

St Peter's Catholic Parish

29th November, 2020 – First Sunday of Advent

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

Timely Living and the End of History

Our Lord portrays himself as the Master who goes away on a journey. It is certain that he will return, even if no-one in his household knows exactly when. That is our situation. What do we do in anticipation?

Our Lord, the Master, indicates we have a choice. We can close our eyes and enter into the world of dreams where we create our own fantasy futures, or we can stay awake and alert to do what Our Lord wants us to do: 'He left his servants in charge, giving to each his work.'

You and me – his servants – have a particular role or work in and for this phase of human history. A deep down intuition, prompted by the Holy Spirit, indicates what this is. We must be true to this assignment.

We could take a moment to pray that, when the Lord returns, we may hear: 'Come, good and faithful servant, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world.'

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-10am, 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, 6pm, Eden
Sunday, 8am, Merimbula
Sunday, 10am, Merimbula
Tuesday 5pm, 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

Mrs Patricia Field

Parish Council Chair

Mrs Bernadette Wood

Liturgy Coordinator

Ms Sue Heffeman

Finance Chair

Mr Neil Ffrench

Lumen Christi Catholic College

Mr Shane Giles (02)64958888

Parish Office

Hours - 10am to 1pm
Wednesday to Thursday,
Phone - (02) 6495 1880
Email - pambula@cg.org.au
Web -
www.cg.org.au/pambula
Address - 79 Main Street, PO
BOX 249, Merimbula, NSW,
2548



"Stay awake You never know when the Lord will come. "



"Enlightened and inspired by the Holy Spirit"

Feasts of the Week ...

NO FEAST THIS WEEK due to no weekday Masses

The Sacraments are a privileged way in which nature is taken up by God to become a means of mediating supernatural life. Through our worship of God, we are invited to embrace the world on a different plane. Water, oil, fire and colours are taken up in all their symbolic power and incorporated in our act of praise.

Readings of the Week ...

Monday	Rom	10:9-18; Mat 4:18-22
Tuesday	Is	11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is	25:6-10; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is	26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	Is	29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Is	30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1,6-8

Parish News and Events ...

ADVENT PREPARATIONS: Advent commences this Sunday 29th November. The parish has purchased the Wollongong Diocese's Advent program "ADORE" which has daily reflections. The cost per book is \$5.00. If you would like to purchase a book to use in your own home are now available from the parish office.

November is the month for the faithful departed and 'ALL HOLY SOULS' in Purgatory

The Rosary devotion is recited before Mass on Saturday/Sunday for our loved ones and all the faithful departed.

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY. Prayer of Saint Gertrude the Great:

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, those in my own home, and within my family. Amen.

Book-in for Mass

Please remember that as per restrictions we are still expected **to book and check in for mass**, maintain a spacial-distance of 4 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 10am and 1pm Wed - Fri. Ph: 6495 1880 - https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/wp-content/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 (76) people in or outside subject to the 4 square meter rule.

PLEASE KEEP FOLLOWING ALL OF THE COVID-19 PROTOCOLS IN THE CHURCH 10am Mass at Merimbula is the busiest of all Masses. WE CANNOT GO OVER NUMBERS, PLEASE REGISTER. If our numbers reach capacity, then you will be asked to attend at another time. The NSW HEALTH DEPT is currently doing spot checks, and some churches have been fined up to \$10000 for breaching protocol.

NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES have been distributed in the church. If you wish to have a Mass offered during November, please fill in the details and place your envelope in the collection box.

Columban Calendars 2021 are now available in the Parish Office at \$10 each.

Want to learn more about the Bible?

Please join us at 1:00pm every Monday in the Merimbula Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome. For more information please contact Trevor Cooper on 0438 500 262

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgivng be every moment thine.

Planned Giving Program

First Collection: \$452.65; Second Collection: Envelopes \$523.10; Loose \$225.90,
Much appreciated and thank you for your generosity.

Let Us Pray for and support those who are sick

Ysmael Valencia, Danielle Sou, Max Andrew, David Went, Ros Beveridge, Roy and Joy Bugden, Eric Mangion, Maureen Partridge, Marie Hart, Anselmo Guiffre, Beata Denkwicz, Peter Hamer.

For the Faithful departed or whose anniversaries occur including,

Olga Novinc, Kieth Balantyne, Kim Geraghty, Dawn Lucas, James Barry, Greg Morrison, Claire Thomas, Glyneth Middlemiss, Brian Middlemiss, Errol Cole, Mary D'Arcy.

May the Souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



The Sacraments are a privileged way in which nature is taken up by God to become a means of mediating supernatural life. Through our worship of God, we are invited to embrace the world on a different plane. Water, oil, fire and colours are taken up in all their symbolic power and incorporated in our act of praise. *Laudato Si (2015) 235*

The Christian vision of death receives privileged expression in the liturgy of the Church, "Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven".

