

Catholic Parish of Pambula 2nd /3rd December 2017

*Our Lady Star of the Sea
Eden*

*St. Joseph's
Merimbula*

*St. Peter's
Pambula*

*St. Joseph's
Wyndham*

Parish Administrator: Fr. James T. Antony cmi
Ph: (02) 64951880 Fax: 64952550

Parish Website: www.cg.org.au/pambula

Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula Beach Ph: 6495 8888

Hon. Parish Secretary: Mrs. Sandra Bray.

Marriage Preparation Contact:

Baptisms: On any weekend during Mass.

New parishioners are most welcome. Please fill in the card in the foyer so we can contact you.

Presbytery: 79 Main St., Merimbula, 2548
e-mail: pambula@cg.org.au

Principal Mr. Steve Centra

Jacqui & Gavin Bell 6494 9766

MASS TIMES NEXT WEEKEND 9th/10th December 2017
Eden Vigil Saturday 6p.m. Pambula Sunday 8a.m. Merimbula Sunday 10a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Merimbula: Saturday 9.30am – 10.30am.
Eden: Before the Vigil Mass Saturday
Pambula: Before the 8a.m. Mass
At any other time by request

Weekday Liturgies/Masses

Tues: Liturgy Eden 8.00a.m.
Mass Merimbula 5.00p.m.
Wed: Mass Pambula 9.30a.m.
Thurs: Mass Eden 9.30a.m.
Fri: Mass Lumen Christi College 9.30am.

*The Rosary is recited each Tuesday at 4.45pm
at St. Joseph's Merimbula and Our Lady Star of the Sea Eden each Thursday at 9-15am.*

Parish News/Events

*The Wednesday Social Group meets each Wednesday in the Merimbula Parish Centre from 1-3pm. All most welcome.
Mothers Prayer Group each Monday at 9.30am. at Pambula (except school holidays) All welcome.
Parish Pastoral Council ~ Contact is Bernadette Wood on 6496 1360. Please feel free to call with any concerns you see in our Parish or any inspired ideas you feel we should move forward on.
Vinnies Conference Merimbula is an active group that offers a 'hand up' to those in need. We warmly welcome new members. Please phone Christine Mabbott on 04161 30572 for further information.*

Thanks for your generosity: 1st Collection \$686.95; 2nd Collection: Envelopes \$1872.00 Loose \$239.60

Please remember in your prayers all our sick and infirm: Joy & Roy Bugden; Edna Reid ;Roslyn Beveridge; Laura Heap; Anne Moorhead; Ray Doughney; Olive Cockroft; Cecil Fletcher; Alex Ivan (nee Wood); Frank Clancy; Czes & Beata Denkiewicz; Eric Mangion; Bill Alcock; Keiran Reynolds; Rian Reynolds; Lynn Hegarty; Dawn Lucas; Patrick Buckley; Julianne Hunt; Paul Picker; John Brannelly; Tony Alcock; Justin Toussaint.

Deceased relatives and friends for whom prayers have been requested include Mary (Maureen) Gaha; Bening Recla (mother of Angie Clinton); Nora Jones; May Reynolds; Kevin Bertram; Brian Gandon; Anna Strk; Rita Luppino; Kim Geraghty; Gildo Dal Piva; Maria Rech (mother of Barb A.)

We have loved them in Life; let us not forget them in death.

MERIMBULA

Commentator & PF	Reader	Sp. Minister of Communion	Altar Flowers	Offertory
03/12 Gai	Fiona	Teresa, Anne Neil, Judy		
10/12 Helen	Lyn	Neil, Jackie, Ursula, Isabel		

Cleaning: Nil 02/12 R & D Selorio. 09/12 Nil

EDEN

TBA

Cleaning

PAMBULA

03/12 Pat Went	Sue Muffler	Jacqui & Mauren	Pat	
10/12 Jason Harley	Diana Harley	Celi & Gwenda	Jason	

Cleaning: December ~ Fran & Bill Peterie

Readings for next Sunday ~ 1st Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Resp. Psalm 84:9-14, 2nd Reading, 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel Mark.1;1-8 (NSV or NRSV Bible) www.usccb.org

