

St Peter's Catholic Parish

Sunday 12th December, 2021 – 3rd 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 others may experience the love of Christ.*

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

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

I want you to be happy

Some people have an image of God who must be obeyed out of fear. Rules of behaviour are kept as part of a deal to avoid punishment. But St Paul was imitating God when he told the Philippians that all he wanted was their 'happiness'. God's deepest desire is that we share divine bliss. St Thomas Aquinas tells us that the goal of human life is this beatific happiness.

Of course, there is a way of life which responds to the Divine Lover. John the Baptist insists on rules of social justice, particularly those which forbid taking advantage of the vulnerable. But these are the minimum. He envisages a response of extravagant generosity. It will take Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Fire to make this possible.

This was effected by the One foretold by John. He doesn't name him, but we know it was Jesus of Nazareth who had the power to unleash such over-the-top generosity. Jesus sent his Holy Spirit at Pentecost as if in wind and fire. This created a new community which, the Acts of Apostles tells us, responded with acts of unrestrained generosity to the vulnerable and needy.

We might pause for a moment to pray for a generous spirit responding in gratitude to the Divine Lover who, as Risen Lord, has the power and will to enable us to be filled with Divine Bliss.

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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

Every Wednesday at 4:00pm & 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, 6pm, Eden
Sunday, 8am & 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 Alicia O'Connor

Parish Council Chair

Mrs Bernadette Wood

Liturgy Coordinator

Ms Sue Heffernan

Finance Chair

Mr Neil Ffrench

Lumen Christi Catholic College

Mr Shane Giles (02) 6495 8888

Marriage Preparations

Damien & Celi Kennedy

Parish Office

Hours - 9:30am to 1:30pm
Wednesday to Friday
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



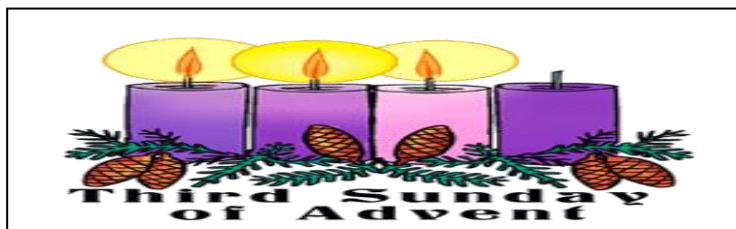
What, then, must we do?

Feast Days of the Week:

Monday 13th- St Lucy, virgin, martyr

Tuesday 14th- St John of the Cross, priest, doctor

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS... Please call 0435 036 236 or email pambula@cg.org.au for any Parish enquiries



If you are unable to attend Mass in person at this time, you are welcome to join online Mass at 10am Sunday via

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc957fQR5LoAqSTORgVmfXw>

**2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION ST JOSEPH'S, MERIMBULA
WEDNESDAY 15TH DECEMBER AT 7PM**

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve:

5pm- St Joseph's, Merimbula
(Children's Mass)

7pm- Our Lady Star of the Sea, Eden

9pm- St Peter's, Pambula

Christmas Day:

10am- St Joseph's, Merimbula

*Children attending the 5pm
Christmas Eve Mass are
invited to dress up as an angel
or a shepherd.*



BOOK IN FOR MASS ONLINE:

<http://cg.org.au/pambula/Home.aspx>

We kindly ask you to arrive early and check in by using the QR code system OR give your name and contact number at the door.

COVID-19: Archdiocesan Protocols (NSW Parishes Only)

Beginning Monday 8 November 2021

1. Face Masks are *mandatory* indoors, except children under 12 or in parish office if fully vaccinated.
2. Indoor and outdoor Masses are to observe the 2sqm rule.
3. Service NSW app is mandatory.
4. Funerals with those who are unvaccinated restricted to 10 attendees, otherwise apply 2sqm rule.
5. Vaccination evidence *is* to be carried by those attending weddings and funerals.

Liturgical Protocols

a. *Singing*: Permitted. Choirs to maintain physical distancing from congregation.

b. *Cash Collections*: Reinstated

Vicar General 10 November 2021

A link to useful **Faith Development Resources** can be found at

<http://cg.org.au/pambula/FaithDevelopmentResources.aspx>

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Office will close on **Thursday 23 December, 2021** and will reopen on **Wednesday 12 January, 2022.**

An important note regarding Planned Giving via Credit Card: December deductions will be made on Tuesday 21 December 2021, due to Christmas Chancery Office closures.

Columban Calendars are now available for purchase from the Parish Office for \$7.

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia: This month can you provide Transport for Pastoral Care in Malawi? Your support will help priests and religious to visit their people and aid their ministry to administer the sacraments and to keep the Faith alive. www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject.

12-14 – December "Archdiocesan Zoom Advent Groups"

Join a Zoom Advent reflection 4pm this Sun 12th or 10am this Tue 7th December. Meeting ID: 961 8683 9540. Be enriched by the reflections or our Archbishop and of lay people from around our Archdiocese on *Amoris Laetitia* - Pope Francis' document on the family.

