

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Parish Finance Committee (PFC) Update

1. **New Parish Centre:** Lodgement of DA has been delayed by external Group finalising a Property Council of Australia Report that will be attached to the DA. The main issue is advice on access to the Centre from the main street. Hopefully the DA will be lodged by early April.
2. **Wyndham Church/Attached block Sale:** This sale delayed as attached block is not in the name of the Parish. Legal advice is that the resolution of this issue will take many months. The Parish will continue with the sale of the Church. Marketing likely to start in April.
3. **Pambula Land:** Recent meetings have been held with Shane Radnell (Colliers) who has assisted with the feasibility of different options for the land (ie outright sale v joint venture development) and with Michael Collins (Surveyor) and his town planner to clarify BVSC planning requirements. The PFC are currently pursuing the JV development option with the aim of securing 2 townhouses for the Parish to seek a long term rental income flow. We are now awaiting a statement from the State Government in relation to a significant potentially beneficial automatic change to zoning for our land. Decision likely in next 6-8 weeks.

A MESSAGE FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS: Thank you for your commitment to ministry in our parish. We would be unable to continue to provide pastoral and administrative support to our parishioners and community members without your dedication and support. In NSW it is a requirement for anyone over 18 years of age involved in activities with children to hold a **current Working with Children Check (WWCC)**. At a parish level, this applies to parish priests/staff/volunteers active in particular ministries. Twice a year, a report of all active WWCC holders is required to be sent to the Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding office (IPSS) in the Archdiocesan Chancery, Manuka. **Audits** are due at the end of **March and September** and all parishes in the Archdiocese are required to comply. The Archdiocese can be audited by NSW government agencies at any time so the audit reports are an important aspect of maintaining accurate records for when an audit occurs. Please help us to maintain accurate records for the audits by ensuring your WWC is current.

Please help make our LENTEN CROSSES: 1-3pm Friday 22nd March in the courtyard at St Joseph's. Bring scissors. Please place last year's crosses and palms in the receptacles in each Church. These will be burnt to make ashes for next year's Ash Wednesday.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL 100 CLUB: Thank you to those that have supported this appeal. We have sold 68 tickets so have a few more to sell at both churches this Sunday, followed by the draw after 10am Mass. Tickets are \$20 each. Prizes: 1st - \$400; 2nd - \$200; 3rd - \$100; 4th - \$50.

Samantha Hazlett (Diocesan Director for Caritas Australia) will be speaking to our Parish about Project Compassion at Eden Mass on Saturday 23 March at 6pm. Please come along.



CONTACT DETAILS Parish Priest

Fr George Ogah
George.Ogah@cg.org.au

Parish Secretary

Mrs Alicia O'Connor
Parish Council Chair

Mrs Bernadette Wood
Liturgy Coordinator

Ms Sue Heffernan
Finance Chair

Mr Neil Ffrench
Parish Safeguarding Volunteer

Mr Philip Roach

Lumen Christi Catholic College

Mr Shane Giles (02) 6495 8888

Marriage Preparations

Damien & Celi Kennedy
Parish Office

Hours - 9am to 3pm
Wednesday and Thursday
Phone - 0435 036 236
Email - pambula@cg.org.au
Web - www.cg.org.au/pambula
Address - 79 Main Street /
PO Box 249, Merimbula,
NSW, 2548

Churches

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Eden
St Joseph's, Merimbula
St Peter's, Pambula
St Joseph's, Wyndham

Mass Times

1st Saturday of Month
-9:30am, Merimbula
Saturday -6pm, Eden
Sunday -8am, Pambula
-10am, Merimbula
Tuesday -5pm, Merimbula
Wednesday-10am, Pambula
Thursday -10am, Eden
Friday -10am, Merimbula

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Our mission as the Christian community of St Peter's Parish, enlightened and inspired by the Holy Spirit, is to be salt and light through the loving way of our words, actions and respect for the dignity of all, so that others may experience the love of Christ.

We acknowledge the Yuin people and pay our deepest respects to elders of past, present and emerging from all first nations around the world from whom we have learned so much.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT Sunday 17th MARCH, 2024

REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'Today's Gospel invites us to turn our gaze to the crucifix,' Pope Francis once said, adding that it 'is not an ornamental object or clothing accessory.' Rather, it is something more: 'a religious symbol to contemplate and understand.' This is a theme to which the Pope has repeatedly turned. On another occasion he reminded his listeners that the image of the crucified Jesus is something newcomers first encounter: 'In churches, in the homes of Christians, even worn on their persons,' a cross is meant to symbolise the faith of those who display it.

That being the case, it is beholden on us as individuals and communities to show what being a follower of Jesus really means. Jesus responded to Philip and Andrew by speaking of the grain that dies to yield a good harvest and of the follower who serves. As Jesus' words suggest, real understanding comes from the witness of service and self-sacrifice. Whenever people encounter a crucifix or cross, therefore, they should also see signs of servant discipleship. Whether in our churches, homes or daily lives, we are all called to be authentic bearers of the cross. We should strive to offer the world what the Pope characterises as 'the witness of a life that is given in service, a life that takes upon itself the style of God – closeness, compassion and tenderness.'

'The important thing is that the sign be consistent with the Gospel,' says Pope Francis. Whenever or wherever people display a cross, they should also themselves be living signs of 'love, service, unreserved self-giving.'

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Will follow 10am Mass on Fridays in Merimbula during Lent.

You are invited to make a contribution towards replacing the Cross on the Church Steeple at our Eden Church. A heartfelt thank you to those that have already contributed.

