

St Peter's Catholic Parish

Sunday 19th December, 2021 – 4th 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

Life in the Womb

This little gospel story tells us that 'the baby in Elizabeth's womb leaped' and not merely leaped, but leaped 'for joy'. Is this just poetic hyperbole? We know that beautiful music can have a wonderful effect on life in the womb. Good vibrations. Here, the presence of Jesus, being carried by Mary in her pregnancy, had a wonderful effect on the life carried by Elizabeth. Very good vibrations.

From the moment of the conception of Jesus, good vibrations reverberated out to all human beings. The good news is that you and I and every human life ever conceived is visited by Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ, and we receive that visit as Original Blessing.

There is a further and consoling truth. Every mother or father who has lost a baby too early needs to know that the same extraordinary sense of Our Lord's presence was felt by your baby. That Divine Presence conferred a powerful Original Blessing on that little life within the womb, and that same Presence accompanied your baby into the everlasting embrace of Divine Love in Heaven.

We could pause a moment to pray using the very words of Elizabeth, reciting:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women,

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

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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



**Why should it happen that
I am honoured with a visit
from the mother of my
Lord?**

Feast Days of the Week:

Saturday 25th December- The Nativity of the Lord

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/UCc957fQR5LoAqST0RGvMfxw>

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.

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

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.

Archdiocesan NSW Protocols COVID-19

The latest directives from NSW Health:
-Anyone can attend a wedding, funeral or place of worship.
-You are not required to be fully vaccinated or carry vaccination evidence.
-Face masks are not required.
-COVID-19 Safe Check-in is required at places of worship, funerals, memorial services, or gatherings afterwards.
-Density limits no longer apply to weddings, funerals or memorials.
(Vicar General, 17 December 2021)

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE:

The Parish Office will close at 1:30pm on Thursday 23 December, 2021 and will reopen at 9:30am 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 Chancery Office Christmas closures.

We extend a very warm welcome and pray for the following children who are to be Baptised over the coming weeks:

Ernest Beau Ffrench

Tex Cary Walker

Ellise Isobel Walker

Harley Walker

May these children be blessed in Christ on this holy day, the beginning of a wonderful life in faith, hope and love.

Columban Calendars are now available for purchase from the churches for \$7. Please place payment in an envelope marked "Columban Calendar" and place in the 2nd collection.

A big THANK YOU to Dara Reynolds for making a new Bell Pull for the Bell at the Eden Church.

The 2021 Archbishop's Christmas Appeal supports the **Christmas Bowl appeal** and its work in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Contributions will be made to support **Diocesan projects** within the Dioceses of Otukpo, Nigeria, Africa, Thamarassery, India and Gizo in PNG. Within Gizo Diocese assistance will support construction of a school hall at Vanga Point. Other **international endeavours** will include support towards: projects focused on helping the poor within the La Salette Matha Province, in India and further student assistance for those in need at Bethlehem University in the Holy Land.

*Mightier
than the waves
of the sea
is His love
for you*
Isaiah 9:8



Planned Giving Collections:

First: \$683.55; Second: Envelopes \$565.50; Loose \$315.45

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.

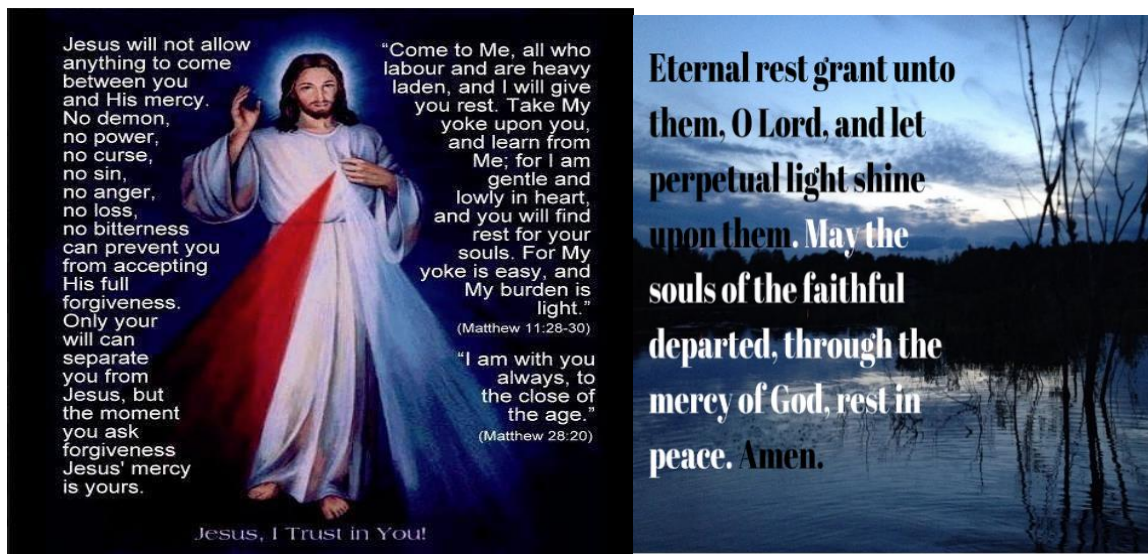
David Muffler, Tony Vella, Peter Lewis, Roy Bugden, Maureen Goodman, Michael Sheppard, Anne Bugden, Sandra Bray, Fr John Boyd-Boland ofm, Simplicio Cesar Paul's Jr, Lydia V. Gaerlan, Chris Greenwood, Margaret Coates, Ron Anderson, Anabella Morrell, Fraser Cooper, Margaret O'Sullivan, , Patricia Kay, Irene Spinks, Mary Scanlan, 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:

Tina Sio, Sheila Kebby, Tony Tomasovic, Giuseppina Gianfrotta, Raymond Doughney, Danielle Louise Sou, Wilfredo A. Riosa, Desmond W. Twigg, Veronica "Vonnie" Sheetz, Silvia Tagliatalatel, 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 Cf. Is 45:8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First Reading Mi 5:1-4

A reading from the prophet Micah

Out of you will be born the one who is to rule over Israel.

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

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

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

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.)

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.)

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.)



<https://seedsoffaith.cph.org/2015/12/15/new-testament-1-lesson-3-mary-visits-elizabeth/>

Sunday's Gospel and Readings

Second Reading Heb 10:5-10

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

I am coming to do your will.

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.' Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the servant of the Lord: may his will for me be done. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Why should it happen that I am honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

Communion Antiphon Is 7:14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

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

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2021Dec19/0>