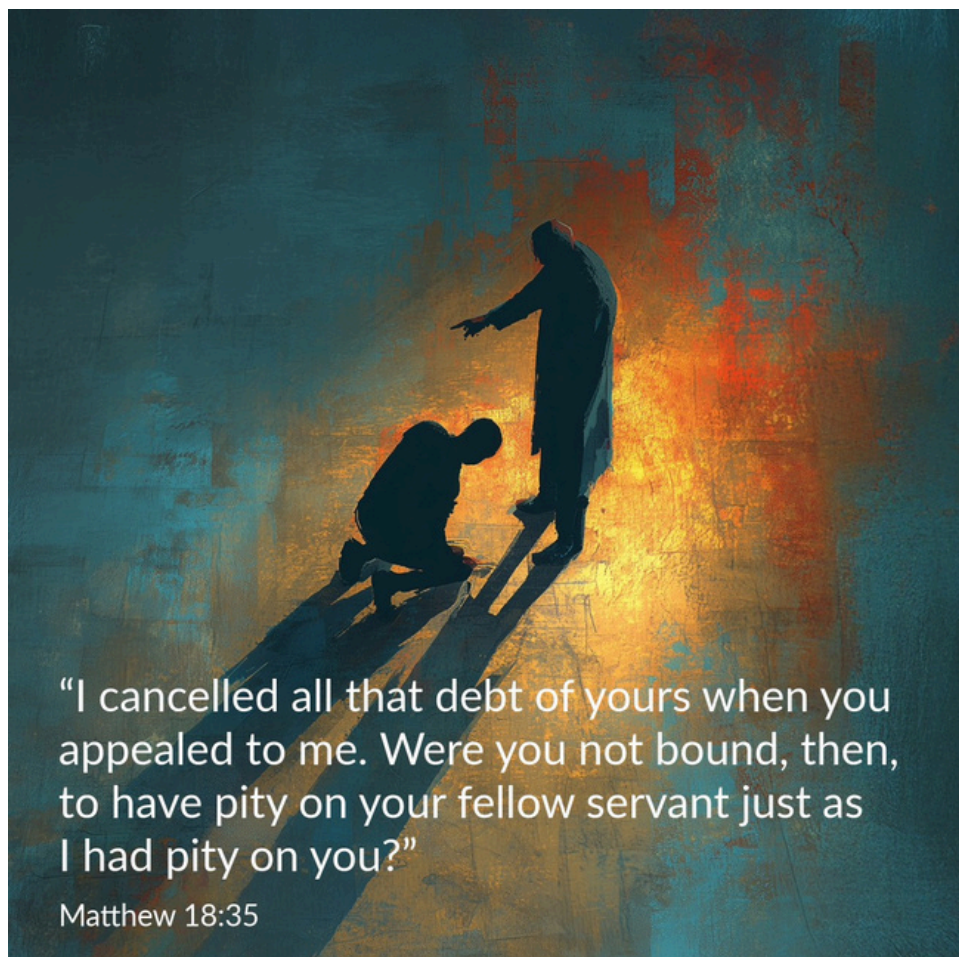
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Second Reading ~ Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.



Gospel ~ Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Safeguarding Sunday

Catholics around Australia mark Safeguarding Sunday on September 13.

The 2026 theme "Love Protects" recognises that safeguarding is a practical expression of Christian love.

When communities prioritise the safety, dignity, and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, they embody the love and care that is at the heart of the Gospel.

The Church is showing national leadership in safeguarding through:

Professional development that strengthens the capacity of Catholic organisations

Reviews, audits and assessments of Catholic organisations

Management of the Australian Catholic Ministry Register

Safeguarding awareness, education and communications initiatives

As faith communities gather to mark Safeguarding Sunday, we reflect on the example of Jesus, who welcomed and protected the vulnerable and marginalised. His ministry inspires the Church's commitment to care, respect, and justice.

Thank You

Thank you to the parishioners who joined us for Safeguarding Training provided by the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Team.





Father's Day



Banksia Family Group



In August, the Banksia family group spent a relaxing evening around the fire, eating pizza and sharing stories. We are looking forward to welcoming some new parishioners to our group at our next event.



If you are interested in joining one of our parish Family Groups, please contact Margaret at the Parish Office.



First Reconciliation 2026

Children in Year 2 or above who have been baptised in the Catholic Church, are invited to register to receive their First Reconciliation. Preparation for children who attend Mary Help of Christians School will take place during Religious Education lessons.

If your child attends another local school, preparation will take place in the church after school.

