

St Peter's Catholic Parish

21 March, 2021 – **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

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 other may experience the love of Christ.

We sincerely acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Yuin people.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

We want to see Jesus

I can observe a baby, but the parents 'see' their baby very differently. They gaze with total fascination, trying to perceive what this little bundle of flesh is really all about, trying to get an insight into its personality, visualizing a possible future, hoping for a response.

This Gospel passage begins with a request from some Greeks 'to see Jesus', surely in all the ways parents see their baby. They were trying to perceive what this Jesus was really all about, trying to get an insight into his personality, imagining a possible future, hoping for a response. And there was a response full of allusions to the future.

Jesus was as a grain of wheat. He died and was buried in the earth and that death was fruitful for the whole of humankind. He foresaw being nailed to the cross which would be dropped upright into a hole in the ground. Our Lord says of that scene: 'When I am lifted up I will draw all people to myself.' How were people drawn to this scene? People saw the length to which Jesus was prepared to go in order to persevere in his mission to live out the message that his Heavenly Father was full of mercy and wanted all people to share in Divine Life. This led to his being lifted up on the cross, being buried in the ground like a grain of wheat, only to rise to new life. We could take a moment to pray that we will shortly see all this with the eyes of faith as we participate in the rituals of Good Friday and Easter.

Churches, Mass Celebrations and Prayer

Churches

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

Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday, 9:30am - 10:00am, Merimbula
Saturday, before Vigil Mass, Eden

Adoration

1st Friday of the month at 8:30am, Merimbula
1st Sunday at 3pm, Eden

Weddings

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

Mass Times

Saturday, 6:00pm, Eden
Sunday, 8:00am, Merimbula
Sunday, 10:00am, Merimbula
Tuesday, 5:00pm, Merimbula
Wednesday, 9:30am, Merimbula
Thursday, 9:30am Eden
Friday, 9:30am Merimbula

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

Divine Mercy Chaplet & Rosary

Tuesdays at 4:30pm, St Joseph's Merimbula

Contact Details

Parish Priest

Fr Paletasala (Pale) Leota

Parish Secretary

Parish Council Chair

Mrs Bernadette Wood

Liturgy Coordinator

Ms Sue Heffernan

Finance Chair

Mr Neil Ffrench

Lumen Christi Catholic College

Mr Shane Giles (02)64958888

Marriage Preparations

Damien & Celi Kennedy

Parish Office

Hours – 10:00am to 1:00pm
Wednesday to 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



" God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him."

"Enlightened and inspired by the Holy Spirit"

During Lent penance should be not only inward and individual, but also outward and social *SC110*



FRIDAY PENANCE. Friday is a traditional day of penance and should be marked by prayer, self-denial and helping others. During Lent **penance** should be not only inward and individual, but also outward and social. *SC 110*

What Is the Meaning of Lent? - Biblical Meaning and Purpose

Lent is meant to be a time of repentance. These 40 days are set aside to praise and worship the Lord; to read the Bible more, and to pray more often. Christians who observe Lent correctly anticipate deeper intimacy with the Lord.

Parish News and Events ... Please ring 0435 036 236 for any parish enquiries

THE SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday, 24/3 at Merimbula.

Solemn Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord on Thursday, 25/3

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: On all Fridays of Lent after 9.30am Mass at Merimbula

LENTEN REFLECTION PRAYER GROUP Commenced: Eden Thursday 5:45pm, Merimbula on Monday 1:00pm in the Hospitality Centre (Pambula). All are welcome. Contact Anne for more information on 0408 241 230

PARISH CENTRE CLOSURE, Merimbula

Due to some OH&S issues with the Merimbula Parish Centre it will be closed until further notice. A review will be completed and decisions taken as to the remedial action and /or future of the existing Centre. Whilst this Centre is unavailable, Parish Committee meetings will be held in Mary Mackillop Hall in Eden. Apologies for any inconvenience caused by this closure.

Book-in for Mass Please remember that as per restrictions we are still expected **to book and check in for Mass**, maintain a special-distance of 2 square metres, receive Holy Communion in the hand only, refrain from physical contact when offering the Sign of Peace, and to sanitise when entering and exiting the premises. Please email or ring the parish office between 10:00am – 1:00pm Wed - Fri. Ph: 0435 036 236 – https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/wpcontent/uploads/2020/10/201008_UpdatedArchProtocols_PercyA.pdf

REMINDER: The maximum number of people at a religious service (*not including weddings and funerals*) must not exceed 300 (120) people in or outside (30) subject to the 2 square meter rule.

PLEASE KEEP FOLLOWING ALL OF THE COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IN THE CHURCH

When you are checking in for mass, it would be appreciated if you use the online booking links on the parish website. <http://cg.org.au/pambula/Home.aspx> They are clearly visible under the heading BOOK IN FOR MASS.

