

St Peter's Catholic Parish

13 September 2020, Twenty Fourth 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 other may experience the love of Christ.

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

Reflection:

Who has cursed you? Bless them! Who has mistreated you? Pray for them! Who has taken something from you unfairly? Give them more! Who has been an enemy to you? Love them the way they should love you but are not. Ouch, I do not enjoy living like that. But who says we're supposed to enjoy everything we do? Jesus certainly did not enjoy his cross. The way of the cross is what separates the holy from the earthly. As Jesus says in today's Gospel reading, "If you love those who love you, big deal! Even sinners do that." We are saints -- i.e., we are different from the world because we follow Christ -- in the way we treat those who do not love us: the healthy way, the compassionate way, the Christ-like way. Jesus spelled out very clearly that to be children of the Most High God, we have to be kind to the ungrateful and the wicked, just like our Divine Daddy. We have to be merciful, just like our Father in whose image we were created.

No matter what others do to us, God is good to us. When they curse us and we bless them, God blesses us, and since what he blesses becomes holy, we become -- wow! -- holy saints. When they mistreat us and we pray for them, Jesus prays for us -- for our needs and for our healing -- and the Father will never say no to his Son. When they take from us unfairly and we give them more than what they're demanding, God gives us more than what we need. That's how much God loves us! Oh what joy!

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-10am, Merimbula
Saturday, before Vigil Mass, Eden

Adoration

1st Friday of the month at 8:30am, Merimbula

Weddings

By appointment only -- at least 6 months notice in advance.

Mass Times

Saturday, 5pm, Eden
Sunday, 8:30am, Merimbula
Sunday, 10:00am, Merimbula
Tuesday 4:30pm, 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 4:00pm, St Joseph's Merimbula

Contact Details

Parish Priest

Fr Paletasala (Pale) Leota

Parish Secretary

Mrs Patricia Field

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

Parish Office

Hours - 9:30am to 1:30pm
Wednesday to Thursday,
Phone - (02) 6495 1880
Email - pambula@cg.org.au
Web - www.cg.org.au/pambula
Address - 79 Main Street, PO
BOX 249, Merimbula, NSW, 2548



"Jesus had a sense of humour!"



"Enlightened and inspired by the Holy Spirit"

Feasts of the Week ...

14 September – The
Exaltation of the Holy Cross
15 September – Our Lady of
Sorrows
16 September – Sts Cornelius
& Cyprian



Readings of the Week ...

Monday	Num 21:4-9 or Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17
Tuesday	(Heb 5:7-9); Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Wednesday	1 Cor 12:31-13:13; Lk 7:31-35
Thursday	1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 7:36-50
Friday	1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3
Saturday	1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-48; Lk 8:4-15

Parish News and Events ...

Mass on Monday 9:30am September 14, Merimbula – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Feast

Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist

The Sacrament of First Eucharist will be made on Wednesday 16th & Thursday 17th of September at 6:30pm after making their First Reconciliation on 3rd/10th September which has been postponed since March due to pandemic restrictions.

Save the Date - Archbishop's Visit

Archbishop Christopher Prowse will be visiting our parish on Wednesday September 30th. Tentative arrangements: Mass 9.30am Merimbula, Cuppa with parishioners Please keep the Date Available

Want to learn more about the Bible?

Please join us at 1:00pm every Monday in the Merimbula Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome. For more information please contact Trevor Cooper on 0438 500 262

2021 Columbian Art Calendar

It is time to order Calendars for next year, if you would like to order please ring the parish office 64951880 or email pambula@cg.org.au Cost will be \$9.00 each.

Laudato Si

Commencing August/September an ecumenical group of participants will look together each fortnight at Laudato Si, Pope Francis' letter "On Care for Our Common Home". You can register interest in obtaining further information in taking part at BelconnenSouth@cg.org.au or on 0428-625-110.

Planned Giving Envelopes ...

Planned Giving envelopes for this financial year are available in the church today. If your envelope number was over 80 last year, please note you will now have a new number. * If any contributor has recently switched their contributions from envelopes to direct debit or bank card, please advise the Parish Office so that your name can be removed from the envelope system. * In addition if any Contributor wishes to make the switch and has not yet done so, please let the Parish Office know and they will help you with this change. * If you now use the Direct Debit system for planned PLEASE do not use your old envelopes as your number will now change. Many thanks for your ongoing support and generous contributions. God bless. Fr Pale.