Jeremiah 31:31-34/ Hebrews 5:7-9/John 12:20-33

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;

and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon: John 12: 24

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Reconciliation (Confession)

Friday, after Mass, Merimbula

Saturday, before Vigil Mass, Eden

Wednesday, after Mass, Pambula

Anointing of the Sick

Will be offered at weekday masses during the last week of every month.

Sacrament of Baptism

Welcoming Mass – 4th Sat/Sun of the month prior to Baptism during Mass on 1st Saturday/Sunday of the month.

Please ring office for all Baptism preparation enquiries.

Weddings

By appointment only – at least 6 months’ notice in advance.

Adoration

Tuesday at 4:15pm followed by Mass at 5pm, Merimbula

1st Sunday at 3:00pm, Eden

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary

Sunday 9:30am and Fridays at 9:30am

At St Joseph’s Merimbula

Rosary

Monday Cenacle 11am in Merimbula

Wednesday 9am in Pambula

Thursday 8:45am in Eden



Feasts/Special Days:

Mon 18 Mar: St Patrick, bishop (Solemnity).

Tues 19 Mar: St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity).

Sat 23 Mar: Collect of St Turibius of Mogrovejo, bishop (Optional).



Dates to Remember:

Tues 19 March: St Joseph’s Feast Mass in Wyndham Church at 12PM Midday, followed by lunch.

Fri 22 Mar: Making Palm Sunday Crosses, 1-3pm at Merimbula. Bring scissors.

Thurs 28 Mar: No Mass in Eden. Holy Thursday Mass 7pm in Pambula.

Fri 29 Mar: Stations of the Cross 11am at All Mass Centres; Good Friday Service 3pm at Merimbula.

Sat 30 Mar: Easter Vigil Mass 7pm at Eden.

Sun 31 Mar: Easter Day Mass 8am at Pambula and 10am at Merimbula.

Sun 7 Apr: Divine Mercy Service 3pm at Merimbula.

Planned Giving Collections: First: \$942.15; Second: Envelopes: \$435.50; Loose: \$396.50. THANK YOU to ALL parishioners who continually support our Parish through our plate collections at Mass, through the envelopes and direct banking. Without your financial help our Parish could not continue to function.

Let Us Pray for and support those who are sick and for all who have asked for our prayers... Josephine Power, Helen Lynch, John Hazell, Christian Cole, Pat Wong, John Liston, Conrad De Zwart, Jake Alcock, Anne Cooper, Jocelyn Petty, Jeff and Monica Paffen, Glen Alcock, Lynette Robert, Patricia May Bills, Cliff Hamilton, Margot Neilson, Rob Francis, Chris Greenwood, Margaret Coates, Lyn Collie, Geoff Heffernan, Mary O’Donnell, Judy Broddrick, Max Andrew, Ros Beveridge, Eric Mangion, Anselmo Guiffre, David Went.

This Week’s Mass Intentions: Nil.

We pray for all the Faithful departed or whose anniversaries occur including: Veronica Kowacz (RIP), Sharon Mills (RIP), Br Gerard Rummery (RIP).

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of our Lord, rest in Peace, AMEN



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

Rosters for 16/17 March:

Eden:	Pambula:	Merimbula:
Intro & Prayers: Sue	Commentator/2 nd Reading/Prayers of the Faithful:	Commentator /2 nd Reader:
1 st Reader: Gaye	Dave Crawford	Helen
2 nd Reader: Eileen McRae	1 st Reader: Lyn Matthews	First Reader: Marian

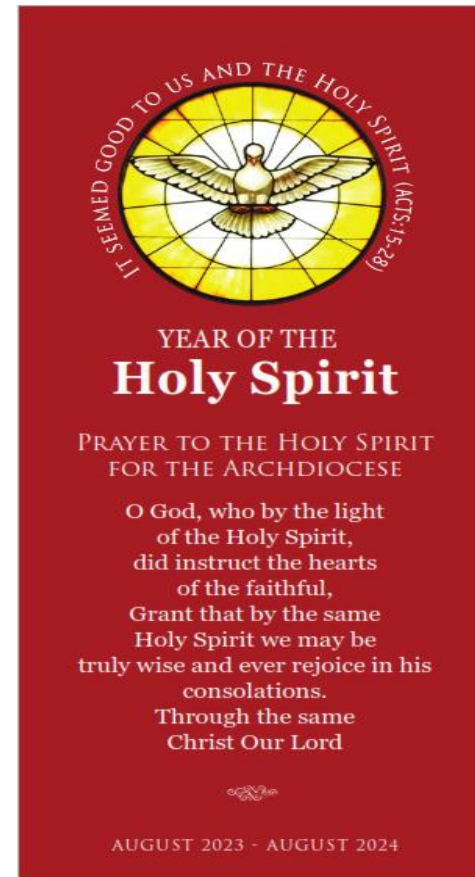
Holy Week Services:

Holy Thursday: 7pm Pambula Church

Good Friday: 11am Stations of the Cross, All Mass Centres 3pm Passion of the Lord and Veneration of the Holy Cross, Merimbula Church.

Easter Vigil: 7pm Eden Church

Easter Sunday: 8am Pambula Church 10am Merimbula Church



John 12:20-33: If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT: St Peter’s Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people to have their say, to be listened to and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking.

COMMUNICATING CONCERNS: You are encouraged to raise any concerns by emailing Fr George, the Parish Office, the Parish Safeguarding Volunteer or directly to Maria Hicks at the Institute Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) on ips@cg.org.au