



# CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRES OF PAMBULA

Parish Bulletin

## The Baptism of the Lord, Year A 11 January 2026

Our mission as a Christian community of the Catholic Parish Centre's of Pambula is 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 acknowledge the Yuin people and honour Elders past, present and emerging, and all First Nations peoples worldwide.

### PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

#### Parish Priest

Fr Kuriakose Chennelil Joseph MS (Fr Kose)  
kose.joseph@cg.org.au  
Phone: 0470 498 321

#### Parish Office

Open to the public on Wed & Fri from 10am-2pm

#### Parish Secretary

Mrs Su Chantler  
Phone: 0435 036 236 or 02 6495 0683  
Email: pambula@cg.org.au  
Web: www.cg.org.au/pambula  
Address: 79 Main Street / PO Box 249  
Merimbula NSW 2548

#### Parish Centres

Merimbula: St Joseph's  
Pambula: St Peter's  
Eden: Our Lady Star of the Sea

#### Sisters of St Joseph

Sr Marie Carson

#### Parish Council Chair

Mrs Bernadette Wood

#### Liturgy Coordinator

Ms Sue Heffernan

#### Finance Chair

Mr Michael Wood

#### Parish Safeguarding Volunteer

Mr Philip Roach  
pambula.safeguarding@cg.org.au

#### Lumen Christi Catholic College

Mr Shane Giles 02 6495 8888

### PARISH INFORMATION

#### Reconciliation (Confession)

Merimbula: Friday before Mass,  
Eden: Saturday before Vigil Mass  
Pambula: Wednesday before Mass  
At any other time by request

#### Anointing of the Sick

Pambula: Wednesday 28 January 10am  
Eden: Thursday 26 February 10am  
Merimbula: Friday 27 March 10am

#### Sacrament of Baptism

Families are warmly invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism in our parish. A Welcoming Mass is held on the 4th Saturday/Sunday of the month prior to Baptism, with the Baptism celebrated during Mass on the 1st Saturday/Sunday of the following month. For all enquiries and Baptism preparation arrangements, please contact the Parish Office.

#### Weddings

By appointment only: Minimum 6 months advance notice.

#### Adoration

Merimbula: Friday 9am followed by Mass at 10am.

#### Divine Mercy Chaplet

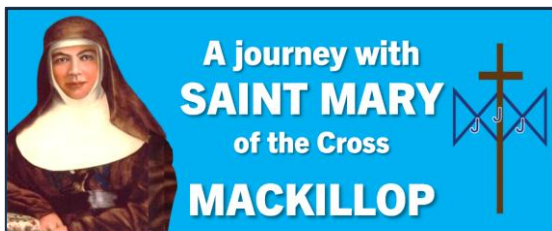
Merimbula: Sunday 9:30am & Friday 9am

#### Rosary

Merimbula: Cenacle & Holy Hour 11am Monday  
Pambula: Wednesday 9:30am  
Eden: Thursday 9am followed by Mass at 10am.

### PARISH CALENDAR/MASS TIMES

**Tuesday:** 5pm Merimbula  
**Wednesday:** 10am Pambula  
**Thursday:** 10am Eden  
**Friday:** 10am Merimbula  
**Saturday:** 5.30pm Eden  
**Sunday:** 8am Pambula  
10am Merimbula



Yet for all that, my good God watched over me and guarded me when I did not try to guard myself. (1873)  
Do not be afraid. Love one another, bear with one another, and let charity guide you in all your life. (From the last letter typewritten by Mother Mary herself. (12.1.1909)  
Foundation stone of Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel blessed, 12.1.1913.

## COMING EVENTS/NOTICES

### Aged Care Facility Mass

15 January 11.30am Uniting Age Care, Eden  
3 February 2pm Albert Moore Gardens, Merimbula  
5 February 11.30am Imlay House, Pambula

### New Parishioners

Could anyone new to the Parish contact the Parish Office or Fr Kose, so that the Parish has your contact details. Thank you.

### Volunteers Needed

**Flower Arrangements** – If you would like to assist, please contact Ruth Smith on 0427 441 287, Parish Office or Fr Kose. Thank you.