Children will be receiving the sacrament in one of two sessions:

Wednesday 18th November or
Thursday 19th November

There will also be a Reconciliation mini-retreat on Tuesday 17th November.

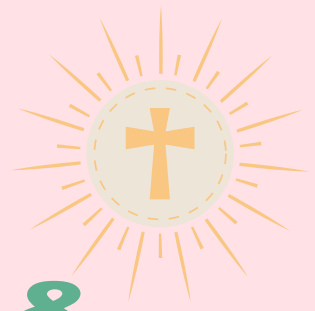
If you have any questions, contact Sawtell Parish Office on 02 6658 3544 or contact MHOC school (MHOC families only).

Please register your child by Friday 25th September via this link:

<https://forms.gle/pExU4LdYnyoxdn7p6>



Scan to register



PASTORAL CARE & HOME VISITS

If you or an immediate family member is unwell or housebound and unable to attend Mass, our parish is here to support you.

Privacy Note: Due to privacy regulations, requests must be made directly by the person or an immediate family member. If you know someone who needs care, please ask their permission before passing on their phone number to the parish. We will then contact them to discuss their pastoral needs.

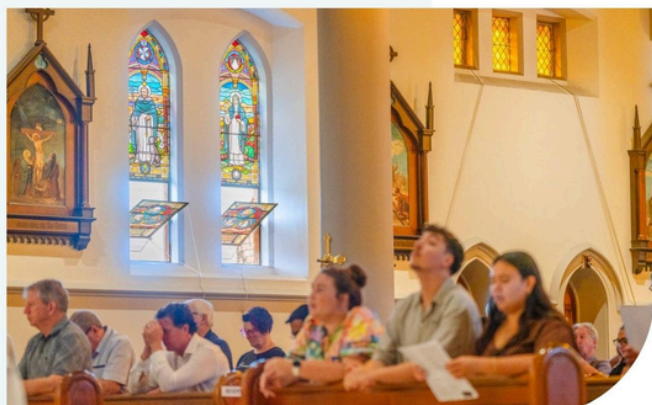
- **Holy Communion at Home:**
 - ~ Marian Grove or Mater Christi residents: Contact Matt or Kathryn via the SCC Pastoral Office.
 - ~ Wider Parish area: Contact the Parish Office directly.
- **Anointing of the Sick:** Contact the Parish Office. For urgent after-hours requests, call the office and press 2 to be connected to a priest.
- **Bulletin Prayer List:** Contact the Parish Office to add an immediate family member to our prayers for the sick.
- **Mass Transport:** If you need assistance getting to Mass, please contact the Parish Office.

Parish Office Hours: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Monday to Friday

After-Hours Calls: Press 1 to leave a non-urgent message for the next business day, or press 2 for an urgent priest request.



MASSES	Coordinator	Welcomer	Ex. Minister	Sacristan	Offertory	Reader	Powerpoint Op	Senior Altar Server
Saturday 6pm		Pat Winter	Chris Sercombe	Les Michalik	Cheryl Hughes		Cate Clark	Les Michalik
Sunday 7:30am		John & Marie Hendriks	Sue G & Kathy M	Lyn Hollyman	Brenda & Peter Graham	Norma Campbell	Leanne Gennat	Lyn Hollyman
Sunday 9am	Louise Thompson	Yvonne Burton	Don Kirkaldy	Kathryn & Megan	Bob & Gai Roff	Dawn Sillato	Louise Thompson	



September Renewal Newsletter

In this edition, we look back on a season of real connection across the diocese. Parishes gathered to share their stories with the Diocesan Pastoral Council, Catholic Youth Lismore launched across the region, and our first Foundations of Lay Led Liturgy cohort completed their formation. We also share how Eucharist28 is taking shape in our parishes, invite young people to register their interest in upcoming youth events, and look ahead to this year's Diocesan Art Prize giving.



Scan the QR code to read the newsletter



Congratulations!
Eric and Sue Garvey celebrate their 45th Wedding Anniversary on the 12th September.

Choir Practice

The choir will be singing at 9am Mass on Sunday 27th of September.
Practice will be in the church on Tuesdays 15th and 22nd September at 7pm.
Everyone is welcome to join the choir family and enjoy singing. Come and be a part of a very rewarding ministry.



Recently Deceased
Maureen Brown
Father Bernard Frize

The Sick
Marg Bryant
Pat Verity

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



Cenacle Rosary
Every Tuesday at 3pm in the Church.
All welcome.



Diocesan Investment Fund

Interest Rate—4.15% (eff 1/8/2026)

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