

St Peter's Catholic Parish

Sunday 5th September, 2021 – 23rd 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 *Ephphatha*

As we began to welcome the Gospel, we made the sign of the Cross on our foreheads, on our lips and over our hearts. It is meant to be accompanied by the thought: 'May the Gospel be in my mind, on my lips, and in my heart.' It wouldn't be enough to mentally recite that little prayer. We have to do something physical.

Jesus could not have been more physical than in the story of today's Gospel. He stuck his fingers in the man's ears and touched the man's tongue with spittle, saying the Aramaic word 'Ephphatha', 'Be opened'.

Our Lord could have healed this man with a simple prayer. But he acknowledged the sheer physicality of the person to be cured. We are not angels, but ensouled bodies and that is how our Lord particularly related to this man in need of healing.

It is in the sacrament of Baptism that we imitate the Ephphatha incident in today's Gospel. At one stage, the priest lightly touches the ears and then lightly touches the mouth of the person being baptised. This brings the baptised person into a community formed by hearing and speaking the Word in faith.

We could take a moment to recall the Ephphatha dimension of our baptism. Take your thumb and lightly touch your ears (a parent could do this for an infant) making a prayer along the lines of our baptism: 'The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the mute speak. May He again touch my ears to receive His Word and my mouth to proclaim His faith to the glory and praise of God the Father. 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,	5:00pm, Eden
Sunday,	8:00am, Merimbula
Sunday,	10:00am, Merimbula
Tuesday	4.30:00pm, 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 Paléasala (Palé) 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



*He makes the deaf
hear and the dumb
speak.*

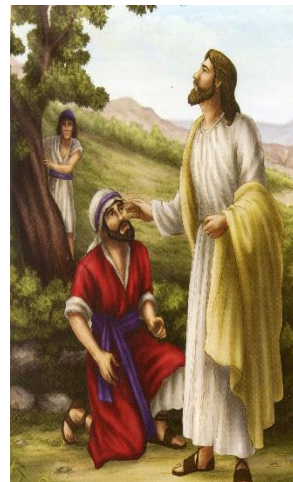
Feast Days of the Week: Wednesday 8th – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

*The Eucharist joins heaven and earth; it embraces and penetrates all creation. The world which came forth from God's hands returns to him in blessed and undivided adoration: in the bread of the Eucharist, "creation is projected towards divinisation, towards the holy wedding feast, towards unification with the Creator himself". Thus, the Eucharist is also a source of light and motivation for our concerns for the environment, directing us to be stewards of all creation. **Laudato Si (2015) 236***

INVITATION TO JOIN ONLINE MASS DURING LOCKDOWN

Wishing everyone peace, comfort and good health during this time of isolation. We look forward to celebrating Mass in our Churches again soon. Please join the live stream Masses from Canberra:

Live Stream Mass St. Christopher's Cathedral Monday-Saturday 12.15pm;
Sunday 11am <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>



ROSARY DEVOTION

Archbishop Christopher invites us all to pray the Rosary via Zoom. All you need are your Rosary beads and your intentions. Every Wednesday and Friday at 4 pm sharp! Zoom Meeting ID: 850 2245 8332 Passcode: 543675

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85022458332?pwd=MDZ4ODFhNjlvdnF21aVDQzWnAydz09>

LECTIO DIVINA

To help deepen our relationship with the Gospels, Fr Pale will be leading Lectio Divina each Wednesday 6:30pm via Zoom, starting on the 25th August. Lectio Divina is an ancient way of praying with the Scriptures used heavily throughout the history of the Church by those living the Benedictine way of life. This is a simple and easy way to prayerfully experience Scripture. Please contact the Parish Office for Zoom link details.

HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO OUR PARISH

Thank you to those parishioners who have setup regular contributions to our parish. This is a great support to our clergy and church. Please consider if your household can afford to contribute – any amount would be greatly appreciated. Those who are envelope-planned givers can either hold onto their envelopes until Church reopens or easily transfer to electronic payments. If you would like to set up an electronic payment which will cover both your first and second collection donations please email the Parish Office – pambula@cg.org.au or call 0435036236 and Alicia will assist you.