### Looking for daily inspiration in the New Year?

“God’s Word Daily Reflections 2026” is available for purchase. Only a few copies remain. You can purchase a copy for \$20 at the Parish Office or by contacting Fr Kose.

### Synodality: A Way of Life

Synodality is not a project or program. It is a way of life for the People of God. When we listen, forgive, serve, and walk together, the Church becomes more like Christ.

Reflection: How can I make synodality part of my daily way of life?

Prayer: Lord, make me a faithful disciple who walks with You and with others.

### Planning to marry in the Catholic Church?

Go to the Archdiocesan marriage and family webpage (without delay) for information and to choose a marriage preparation program that suits at [www.marriagefamily.org.au](http://www.marriagefamily.org.au). For enquiries email [marriage.preparation@cg.org.au](mailto:marriage.preparation@cg.org.au) or text Helena on 0405 440 463.

### Please Note

Fr Kose will be away for a few weeks to be with his family. During his absence, Fr Daniel will be celebrating the Masses. We thank and warmly welcome Fr Daniel to our Parish.

### Thank you

Our sincere thanks to Fr Bijoy and Fr Paul who celebrated Masses with us last week

## SOLEMNITIES/FEAST DAYS

**2 February (Monday)** The Presentation of the Lord  
**18 February (Wednesday)** Ash Wednesday  
**19 March (Thursday)** St Joseph, spouse of the blessed virgin Mary



## PRAYER INTENTIONS



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

Shirley Aldridge, Lynette Robert, JGanette Robert, Murray Beveridge, Dragan Pelt, John Reynolds, Jenny Reynolds, Frank Elton, Sr June Bath rsj, Marykutty Joseph, Robert Gianfrotta, John Tela, Warwick Glendenning, Hugo, Tom Kennedy

**Let us pray for and support those who are sick and for all who have asked for our prayers:**

Pat Wong, John Liston, Jocelyn Petty, Ros Beveridge, Mary Scanlan, Anne Cooper, Monica Paffen, Garry Moorhead, Cristina Embac  
(The list will be refreshed every first week of the month. If you would like the names to continue, please inform the Parish office via email or phone)

## COLLECTIONS

### Last Week Collection:

First: \$1016.40 - Support Clergy in Parish & Archdiocese  
Second: \$1070.75 - Support running the Parish

### Planned Giving Collections:

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.



## Catechism Corner

### Who Is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Blessed Trinity — the love of God poured into our hearts. He gives us strength to follow Jesus, wisdom to know God’s will, and courage to live our faith.

“The Spirit helps us in our weakness.” —

Romans 8:26

Let us open our hearts each day to the guidance and gifts of the Holy Spirit

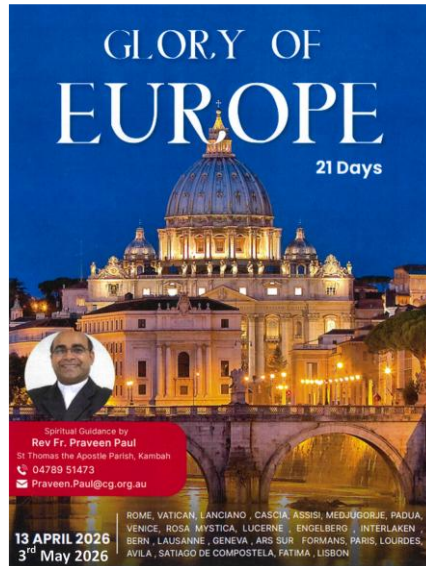
St Peter’s Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people to have their say, to be listened to and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking.

**COMMUNICATING CONCERNS:** You are encouraged to raise any concerns by emailing Fr Kose, the Parish Office, the Parish Safeguarding Volunteer or directly to Maria Hicks at the Institute Professional Standards & Safeguarding (IPSS) on [ipss@cg.org.au](mailto:ipss@cg.org.au)

## 2026 Glory of Europe 21 Day Tour

Fr Praveen would like to invite Parishioners to join him for a 21-day Tour of important Religious & Cultural Sites in Europe. ROME, VATICAN, LANCIANO, CASCIA, ASSISI, MEDJUGORJE, PADUA, VENICE, ROSA MYSTICA, LUCERNE, ENGELBERG, INTERLAKEN BERN, LAUSANNE, GENEVA, ARS SUR FORMANS, PARIS, LOURDES, AVILA, SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, FATIMA, LISBON.