Planned Giving Program

First Collection: \$428.85

Second Collection:
Envelopes \$685.00
Loose: \$196.00

Much appreciated and thank you for your generosity.



Let Us Pray for and support those who are sick

Eileen Jacob, Matthew Kennedy, Henk Westerlaken, Matthew O'Leary, Glenn Alcock, Danielle Sou, Alex Andrew, David Went, Dawn Lucas, Ros Beveridge, Roy and Joy Bugden, David Fancourt, Penny McEwan, Eric Mangion, Maureen Partridge, Marie Hart, Anselmo Guiffre, Beata Denkiewicz, Irene Spinks, Peter Hamer, Amber Keft.

For the Faithful departed or whose anniversaries occur including,

Glyneth Middlemiss, Brian Middlemiss Lawrie Jacob, Errol Cole, Irena Harambura, Cassandra Hopkins, Diane Pelt, Guy Robert, Michael and Steven Pease, Terry Rowe, David Luck, Chris Helby, Daphne McMahon, John Seberry, Caleb Pointon, Tess Rizetti, Ian Thomas, John Seychelles, Robert "Stumpy" Wallis, Ann Marie Weinlich, Chistine Fogg, Mary D'Arcy.

May the Souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



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."

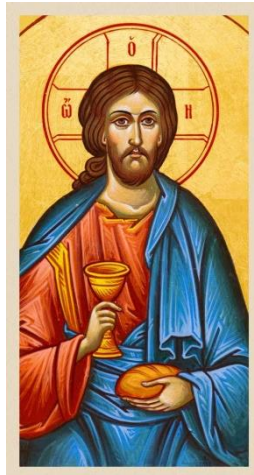
The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed before Mass on Sunday and Adoration and Benediction on every First Friday at 8.30am Merimbula Church.

Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Prayer for Australia

Lord you place deep in our hearts the love of Mary Help of Christians. Through her prayers grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens. Under her protection may Australia be granted harmony, justice and peace. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.



Prayer after Communion

Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith the day of our risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you. O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine. All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment thine.

Plenary Council Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.
 Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.
 O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia
 and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.
 Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognize
 Jesus, our companion on the road.
 Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.
 Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart
 to hear what you are saying.
 Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
 that we may live the joy of the Gospel.
 Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.
 Amen.



Our Lady Help of Christians, *pray for us.*
St Mary MacKillop, *pray for us*

Parish Finance Update

Whilst Parish finances currently look to be in a robust state following the receipt of the \$371,500 insurance payout from the fire that destroyed our Church at Kiah, the underlying annual budget for the year ended 30 July 2021 points to a deficit of around \$9,000. This deficit is driven by a combination of the marked fall in contributions (*this trend has been in place for some years and has been exacerbated by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic*) and the ongoing upward pressure on costs associated with running the Parish.

The Parish Finance Committee continues to work actively to put in place a plan that returns the budget to surplus and ensures the long term financial viability of the Parish. At the current time the key focus of the Committee is on the following matters:

1. Continuing negotiations with the Kiah Community regarding the sale of the Parish land at Kiah upon which the Church was located.
2. The building of a new Sacristy in St Joseph's Church in Merimbula. The current Sacristy fails to meet any of the current standards of privacy or space. Quotes are currently being sought for this project which is strongly supported by Archbishop Prowse.
3. Seeking a property investment opportunity for the surplus funds. The aim of this is to secure a sustainable cash flow to ensure that the Parish budget returns to a surplus into the future.

This Parish has survived for a very lengthy period because of very generous financial contributions and other high levels of voluntary assistance from Parishioners. I would like to thank you all for your ongoing assistance and look forward to working with you as we develop the strategies to ensure that the Parish remains on a sustainable track for future generations.

May God bless you all.

Neil Ffrench
 Finance Committee Chair

Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.
He who exacts vengeance will experience the
vengeance of the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.
Forgive your neighbor the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.
If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?
Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the
commandments.
Remember the commandments, and do not bear
your neighbor ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and
overlook the offence.

Responsorial: Psalm 102:1-4, 9-12

**R./: The Lord is kind and merciful;
slow to anger and rich in compassion.**

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R./)

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R./)

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. (R./)

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins. (R./)

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt.'

His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.