Please click on the relevant link and register your details. This system is being regularly monitored and is much easier than using the email or voice message at the parish office.

Please note that bookings for Eden Vigil Mass and 8:00 am Merimbula Mass close at 3:00pm on Saturday and 10:00 Merimbula Mass closes at 8:00pm on Saturday. Please pass this to your friends and family. Thank you.

The Catholic Daily Voice is available for you to subscribe to and receive via email by clicking on the attached link: <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/> and follow instructions online to subscribe.

Laudato Si' Lent: Lent 2021: A Journey of Hope

The Global Catholic Climate Movement invites you to embark upon a journey of ecological conversion through reflection, repentance, and renewal. By committing to concrete changes through fasting and lifestyle changes, we will live more in solidarity with our Earth and each other and inspire our sisters and brothers to join this conversion process.

Planned Giving Collections: First: \$452.55; Second: Envelopes \$395.50; Loose \$300.65

Thank you for your generosity and God bless you all

Let Us Pray for and support those who are sick

Jennifer Wasley, Maree Linfoot, Mary O'Donnell, Judy O'Donnell, John Reynolds, Bill Petrie, Ysmael Valencia, Danielle Sou, Max Andrew, David Went, Ros Beveridge, Roy Bugden, Eric Mangion, Marie Hart, Anselmo Guiffre, Beata Denkiewicz.

For the Faithful departed or whose anniversaries occur including,

Shane Geraghty, Betty Pease, Arlette Guidoni, Howard Collins, Patricia Friend, Sandra E. Wood, Monsignor Kevin Barry-Cotter, "Bill" Raymond William Thornton, Tupa'i Iakopo Nanai, Peter Grubestic, Mary Fenech, Bernard Risi Creamer, Bernard Lamers, Rex Healy, Giuseppe Condemi, Brian Wyndham, Albina Dal Piva, Ruza Novinc, Maureen Partridge, Ken Clear, Millicent Clear, Anotnio Ziino, Maureen Frances DuBock, Peter Hamer, John Hulme, Catherine Randazzo, Jeanette Robert, Olga Novinc, Kieth Balantyne, Kim Geraghty, Dawn Lucas, James Barry, Greg Morrison, Glyneth Middlemiss, Brian Middlemiss, Errol Cole, Mary D'Arcy, Janine Capell, Winifred Stephenson.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of our Lord, Rest in Peace. Amen.

Please advise the Office if you would like to be added to or taken off the list for prayers.

The Divine Mercy of Jesus – 3 O'clock Prayer "The Hour of Great Mercy"

Jesus said: Call upon My mercy on behalf of sinners; I desire their salvation. When you say this prayer, with a contrite heart and with faith on behalf of some sinner, I will give that person the grace of conversion. This is the prayer; "O Blood and Water which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a Fount of Mercy for us, I trust in you."

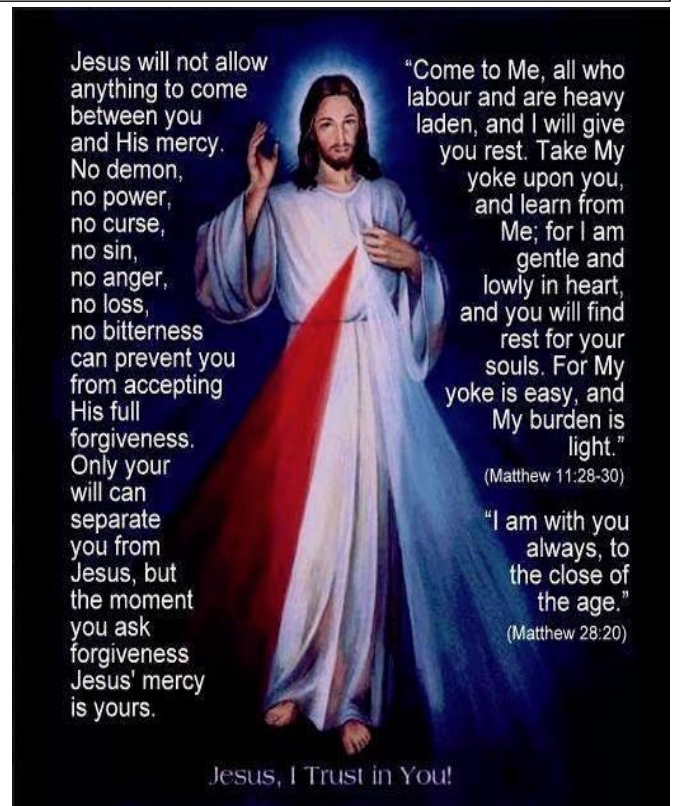
The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed before Mass on Sunday and Adoration and Benediction on every First Friday at 8.30am Merimbula Church; First Sunday 3:00pm at Eden

VACANCY: Parish Secretary

Applicants are invited to apply for the position Parish Secretary for St Peter's Parish, Pambula (Merimbula). This is a part-time permanent position from 9:30am to 1:30pm each day, Wednesday to Friday each week.