We will be ordering 2022 editions of the Columban Calendar, Ordo and Daily Mass Book in the next few weeks. Please contact the office ASAP if you would like us to order you a copy.

THE MARRIAGE COURSE-STARTS 19 OCTOBER

Whether you've been together for 6 months or 40 years, in a good place or struggling, The Marriage Course offers practical support and ideas to strengthen your marriage, in a fun, impactful format. Hosted by the Archdiocese, explore 7 topics together in the comfort of your own home (via ZOOM). It is for all ages and stages of marriage. Starting Tuesday 19th October. Cost is \$70. To watch a trailer about the course click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qba2wYpXgUs> To register for the course: www.cgatholic.org.au/marriagefamily/the-marriage-course/ or contact Steph Ransom steph.ransom@cg.org.au

Sacristy & Sanctuary Renovations to St Joseph's Church, Merimbula September-October 2021

All Sunday Masses will be at Our Lady Star of the Sea in Eden from Sunday 12th September – 3rd October due to the closure of St Joseph's Church, Merimbula for renovations. There will ONLY be Sunday Masses at 8:30am and 10am. There will be no Vigil Mass. This is also dependent on the lockdown easing. Please notify the Parish Office if you wish to catch the bus that will leave from the church in Merimbula to take parishioners to Mass in Eden. Apologies for any inconvenience.

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Today we remember and pray for our fathers and acknowledge the Father of us all - God our Creator. May God bless and reward our fathers for all they have done for us. As we remember the gift of our fathers, grandfathers and godfathers, living and dead, we also listen to God's word. We are called to follow Jesus as he is, who brings peace, mercy, love and light to others. Happy Father's Day.

You are invited to contribute to the Clergy Retirement Fund this Father's Day. Please make your donation into our Parish account, with "Clergy Retirement Fund" as a reference and the Parish Office will forward your donation on.

Happy Birthday to our fellow Parishioners, Ursula Hunt and Frank Elton!

**Archdiocesan Protocols COVID-19 Safety Plan:
Effective Saturday 14 August, 2021, until further notice
(Vicar General)**

1. Parish Offices are closed.
2. Churches and chapels are closed.
3. Public Masses and other Public Liturgies are not to be celebrated. However:

Funerals (10 people only, not including ministers) are permitted.

Weddings (5 people only, couple, minister, two witnesses) are permitted.

4. Holy Communion can be taken to the sick.
5. Anointing of the Sick can be celebrated.
6. Visitation to hospitals by priests should be minimal (rely on designated hospital chaplains where possible).
7. Face Masks are mandatory.

Covid-19 Vaccination

Pope Francis urges us to get vaccinated as an act of love:

<https://youtu.be/JWf3Ji11EaU>

Some of the things the Pope says are:

- * Getting a Covid jab that is "authorized by the respective authorities" is an "act of love."
- * Helping others do the same is also an act of love. "Love for oneself, love for our families and friends, and love for all peoples. Love is also social and political."
- * The Pope noted that social and political love is built up through "small, individual gestures capable of transforming and improving societies."
- * "Getting vaccinated is a simple yet profound way to care for one another, especially the most vulnerable"
- * Pope Francis then prayed to God that "each one of us can make his or her own small gesture of love."
- * "No matter how small, love is always grand...Small gestures for a better future."

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."

