

St Peter's Catholic Parish

11 April, 2021 – **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

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

Thomas the Doubter seeing the wounds

The true believers in the Risen Christ kept Thomas the Doubter within their circle, rather than expelling him. This gave him a further opportunity to experience the very Real Presence of the Risen Lord and his gift of peace. Companionable patience is our best response to those struggling with belief in even fundamental tenets of the faith.

Thomas saw that the wounds of Christ were still present, not obliterated. Does this suggest that our redeemed bodies will bear the marks of the wounds unjustly inflicted on us? However, they will not be disabling to our personality because they will be incorporated into the resurrection life of Christ. Incredibly, our self-inflicted wounds, i.e. our sins, will be obliterated in the mercy of God.

Pope Francis emphasises that it was in responding to the invitation to touch the wounds of Christ that Thomas understood Christ's true identity, exclaiming: 'My Lord and my God'. It is only by touching the wounds of Christ in many different people in many different situations that we can authentically make the same act of faith.

We could take a moment to pray for the strength to touch the wounds of Christ in others, 'the least'. And we could pray that, wounded as we may be by the vagaries and injustices of life, we may be liberated from their evil effects as the Risen Lord adopts our wounds as his own.

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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 3:00pm, 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



" This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad!"

"Enlightened and inspired by the Holy Spirit"

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 acts of praise. *Laudato Si* (2015) 235

SING ALLELUIA! Augustine says rightly, 'Singing is for one who loves', and there is also an ancient proverb? 'Whoever sings well, prays twice over'. *GIRM* 39

Divine Mercy (FEAST) Sunday "My Heart rejoices in this feast!" (Diary 998) "Veneration of the Image": The Image of Jesus, The Divine Mercy, is to have a special place of honor on the Feast of Mercy. Thus, to fittingly observe the Feast of Mercy, we should: **Celebrate** the Feast on the Sunday after Easter, Sincerely **repent** of all our sins; Place our **complete trust** in Jesus, Go to **Confession**, Receive **Holy Communion** worthily on the day of the Feast, **Venerate the Image** of the Divine Mercy and **BE MERCIFUL** to others, through our actions, words and prayers on their behalf.

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

No Mass during the weekdays this week

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.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Divine Mercy Sunday completes the Octave of Easter. We receive our redemption and salvation through mercy- ("For all have sinned and fall short"- Romans 3:23). Every Mass next Sunday (11th) is a Divine Mercy Mass. Divine Mercy devotion (Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image, adoration, chaplet) will take place at 2:30pm - 3:30pm on 11 April at both Eden Church and St Patrick's Church, Bega. FYI: Good Friday begins the Novena for this feast.

No Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting in April

A WORD OF THANKS to all who helped with their time and service at liturgies especially during Holy Week. To the musicians and singers for organizing the music; the readers for proclaiming the Word, the florists and all those who prepare and serve on the altar, greeters, collectors and counters and all who attended and participated in this special time in our liturgical year. May the blessings of Easter with all its rich treasure, peace and joy be part of your life today, tomorrow and always. HAPPY EASTER!!

A Big Thank You to the Principal and Lumen Christi School for kindly permitting us to use their facilities and venue for our Holy Week Celebrations. Much appreciated.

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

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 3:00 pm on Saturday and 10:00 Merimbula Mass closes at 8:00 pm on Saturday. Please pass this to your friends and family. Thank you.

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Planned Giving Collections: First: \$981.10; Second: Envelopes \$850.50; Loose \$584.70

Thank you for your generosity and God bless you all

"Enlightened and inspired by the Holy Spirit"

Let Us Pray for and support those who are sick

Rincy Mary Paul, Geoff Heffernan, 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,

Mary Xuereb, Rita Farrugia, Otila L Wright, 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, 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