Instruction Ad resurgendum cum Christo 2016

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."**

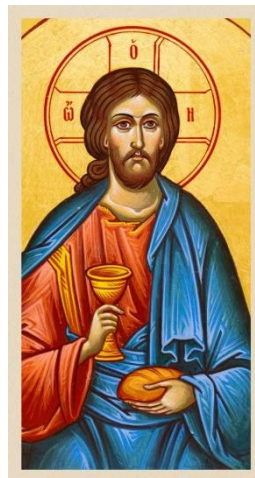
The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed before Mass on Sunday and Adoration and Benediction on every First Friday at 8.30am Merimbula Church.

Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Prayer for Australia

Lord you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.



Prayer after Communion

Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith the day of our risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you. O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine. All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU REGISTER FOR CHRISTMAS MASS BEARING IN MIND THAT THERE WILL BE A LOT OF VISITORS AROUND

24th December LCCC Hall 5pm
Our Lady Star of the Sea 7pm
St Joseph's Merimbula 9pm
Christmas Day St Joseph's Merimbula 10am

Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
 Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.
 O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia
 and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.
 Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognize
 Jesus, our companion on the road.
 Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.
 Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart
 to hear what you are saying.
 Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
 that we may live the joy of the Gospel.
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.
 Amen.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us



BECOMING CATHOLIC - THREE CHURCHES ONE PARISH

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning about the Catholic faith?

Welcome!

The Catholic Church's mission is to offer people of all ages and backgrounds the opportunity to deepen their understanding and relationship with Jesus Christ.

Becoming Catholic involves a journey of faith, accompanied by the support of a parish community. This process is called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA. During the RCIA process you meet with others to share, reflect, pray and learn more about the Catholic faith. There are ceremonies or 'rites' at each stage to signify the steps along the way. If you or someone you know would like to know more about becoming Catholic or would like to start the process of becoming Catholic as an adult, please contact our Parish Office.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

St Augustine, a great Saint of the Church, said, "Our hearts are restless, O Lord, until they rest in you." The RCIA is for all seeking to become members of the Catholic Church.

The RCIA is best described as a journey of faith that passes through a number of different phases and focuses on conversion of heart and mind to Christ. It is a gradual journey tailored to the needs of the individual.

It is a faith journey of adults to initiation through the unified rites of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Grounded in the four pillars of Word, Liturgy, Community and Mission, adults are provided with a sponsor, meet regularly to learn about Catholicism and become part of the fabric of the Parish prior to initiation.

The faith journey is adapted for children of catechetical age (8-17 years) and adults who are already baptised in another Christian tradition. It is a process for those who have not been Baptised at all, for those who have been Baptised into another Christian tradition and also for those who have been Baptised Catholic but have not throughout their lives been involved at all in the Catholic faith but are now wanting to make that Faith journey/commitment in their lives, and for all to become full members of the Catholic Church.

Collect

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading Is 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name.
Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways
and harden our hearts against fearing you?
Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance.
Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down
– at your Presence the mountains would melt.
No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those
who trust him.
You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You
were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you.
We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing.
We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind.
No one invoked your name
or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and
gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father;
we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

(R.) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

1. O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O Lord, rouse up your might,
O Lord, come to our help. (R.)
2. God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. (R.)
3. May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. (R.)

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the
Corinthians
The revelation we looked for, Christ Jesus our Lord.
May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you
grace and peace.
I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have
received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you
have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your
teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has
indeed been strong among you so that you will not be
without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are
waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he
will keep you steady and without blame until the last
day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by
calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and
God is faithful.

Gospel Mk 13:33-37

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
Stay awake! You never know when the Lord will come.**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay
awake, because you never know when the time will
come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone
from home, and left his servants in charge, each with
his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay
awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when
the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight,
cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must
not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all:
Stay awake!'

Prayer Over the Gifts

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make,
gathered from among your gifts to us,
and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly
here below gain for us the prize of eternal
redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer After Communion

May these mysteries, O Lord,
in which we have participated, profit us, we pray,
for even now, as we walk amid passing things,
you teach us by them to love the things of heaven
and hold fast to what endures. Through Christ Our
Lord.

“Opening up to the world” is an expression that has been co-opted by the economic and financial sector and is now used exclusively of openness to foreign interests or to the freedom of economic powers to invest without obstacles or complications in all countries. Local conflicts and disregard for the common good are exploited by the global economy in order to impose a single cultural model. This culture unifies the world, but divides persons and

nations, for ‘as society becomes ever more globalized, it makes us neighbours, but does not make us brothers’.[9] We are more alone than ever in an increasingly massified world that promotes individual interests and weakens the communitarian dimension of life.