To discuss, ask to questions & get more information please see Fr Praveen(0478951473) or contact him Praveen.Paul@cg.org.au  
Approx. ≈ \$9.900 AUD including Airfare (Subject to changes in exchange rate).



## 23-27 January | Trendsetters 2026 - A Jesus Youth Discipleship Retreat

Navigating your faith into adulthood can be challenging, especially in a fast-paced world! Trendsetters is a time for you to set your eyes on God through ENCOUNTER of His Love and a RENEWAL of your faith!

Dates: 23-27 Jan 2026 (5 DAYS)

Location: YWAM Canberra, Watson, ACT 2602

Who: Highschool Graduates and Uni students (ages 18-23)

Registration closes 11 Jan so book fast using the QR code!



For more information contact:  
Email - [canberra@jesusyouth.org.au](mailto:canberra@jesusyouth.org.au)  
Tanya Jojo – 0431805052

## Tribunal of the Catholic Church



Marriage breakdown is a traumatic experience for all those concerned. The Church reaches out in support of those who are divorced, while upholding the permanence of a true Christian marriage. The Canberra Office of the Tribunal extends an invitation to any divorced person who would like to talk about the annulment process. You can be assured that your privacy will be respected. Should you choose to apply for an annulment, you will be guided and supported through the process.

For further information please phone the Canberra Office of the Tribunal Office on 6239 9813 or email [tribunal@cg.org.au](mailto:tribunal@cg.org.au)



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**11 January 2026**

## First Reading Is 42:1-4. 6-7

*Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I am well pleased.*

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom my soul delights.  
I have endowed him with my spirit  
that he may bring true justice to the  
nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,  
or make his voice heard in the streets.  
He does not break the crushed reed,  
nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;  
he will neither waver, nor be crushed  
until true justice is established on earth  
for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the  
cause of right;  
I have taken you by the hand and formed  
you;

I have appointed you as covenant of the  
people and light of the nations,  
to open the eyes of the blind,  
to free captives from prison,  
and those who live in darkness from the  
dungeon.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 28:1-4. 9-10. R. v.11**

**(R.) The Lord will bless his people  
with peace.**

- O give the Lord you sons of God,  
give the Lord glory and power;  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Adore the Lord in his holy court. (R.)
- The Lord's voice resounding on the  
waters,  
the Lord on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the Lord, full of power,  
the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. (R.)
- The God of glory thunders.  
In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'  
The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;  
the Lord sits as king for ever. (R.)

## Second Reading Acts 10:34-38

*God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

'It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.'

## Gospel Acclamation See Mk 9:8

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The heavens were opened and the  
Father's voice was heard:**

**this is my beloved Son, hear him.**

**Alleluia!**

## Gospel Mt 3:13-17

*When Jesus was baptised, the heavens were opened and the Spirit of God came upon him.*

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. 'It is I who need baptism from you,' he said 'and yet you come to me!' But Jesus replied, 'Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.' At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. A voice spoke from heaven, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.'



## Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Let us focus on Jesus' mystical experience as he emerged from the waters of the River Jordan.

'Suddenly the heavens opened.' Heaven and earth are communicating again! If heaven appeared closed to humankind it is now open again. 'And he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him.' Jesus experienced a sense of being hovered over by the Divine presence 'in dove-like fashion'.

'And a voice spoke from Heaven: "This is my Son, the beloved, my favour rests on him".' In the Jewish tradition this sort of intuitive sensation is called the bat qol, the daughter of a voice, a whisper echoing heaven.

Each of us has shared in the baptism of Our Lord, been incorporated into His baptism. Divine love and power streamed from heaven to earth into each one of you; the Holy Spirit hovered gently over you; and deep down, at the intimate wellspring of your life, the Divine voice was heard whispering:

'You are my beloved daughter' or 'You are my beloved son,' 'My favour rests on you.'

We could pause for a moment to resolve to recall each morning the heavenly whisper at our baptism and then re-echo it in our lives.

mtate@bigpond.com

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