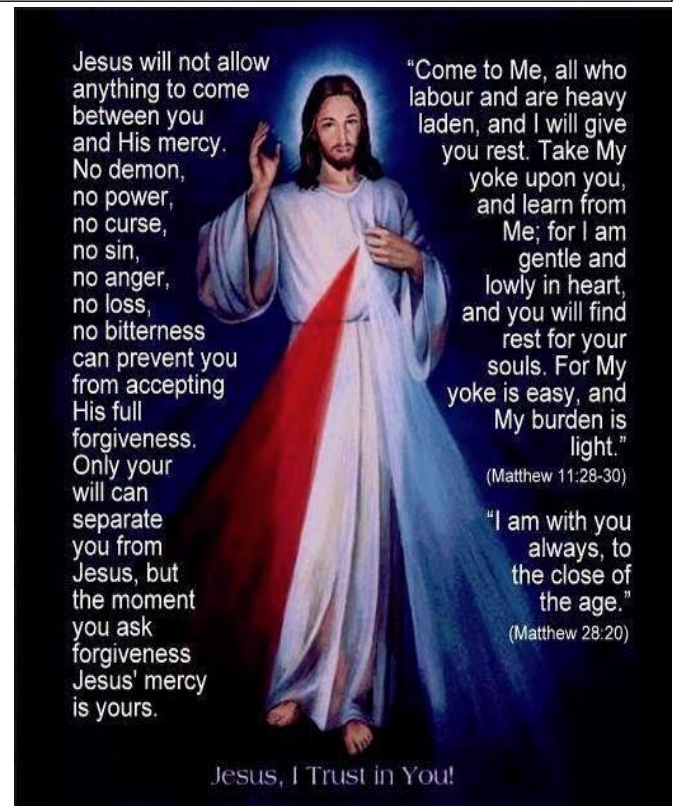
VACANCY: Parish Secretary

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 this Friday, April 9, 2021.



Project Compassion

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. Please return Project Compassion boxes & envelopes.

How is your knowledge of the Bible? Have you taken time to really study the scriptures? Would you like to explore the Book of Genesis? You are welcome to join a discussion group held each Monday afternoon in the Pambula Hospitality Centre. The first Genesis session is Monday 19 April, commencing at 1:00 pm. For more information, please contact Anne 0408 241 230.

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.



CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY

Catholic Theological College
Newman and the Nineteenth
Century Church
Online unit via zoom on 12
Saturday mornings
Lecturer: Rev. Prof. Austin
Cooper OMI AM
Audit, Undergraduate and
Postgraduate Options available
Enquiries: Dr Rosemary
Canavan, Academic Dean
T: 9412 3333
E: dean@ctc.edu.au

Important Dates for Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Parent Formation Evening #1

Wednesday, 12 May
St Joseph's Church, Merimbula 6:00pm - 7:30pm
(Supper provided, child-minding available)
Please RSVP to
Antoinette.Woods@cg.catholic.edu.au for
catering purposes.

Enrolment Mass

Saturday, 22 May & Sunday 23 May
Eden's Our Lady Star of the Sea 5:00pm
Saturday and
St Joseph's Church, Merimbula 10:00am Sunday

Parent Formation Evening #2 TBC

Wednesday, 16 June
St Joseph's Church, Merimbula 6:00pm - 7:30pm
(Supper provided, child-minding available)

Family Masses

Saturdays and Sundays in May, June, July and
August Sat 5:00pm Eden/Sunday 10:00am in
Merimbula
Jobs will be allocated so children play an active
role in the Mass.
*If you are unable to attend, you need to let Fr
Pale know beforehand by emailing him on
Pale.Leota@cg.org.au*

Thursday 29 July TBC - Confirmation Retreat Day

Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Eden
9:15am - 2:30pm.

All students making their Confirmation attend
this day. The College bus will transport students
from LCCC.

Other students arrange their own transport to
and from the Church.

Sacrament of Confirmation: Sunday, 8 August TBC
St Joseph's Church, Merimbula 10:00am.

First Reading Acts Acts 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' **(R.)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Jn 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John
Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia! Alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe! Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.' 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this, he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

N.B. Communion Antiphon is omitted when a hymn is played