ADVENT

Columban Father Tim Mulroy compares Advent to fishing, both involving preparation and waiting. The word **Advent** means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Thus, Advent is far more than simply marking a 2,000 year old event in history. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate. Scripture reading for Advent will reflect this emphasis on the Second Advent, including themes of accountability for faithfulness at His coming, judgment on sin, and the hope of eternal life. Advent is marked by a spirit of expectation, of anticipation, of preparation, of longing. There is a yearning for deliverance from the evils of the world, first expressed by Israelite slaves in Egypt as they cried out from their bitter oppression. It is the cry of those who have experienced the tyranny of injustice in a world under the curse of sin, and yet who have hope of deliverance by a God who has heard the cries of oppressed slaves and brought deliverance!

The Advent wreath is an increasingly popular symbol of the beginning of the Church year in many churches as well as homes. It is a circular evergreen wreath (real or artificial) with five candles, four around the wreath and one in the center. Since the wreath is symbolic and a vehicle to tell the Christmas story, there are various ways to understand the symbolism. The exact meaning given to the various aspects of the wreath is not as important as the story to which it invites us to listen, and participate.

The **first candle** is traditionally the candle of **Expectation** or **Hope** (or in some traditions, Prophecy). This draws attention to the anticipation of the coming of an Anointed One, a Messiah, that weaves its way like a golden thread through Old Testament history. As God's people were abused by power hungry kings, led astray by self-centered prophets, and lulled into apathy by half-hearted religious leaders, there arose a longing among some for God to raise up a new king who could show them how to be God's people. They yearned for a return of God's dynamic presence in their midst.

SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION ~ On

Wednesday 20 December at 7-30pm at St. Joseph's Merimbula, we will hold our regular Second Rite of Reconciliation. I encourage all of you to make use of this opportunity to prepare ourselves to welcome baby Jesus into our hearts.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Thursday 7/12 Saint Ambrose, Bishop
Friday 8/12 The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Heartsong and Spirit Allegro combine to sing beautiful music in the spirit of Christmas. 7pm Sat. 9th Dec., St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Merimbula; 7pm Sun. 10th Dec., St. John's Anglican Church, Bega.

PARISH VISION

To be a prayerful, faithful, welcoming, serving, vibrant and Christ-centred community.

St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. The Christmas tree has been erected and you are invited to contribute either by taking a tag from the tree, or placing a donation in an envelope available at the back of the church and placing it on the plate. If you take a tag, please attach it to your gift and return it UNWRAPPED by 10 December. Vinnies Christmas cards are also available after Mass or from the centre. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Christmas Mass times

Christmas Eve, Sunday 24 December: 5 pm Family and children's mass, 7.30 pm Vigil at Eden, Midnight mass at Pambula.

Christmas Day: Monday 25 December: 10 am mass Merimbula

SET POOLS OF SILENCE IN THIS THIRSTY LAND

Contemplating the silent presence of God is a new book by Archbishop Christopher Prowse.

"God Speaks to us in the silence of our noisy world- in the silence of nature, of suffering, of ageing, of imprisonment, of dying, of prayer and ritual, to mention just a few. The meditations in this book, illustrated by many experiences from the author's personal life and pastoral ministry, invite us to be befriended by the silence of our lives and to discover in them the still, quiet voice of God". I recommend this book to anyone who is looking for some still moments in the presence of God. (St. Paul's Publications (02) 9394 3400 or email sales@stpauls.com.au)

Next Friday 8 December Mass at 9-30am at Lumen Christi. Lumen celebrates both Lumen Day and Thanksgiving mass. All parishioners are invited to attend. Our regular Friday morning Mass at Merimbula stands cancelled.

Ladies Group

We will meet at Covington's Restaurant on 1st Tuesday of the month - 5th December, at 7pm. Love to see you there - Bernadette Wood (0429 774 119)

Silver jubilee of Eden church

Thank God, it's been 25 years since we started using Eden church for worship and prayer. Let's celebrate this occasion, I invite all of you for a thanksgiving mass on Saturday 16 December at 6 pm and for a cuppa thereafter. Come celebrate Fr James