How do you feel about what Pope Francis has written here?

How would you talk with your family and friends about it?

Taken from Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship by Pope Francis, article 12, /en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20201003_enciclica

<http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco-fratelli-tutti.html>

Advent, which begins the Church's liturgical year, begins on this Sunday, November 29th. Advent encompasses the four Sundays and weekdays leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas.

In our Churches, we celebrate Advent by putting up an Advent Wreath and lighting candles each week. Our Advent Wreath is located at the front next to the sanctuary and we are encouraged to look at it and contemplate the meaning of Advent.

The use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding Catholic tradition that was originally adopted by Christians in the Middle Ages as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas.

The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

Even the individual evergreens that make up the wreath have their own meanings that can be adapted to our faith. The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering. The pine, holly, and yew signify immortality and the cedar signifies strength and healing. The pine cones that decorate the wreath symbolize life and resurrection. The wreath as a whole is meant to remind us of both the immortality of our souls and God's promise of everlasting life to us through Christ.

The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the “Prophecy Candle” in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The second candle, also purple, represents faith. It is called the “Bethlehem Candle” as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The third candle is **pink** and symbolizes joy. It is called the “Shepard's Candle,” and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the **fourth week** of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the “Angel's Candle,” symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”

The **white candle** is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the “Christ Candle” and represents the life of Christ. The color white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior.

Celebrating Advent is an excellent way to prepare your mind and heart for Christmas. Welcome to Advent and may this holy season prepare us to celebrate PEACE and JOY of Christ.

ALL HOLY SOULS - NOVEMBER 2020

<p>Desmond McMahon Phyllis Umbach Bette Godfrey Thomas Heffernan Peter Grubescic John Seychelles Tess Rizzetti Mary Roberson Robert Wallis Anna Maria Weinlich Daphne McMahon David Luck Christopher Helby Diane Pelt Errol Cole Leonard Pease Claire Thomas Glyneth Middlemiss Dawn Lucas Mary D'Arcy Tupai Iakopo Nanai Leilua Tevaga Pilia'e Kose Mijo & Nikolina Dragosevic Tony & Ana Novinc Mike & Roza Novinc Ivo & Katica Novinc Josip (Pepo) Novinc Stipo Novinc Jozo & Katica Marko Slavro Skoko Jan Zyglarewicz Malgorzata Zyglarewicz Ingnacy Mielczarek Anna Mielczarek Leota Tauvela L Paula L Tevaga P Tautava Tevaga Sale L Ana L Sio Pedro Lapinig Rosario Tan Carlos Ayta Ruth Parn Pike Heather Grimmett Elwood Zimmerman Fiona Cornelia Ealleros Pedro Malaque Alona Oppus Moorhead & Christie Families Giuseppina Gianfrotta Josef Kolega</p>	<p>Alapati L Sio Faiumu F.O. Fereni Faiumu Reglade Family Baggio Family Meslin Family Vernon Family Lacaze Family Lilian Grace Jack Grace John Grace Croker Family Rayner Family Diversi Family Crotty Family Inquald Ingebrigtsen Jason Gaerlan Benjamin Gaerlan Gloria Valencia Marciano Valencia Trinidad Valencia Wolfgang Werle John Morrell Bernice Alcock Margaret Mead John McNaught Jay Jansen Joe Jansen Father Benedict Lynch Peter & Martina Lammers Ernie & Merle Heffernan Bernie & Kath Ffrench Ken Clear Millie Clear Harriet Garnar William Garnar George Ernest Worth Margarita Aueur Hanong Lapinig Merlyn Cahonap Robert O'Brien Bill Alcock Gerry Coyle The Geraghty Family Perks Family Maryvonne Martinez McRae Family Kennedy Family Hamer Family Dal Piva Family Colin Riches Anne Riches</p>	<p>Jean Pierre Galice Moana Galice Vincent Seashel Litang Tosong & Feux, Ancil & Trini Suase, Susan Mencing & Julia Suase Laling & Rosing Suase Laling & Luding Pasaron Rose & Claire Pasaron Chris & Iday Pasaron Enting Ramon Boy & Marshal Joe & Violy Nayong Valderama Esmer Maria Elma & Cely Celestine Ekong & Lourdes Cazar Dokduk Coring Sr Ramona Sr Gloria Evan Petar & Biserka Tomic Jure & Stiopo Tomic Anda Zeko Ruza Novinc Luigi Gianfrotta Robert Gianfrotta Silora Tagliatela John Tagliatela Jean Pierre Galice Heather Wiggins Geoffrey Wiggins Keith Ballantyne Olga Novinc Joseph and Barbara Sanders The Christian vision of death receives privileged expression in the liturgy of the Church: <i>"Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven."</i> Instruction <i>Ad resurgendum cum Christo</i> 2016</p>
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