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Pambula Parish Office

Catholic Parish of Pambula 23rd /24th 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

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

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

Lumen Christi Catholic College, Pambula Beach Ph: 6495 8888

Principal Mr. Steve Centra

Hon. Parish Secretary: Mrs. Sandra Bray.

Marriage Preparation Contact:

Jacqui & Gavin Bell 6494 9766

Baptisms: On any weekend during Mass.

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

MASS TIMES NEXT WEEKEND 30th/31st 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.

Liturgy Merimbula 5.00p.m.

Wed: Liturgy Pambula 9.30a.m.

Thurs: Liturgy Eden 9.30a.m.

Fri: Liturgy Merimbula 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 \$662.90; 2nd Collection: Envelopes \$990.50 Loose \$280.20

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 Slavko Skoko; Ian Hunt; Mary (Maureen) Gaha; Bening Recla (mother of Angie Clinton); Sheila Walker; 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
24/12 Volunteer	Volunteer	Terry & Leah 2 more needed	(Sunday 10am Mass)	
24/12 Lyn	Lily Spinks & Reece Young	Teresa, Neil, Christine, Isabel, Lyn	(Children's Mass 5pm)	
25/12 Volunteers needed		Terry & Leah (2 more needed)	(Christmas Day 10am)	
31/12 Anne	Teresa	Terry, Leah, Judy, Neil		

Cleaning: 23/12 Nil 30/12 M Nd'Hage N& S Schroeder

EDEN

PAMBULA

Commentator & PF	Reader	Sp. Minister of Communion	Altar Flowers
24/12 Celie Kennedy	Shane Grace	Pat & Maureen	Celie
31/12 Sue Muffler	Bill Peterie	Pat & Gwenda	Sue

Cleaning: December ~ Fran & Bill Peterie. January: Gwenda Blake

Readings for next Sunday ~ 1st Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3, Resp. Psalm:104;1-6. 8-9. 2nd Reading, Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19. Gospel Luke 2;22-10. (NSV or NRSV Bible) www.usccb.org

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

New Year's Day Mass Monday 1/1/2018 9-3am St. Joseph's Merimbula.

PARISH VISION

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

Baptism: Congratulations to Poppy Charlotte Henderson whom we welcome into the Family of God, the Church, through the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

Archbishop's Christmas Message 2017

"NO ROOM IN THE INN" - EXPRESSING HOSPITALITY IN PRACTICAL CHARITY

Surely one of the saddest lines in the Gospel is when Jesus came to be born in Bethlehem and Joseph and Mary had to find emergency accommodation at a stable as there was "no room in the inn." (Luke 2/7)

Already Jesus is found to be on life's periphery. He seems homeless. There is a lack of hospitality in Bethlehem. We can easily sentimentalise these moments but, in fact, they hide a harsh reality that still ought to trouble us even today. The social services agencies of the Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn advise me that homelessness is increasing at an alarming rate in our area. This real poverty has an increasingly younger face and involves many more single mothers with young children. Like Jesus, there seems to be "no room in the inn."

Let us give priority this Christmas and New Year season to practical charity. We could focus on our families, neighbourhoods and the wider communities. For a start, we could give generously to Christmas appeals for monies or Christmas gifts to the marginalised, especially the homeless.

Then this Christmas will begin to reverse the inhospitality of the first Christmas over two thousand years ago.

May you and your families and loved ones be blessed in these fragile and troubled times.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Catholic Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

Thank you.. A BIG Thank you

Dear and loving Family members,

A heart full of gratitude, I thank God Almighty for the gift of life, faith, church, priesthood and loving people like each one of you. I always felt I have met my family here and made my family here. Many of you consider me as your son, a member of your family and I call a few Mum, that will remain forever.

When I look at the learning curve in my life, I can see, this place, in the last nearly five years have played an important role in shaping my pastoral ministry. I can confidently say that it was because the way you received me, an unworthy, imperfect, incomplete product, a servant of God. Thank you.

This is where; everyone, Catholics, non-Catholics and people from all walks of life, loves me. This is where; I was stopped in the middle of the street and was asked, whether I am a doctor or not? After a short pause my answer was, "yea, I am a doctor of the souls; I am the catholic priest in the town".

If you recall, when I came here I had thick long black hair. NOW...!! I consider, I am growing in wisdom.

I came here neither to please everyone nor to upset anyone. If I have upset anyone or hurt anyone, I am truly sorry, they were not intentional. I was here to carry out my pastoral duty in the most balanced way, reaching out to as many as possible, to add a little more smile on the face of others. If I could achieve anything during my time here, its just because we worked together, just because everyone felt it was everyone's business.

I wish I could thank everyone by name, unfortunately that is impossible. I thank each one of you my loving parish family, members of various committees (PFC, PPC, PLC, Music etc.), ministers of other churches and their communities, people in this beautiful part of the world. I will miss each one of you and this place that I call, "heaven on earth". I want to thank Maureen Partridge and Sandra Bray for their unreserved support.

Treat my leaving as if your son is leaving home for good to a different place. When I visit you in the future, don't ask me who I am?!!

I continue seeking your assistance, guidance and prayer support in my next assignment as the parish priest of Corpus Christi parish of South Tuggeranong in Canberra one of the largest parishes in the Archdiocese.

I assure each one of you my prayers and special remembrance in masses. Please visit me when possible.

Fr James T Antony cmi

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 26/12 St. Stephen, the first martyr

Wednesday 27/12 St. Johm, Apostle, Evangelist

Thursday 28/12 The Holy Innocents, martyrs.

ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL will be held at all Christmas Masses