



St Peter's Catholic Parish

Sunday 23rd January, 2022 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Relax: You are Accepted

The prophet Isaiah had drafted a manifesto for divine action in the world. Jesus of Nazareth *is* divine action in the world, and no doubt his fellow villagers in Nazara would have been thrilled that one of theirs would 'set the downtrodden free'.

But, in proclaiming 'the Lord's Year of *Acceptance*', Jesus inaugurated a revolutionary phase within the Jewish tradition. He invited people to *relax*!! Holiness is not a matter of our *striving*, but of *accepting* that we are *accepted* by the All Merciful God. Good works should follow in response, but good works don't gain our acceptance by God.

How does one best show acceptance of someone, forgiveness of someone, friendship with someone? One relaxes over a meal together. This was Jesus' characteristic way of embodying Divine Acceptance in our world. It still is.

We might pause for a moment to relax into the saving fact that we exist in 'the Lord's Year of Acceptance', that this acceptance is signified and effected by our sharing in the Bread of Life and the Spiritual Drink of Holy Communion which gives us the energy to help make Divine Acceptance a reality for others.

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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, Pambula 10am, Merimbula
Tuesday	5pm, Merimbula
Wednesday	9:30am, Pambula
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



*The scriptures were
fulfilled on this day.*

Feast Days of the Week:

Monday 24th- St Francis de Sales, bishop, doctor

Tuesday 25th- The Conversion of St Paul, apostle

Wednesday 26th- Australia Day

Friday 28th- St Thomas Aquinas, priest, doctor

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

READ THE CATHOLIC VOICE NEWS AT:

<https://cgatholic.org.au/>

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.

Latest Archdiocesan Protocols COVID-19 NSW & ACT Parishes Vicar General, 13 January 2022

1. Masks are mandatory in both the ACT and NSW in all indoor spaces:
 - a. The celebrant removes the mask as he begins the Liturgy up until the distribution of Holy Communion, when it must be worn. It is removed again for the Purification, Prayer After Communion and Final Blessing. It must be worn for the procession out.
 - b. Lectors remove their mask when proclaiming the Word of God, prayers of the faithful, etc.
 - c. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) wear masks when distributing the Sacred Host.
2. Music is permitted and encouraged to enhance the Liturgy, but not singing until further notice:
 - a. If the choir is sufficiently distanced from the congregation, then prudent judgement can permit singing by choir only.
3. Reception of Holy Communion:
 - a. Sacred Host only, not the Precious Blood.
 - b. Communion in the hand only, not on the tongue, until further notice (due to the highly contagious nature of the latest variant of COVID-19).

REMEMBER LENTEN PROGRAM: Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to join the Parish Lenten program, so that appropriate materials can be ordered.

Dear Parishioners

Greetings,

I wish to congratulate Alicia O'Connor on her wonderful performance in the Parish Office.

With the support and approval of the Archdiocese Office in Canberra I would like to officially inform you that Alicia has agreed to take on the job permanently now.

I wish her all the best and am extremely looking forward to working with her in our Parish for many years. I also ask that you please give her all the support she needs and hopefully you will have the chance to meet her in person.

Best wishes,

Fr Pale

Planned Giving Collections:

First: \$831.40;

Second: Envelopes \$615.50; Loose \$407.85

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.

Tony Vella, Peter Lewis, 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, Mary O'Donnell, Judy O'Donnell, John Reynolds, Max Andrew, David Went, Ros Beveridge, Eric Mangion, Mae Hart, Anselmo Guiffre, Beata Denkwicz, George William Field, Una Smith.

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

Carol Cash, Andrew Brodie, Albina & Gildo Dal Piva, Colin Riches, Danielle Sou, Millie Clear, Ken Clear, Peter Hamer, Richard Klimas, Roy Bugden, Robert Gianfrotta, John Tagliatalata, Tina Sio, Sheila Kebby, Tony Tomasovic, Giuseppina Gianfrotta, Raymond Doughney, , Wilfredo A. Riosa, Desmond W. Twigg, Veronica "Vonnice" Sheetz, Silvia Tagliatalata, 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 Grubescic, Mary Fenech, Brian Wyndham, , Ruza & Mihajlo Novinc, Maureen Partridge, 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.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Jesus will not allow anything to come between you and His mercy. No demon, no power, no curse, no sin, no anger, no loss, no bitterness can prevent you from accepting His full forgiveness. Only your will can separate you from Jesus, but the moment you ask forgiveness Jesus' mercy is yours.

"Come to Me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."
(Matthew 11:28-30)

"I am with you always, to the close of the age."
(Matthew 28:20)

Jesus, I Trust in You!

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."

Reception of Holy Communion in the Hand

As COVID infections surge around Australia, updated Archdiocesan protocols were issued last week, reinforcing many of those adopted back in July 2020. Of concern to some is the instruction that Archdiocesan priests are to give communion by hand only, rather than placing the wafers on worshippers' tongues, as a precaution against the spread of the coronavirus. Acknowledging the sensitivity of asking all members of the faithful to receive Holy Communion in the hand – and not on the tongue, Fr Tony Percy, Vicar General for the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, emphasised that it is “in accord with sound reason, unity in our communities and the good of the faithful,” to implement these protocols.

In his 2020 letter to Archdiocesan priests and parishes, Fr Percy reminded everyone that “receiving Holy Communion in the hand is an ancient custom” revived in the Western Church in the early 1970s. In the first centuries of Christianity, receiving the body of Jesus in the hand was the norm, not the exception. “In the first century, St. Cyril instructed those preparing for Baptism that, when they received Holy Communion, they should place one hand on top of the other (palms up) in order to make a throne to ‘receive the King’”, Fr Percy explained. “The faithful should be assured that in receiving Communion in the hand they are acting in accord with past generations of believers.” Receiving the host in the hand has been an option in Australia since the bishops authorised this in 1975, and the Holy See confirmed it.

<https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/reception-of-holy-communion-in-the-hand-2/>

Sunday's Gospel and Readings

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 95:1,6

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading Nch 8:2-6. 8-10

A reading from the book of Nehemiah

They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord.

And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep'. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law. He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8-10. 15. R. Sg Jn 6:63

Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. (R.)

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. (R.)

May the spoken words of my mouth, the thoughts of my heart, win favour in your sight, O Lord, my rescuer, my rock! (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 12:12-30

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink. Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body? If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body,' would that mean that it is not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything? Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand,

Sunday's Gospel and Readings

'I do not need you,' nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.' What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

Gospel Acclamation Sg Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor and freedom to prisoners. Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 1:1-4. 4:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received. Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him. He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour. He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 33:6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

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

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2022Jan23/0>