Essential Requirements:

Experience with financial & database packages.
 Strong communication and liaison skills
 Strong organisational skills
 Ability to work in a team environment and take direction.
 Understanding and respect for the Catholic Church and its teachings.
 Experience in an office environment.
 Salary will be subject to Clerk Award Level 4/5. Please email pambula@cg.org.au or phone 0435 036 236 for a copy of the selection criteria and duty statement. Application and Resume may be addressed to:
 The Parish Priest of St Peter's Parish Pambula.
 PO Box 249
 MERIMBULA NSW 2548
 Applications close Friday April 9, 2021.
 (Please note change of closing date from last week's Newsletter)



LENTEN LIVE STREAM - CANBERRA-GOULBURN ARCHDIOCESE.

'Walk in the Spirit' Walk in the Spirit will be live-streamed for six consecutive Thursdays during Lent from 7.30pm—9.00pm, 18th of February to 25th March 2021. Each session will include talks, sharing, prayer, and discussion opportunities. The sessions will be available for viewing via the Catholic Voice YouTube site and loaded up on the Walk in the Spirit website.

The sessions can be viewed live or after the event has been recorded. Participants will also be provided with a series of formation materials to support them on their Lenten journey. The sessions' recording will enable parishes with established Lenten groups to view at their convenience. For more details and to register go to <https://cgcatholic.org.au/walk-in-the-spirit>.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Chrism Mass: Join the Archbishop and the Clergy of the Archdiocese on Monday 29 March 2021 at 5pm in St Christopher's Cathedral, Forrest, for this most important Holy Week ceremony.

Bookings are essential and will be taken from 1pm Friday 26th using the following link:

www.trybooking.com/BPFAJ

7:00pm Monday: Holy Thursday at Merimbula

11:00am: Stations of the Cross on Good Friday: Eden and Lumen Christi College Hall (Pambula Beach Road)

3:00pm: The Passion of our Lord, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion at Lumen Christi College Hall

6:00pm Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday at Eden

8:00am & 10:00am: Easter Sunday at Lumen Christi College Hall

Flowers at St Joseph's Merimbula: roster numbers need boosting. If you would like to join the ladies on the flower roster for St Joseph's, please call Helen on 0400 304 044.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Do you want newly engaged couples to be able to make a go of their marriage? Do you wonder what can be done to help them in this? Here's a marriage preparation program that works. Fr Rob Ruhnke, a Redemptorist priest in the USA, has spent years developing a program for marriage preparation, "For Better & For Ever", which doesn't rely on couples devoting enormous amounts of time to marriage prep involvement, but works instead with the relationship between a couple approaching marriage, and a couple who have lived their marriage for some years – with both learning from each other. Rob's program doesn't stop at the wedding, but invites the relationship to continue for about 2 years. It's in that time that couples begin to find challenges to their relationship – and are often afraid to talk with anyone about it, because it might show that their marriage is 'on the rocks'. It's a time when couples can learn that these challenges are a normal part of marriage, of our rough edges being rubbed off so together we can move from our individual 'families of origin' to the new 'family of origin' that the couple is developing together. It provides newly married couples a trusted relationship wherein they can talk about their reality, learn that it is normal, and find, from someone who has lived it, ways to use those challenging times to develop a new and stronger relationship. Rob has learned, during covid-19, that the training for mentor couples can now be done entirely by Zoom, so couples the world over can become involved, be mentors. You are invited to go online to <http://marriagepreparation.com>, where you can read about the program, watch several videos, etc.

Project Compassion Sunday

14 February 2021

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed "Be More". Through your generosity and by aspiring to be more, you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

Oliva, 22, could not read, write or count, and her business was losing money. Then she attended Caritas Australia-supported literacy and numeracy classes, and set up a home classroom to teach her neighbours. Now her classes, business and family are thriving, and she aims to become a pastor and run for local leadership. Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 and support people like Oliva's gain access to education to build a brighter future and live in communities that upholds everyone's dignity. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by **phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion**

First Reading Jer 31:31-34**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

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

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

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**
3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervor sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. **(R.)**

Second Reading Heb 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 3:16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.

Gospel Jn 12:20-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.'
Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'
By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

Communion Antiphon Jn 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.