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

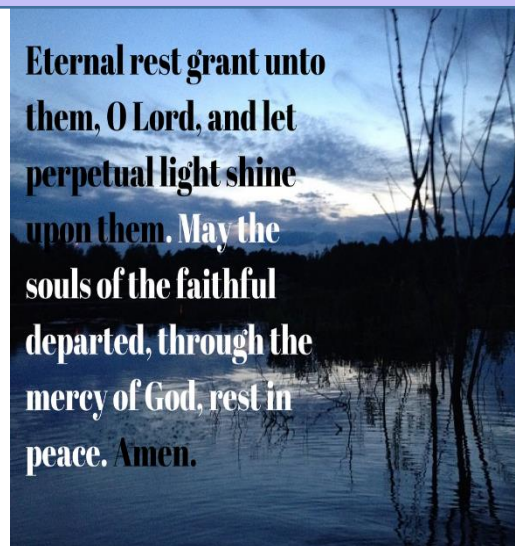
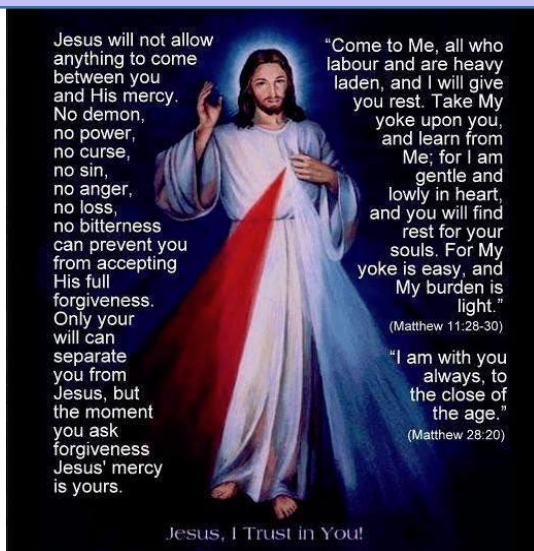
Ron Anderson, Ruth Mercieca, Garry Clear, Anabella Morrell, Michele Cooper, Frazer Cooper, Margaret O' Sullivan, Tina Sio, Patricia Kay, Irene Spinks, Mary Scanlan, Shiela Kebby, Lyn Collie, Sr Benedetta Bennet, Geoff Heffernan, Jennifer Wasley, Mary O'Donnell, Judy O'Donnell, John Reynolds, Bill Peterie, Danielle Sou, Max Andrew, David Went, Ros Beveridge, Eric Mangion, Mae Hart, Anselmo Guiffre, Beata Denkwicz, George William Field

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

Bernard "Bernie" Cornell, Veronica "Vonnie" Sheetz, Martin Speddings, Luigi Gianfrotta, Silvia Tagliatela, Errol Cole, John Seberry, Paul Bagnara, Narcisa Jason Gaerlan, Fr Brian Mahar, Anthony Holdsworth, Michael Tupper, Carolynne Picker, Anna Maria Weinlich, Ronald Gaha, Coona Maureen Turner, Stumpy Wallis, Anne Riches, Edwin O'Leary, Brian Kennedy, James Geraghty, Patrick Ahern, Patricia Friend, "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, Peter Hamer, John Hulme, Catherine Randazzo, Jeanette Robert, Dawn Lucas, James Barry, Greg Morrison, Glyneth Middlemiss, Brian Middlemiss, Mary D'Arcy, Janine Capell & Winifred Stephenson.

***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.



Sunday's Gospel and Readings

Entrance Antiphon Ps 118:137, 124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading Is 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R. v.1

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, who is just to those who are oppressed. It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R.)

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bound down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger. (R.)

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, but thwarts the path of the wicked. The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Jas 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel Acclamation cf. Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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

<https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2021Sep05/0>



<https://www.facebook.com/1555373851257409/photos/jesus-heals-a-deaf-and-mute-man-mark-731-3531-then-jesus-left-the-vicinity-of-ty/1727850530676406/>

A Father's Day Prayer

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son, Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.
Bless all fathers as they care for their families.
Give them strength and wisdom,
tenderness and patience;
support them in the work they have to do,
protecting those who look to them,
as we look to You for love and salvation,
through Jesus Christ our rock and defender,
in union with the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.
St. Joseph, Pray for all our Fathers. Amen.

<https://www.facebook.com/stanthony/photos/happy-fathers-day-to-fr-ben-and-all-the-father-figures-in-our-lives/10156042167051644/>