



CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRES OF PAMBULA

Parish Bulletin

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 15 February 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

Eden: Thursday 26 February 10am
Merimbula: Friday 27 March 10am
Pambula: Wednesday 29 April 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

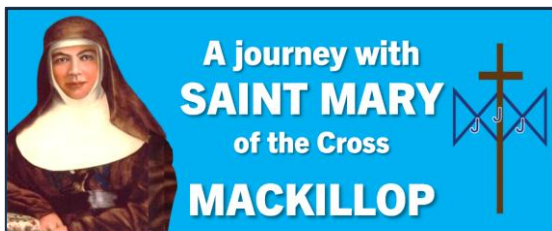
Merimbula: Sunday 9:30am & Friday 9am

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



A journey with
SAINT MARY
of the Cross
MACKILLOP

God will provide for the future. (1907)
Truly our great God will be gratified by the love and zeal of many.
(30.6.1873)
Maori Mission at Matata, New Zealand, 1891.
God's will be done (10.2.1882)
Gratitude is the memory of the heart. (1907)
Value your crosses as the most precious presents from a good and loving God. (26.2.1890)

COMING EVENTS/NOTICES

Aged Care Facility Mass

3 March 2pm Albert Moore Gardens, Merimbula
5 March 11.30am Imlay House, Pambula
12 March 11.30am Uniting Age Care, Eden

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.

Amendment consent for the sale of parish land

Back in April 2025 the Parish Finance Committee asked for your consent to sell the excess non income land behind St Peters church Pambula for the purpose of investing the money into residential properties to generate income for the Parish and to build a new Parish Centre. The Finance Committee has since decided to concentrate on the residential properties only and put the Parish Centre on hold depending on finances. The Finance Committee require your consent in order to tender the projected plan to the Trustees of the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn for approval. If you have any concerns, please contact Fr Kose

Service for World Day Of Prayer

St Joseph's Church, Merimbula, is hosting this year's World Day Of Prayer. The country of focus is Nigeria. All are welcome on **Friday 6th March**, with the service commencing at **11am**. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

If you are able to assist or would like further information, please contact Alice – 0439200943 or Anne – 0408241230.



School Opening Mass 2026

Please join us for the Opening Mass at Lumen Christi on **Tuesday 24 February 2026 at 9:30 am**

Ash Wednesday Preparation Notice

As you all know, Ash Wednesday is on 18 February, Parishioners are kindly asked to bring their old, blessed palms or crosses to be burned for Ash Wednesday. Please bring them as soon as possible so they can be prepared in time.



SOLEMNITIES/FEAST DAYS

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, Ganette Robert, Murray Beveridge, Dragan Pelt, John Reynolds, Jenny Reynolds, Frank Elton, Sr June Bath rsj, Marykutty Joseph, Warwick Glendenning, Hugo, Tom Kennedy, Damien Lambourne, Ann Johnston

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, Beverley Ann Barr (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: \$1031.20 - Support Clergy in Parish & Archdiocese
Second: \$1056.30 - 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

Did Jesus know that he would die when he entered Jerusalem?

Yes. Three times Jesus had predicted his suffering and death before consciously and voluntarily (Lk 9:51) going to the place of his Passion and his Resurrection.

Lenten Discussion Group

A Lenten Discussion Group will commence on Monday, **16 February, at 12.30 pm**, in the Parish Meeting Room. Please register your interest by contacting Anne on 0408241230.

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

Important Notice – Scam Alert



Please be aware that there have been reports of scam attempts involving individuals contacting parishioners and requesting donations or financial assistance.

Please note that any legitimate requests for payments or donations will only be communicated through the parish bulletin, official parish announcements, or directly by Father Kose.

If you receive a phone call, message, or email asking for money, please do not respond or make any payment unless you have confirmed it with Father Kose or the parish office.

Thank you for your vigilance and cooperation in keeping our parish community safe.

27 February – 1 March | Lenten Retreat: Meeting Christ in Our Deepest Need

You are invited to a 3-session Lenten retreat, Meeting Christ in Our Deepest Need: A Lenten Journey, facilitated by Greg Sunter. Greg is an experienced facilitator with a strong background in small-group ministry. Holding Master's degrees in Theology and Education, he helps people engage deeply with Scripture, grow in prayer, and connect faith with daily life. He is well known for his parish newsletter gospel reflections, which explain Scripture in its historical and cultural context and relate it to contemporary lived experience.

More about Greg: <https://www.wholehearted.com.au/about/>

Greg will reflect on this year's Lenten Gospels and there are times for personal reflection and optional sharing. Everyone is welcome no prior study needed and no pressure to speak.

Time:

Friday 27th February 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm

Saturday 28th February 10 am - 11 am

Sunday 1st March 4.30 pm - 5.30 pm

PARISH OFFICER—NAROOMA-COBARGO PARISHES

People are invited to apply for the above position in Narooma parish. This is a permanent part-time position of 5 hours per week and will be based in the parish office at Narooma. Employment conditions are subject to the Clerks award. Please email Leanne Boyd, Parish Support manager at leanne.boyd@cg.org.au for a copy of the Duty Statement. Applications addressing the selection criteria and current CV to be sent to Fr George the Parish Priest at george.azhakath@cg.org.au by Friday 20 February 2026.

Project Compassion – Lenten Appeal

Project Compassion envelopes and boxes are now available for this Lenten season.

Parishioners are warmly invited to take one and support this important appeal.





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First Reading **Ecc 15:15-20**

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. (R.)
2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. (R.)
3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. (R.)
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. (R.)

Second Reading **1 Cor 2:6-10**

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord

of Glory; we teach what scripture calls: the things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation **See Mt 11:25**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Mt 5:20-22. 27-28. 33-34. 37** **(or longer form Mt 5:17-37)**

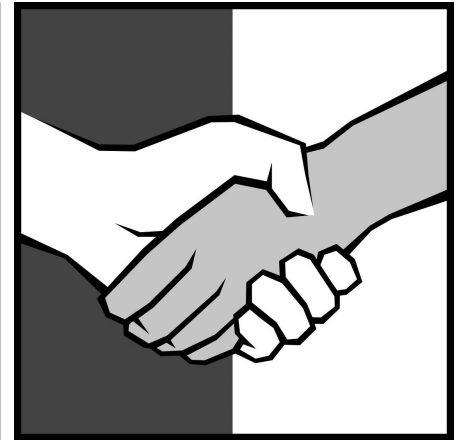
Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

We have just heard the least observed command of Our Lord in the Sermon on the Mount. Referring to oaths he taught, 'Do not swear at all ... instead let your "yes" mean yes and your "no" mean no. Whatever goes beyond these simple words is from the Evil One.'

This is strong language. Why does Our Lord say this?

In the same Sermon on the Mount, he teaches us the proper use of God's name: 'Our Father'. It is our privilege as adopted children of God to use God's name in that way. The use of God's name for oath-swearing is an *abuse*.

Our Lord was trying to establish a new sort of society (The Kingdom) within which truth-telling was of paramount importance, where there is no two-tiered way of speaking the truth.

Truth telling should issue simply from the character of the person – the truthful person truths.

We know this at the very private level of intimate relationships. As a Church, we need to heed this passage and listen to the epistle of St James recalling this passage almost verbatim. (James 5:12-13)

We could pause for a moment to pray that the Church herself heeds the Great Commission: 'Teach them to keep *all* that I have commanded you.' (Matthew 28:20)

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