Videos & handouts freely available at www.cgcatholic.org.au/ADVENT

Catholic Mission Appeal-Thank you for supporting this year's appeal. With your help, The Good Shepherd Sisters of Thailand can continue to support women and children from vulnerable and disadvantaged backgrounds by providing critical programs like the Mother and Babies Home. I am so very grateful for your support. **Total amount raised: \$290.** With every good wish, Karen McKerrow (Diocesan Director)

READ THE CATHOLIC VOICE NEWS AT: <https://cgcatholic.org.au/>

Planned Giving Collections:

First: \$2665.60; Second: Envelopes \$551.00; Loose \$2417.80

THANK YOU

... to ALL parishioners who continually support our Parish through our plate collections at Mass, through the envelopes and direct banking. Without your financial help our Parish could not continue to function.

Let Us Pray for and support those who are sick and for all who have asked for our prayers.

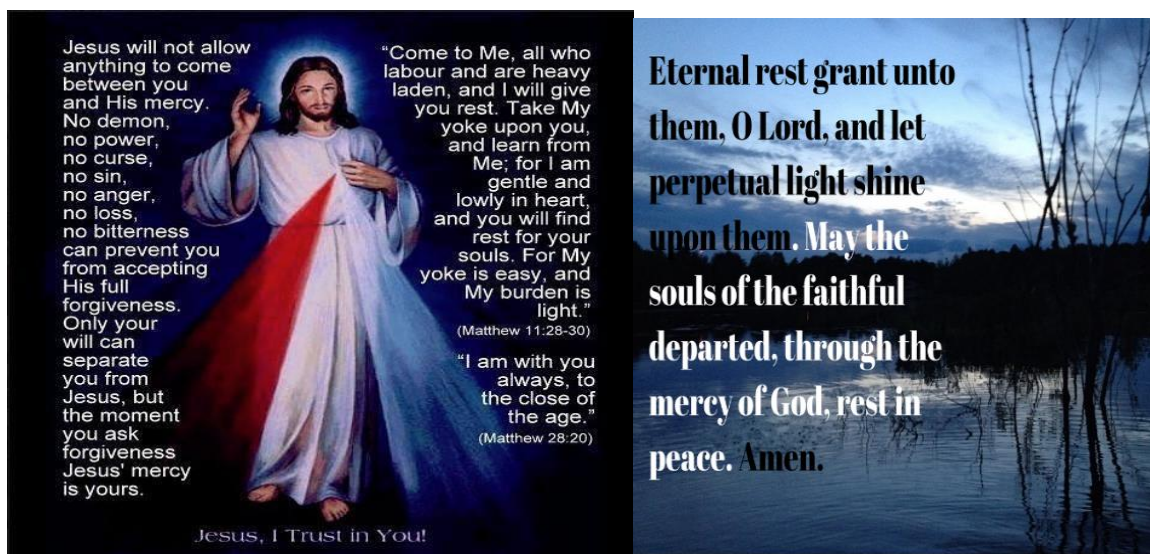
Peter Lewis, Roy Bugden, Maureen Goodman, Michael Sheppard, Anne Bugden, Sandra Bray, Fr John Boyd-Boland ofm, Simplicio Cesar Paul's Jr, Lydia V. Gaerlan, Chris Greenwood, Margaret Coates, Ron Anderson, Anabella Morrell, Fraser Cooper, Margaret O'Sullivan, Tina Sio, Patricia Kay, Irene Spinks, Mary Scanlan, Shiela Kebby, Lyn Collie, Geoff Heffernan, Jennifer Wasley, Mary O'Donnell, Judy O'Donnell, John Reynolds, Max Andrew, David Went, Ros Beveridge, Eric Mangion, Mae Hart, Anselmo Guiffre, Beata Denkiewicz, George William Field, Una Smith.

We pray for all the Faithful departed or whose anniversaries occur including:

Tony Tomasovic, Giuseppina Gianfrotta, Raymond Doughney, Danielle Louise Sou, Wilfredo A. Riosa, Desmond W. Twigg, Veronica "Vonnie" Sheetz, Silvia Tagliatalat, Errol Cole, John Seberry, Carolynne Picker, Anna Maria Weinlich, Ronald Gaha, Coona Maureen Turner, Stumpy Wallis, Anne Riches, Edwin O'Leary, Brian Kennedy, James Geraghty, Tupa'i Iakopo Nanai, Peter Grubestic, Mary Fenech, Brian Wyndham, Albina Dal Piva, Ruza & Mihajlo Novinc, Maureen Partridge, Ken Clear, Millicent Clear, Peter Hamer, John Hulme, Catherine Randazzo, Jeanette Robert, James Barry, Greg Morrison, Glyneth Middlemiss, Brian Middlemiss, Mary D'Arcy, Janine Capell, Winifred Stephenson, Paletasala Paulo.

*May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of our Lord, Rest in Peace. Amen
May the fullness of peace be theirs in eternal life.*

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."

Sunday's Gospel and Readings

Entrance Antiphon Phil 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

First Reading Zep 3:14-18

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

With gladness the Lord will rejoice over you.

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

Responsorial Psalm Is 12:2-6 R. v.6

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Truly, God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. (R.)

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name! Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples! Declare the greatness of his name. (R.)

Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious deeds, make them known to all the earth! People of Zion, sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (R.)

Second Reading Phil 4:4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
The Lord is near.

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

Sunday's Gospel and Readings

Gospel Acclamation Is 61:1 (Lk 4:18)

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 3:10-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

What, then, must we do?

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Is 35:4

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

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

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2021Dec12/0>



<https://reflectionary.org/2015/11/23/luke-31-6/>