



CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRES OF PAMBULA

Parish Bulletin

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, Year A 28 December 2025

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

Merimbula: Friday 2 January 10am
Pambula: Wednesday 28 January 10am
Eden: Thursday 26 February 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

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

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Merimbula: Sunday 9:30am & Friday 9am

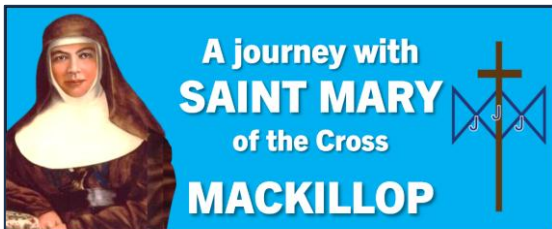
Rosary

Merimbula: Cenacle & Holy Hour 11am Monday
Pambula: Wednesday 9:30am



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 loves courageous souls. (14.12.1890)

To lack courage shows want of confidence in God and weak faith.
(14.12.1890)

Let us love one another. (14.12.1890)

Have patience and go on quietly with your work. (30.12.1897)
Death of Lexie MacKillop, Mary's sister, at the Convent of the Good Shepherd, Abbotsford, Melbourne, 30.12.1882.

COMING EVENTS/NOTICES

Aged Care Facility Mass

6 January 2pm Albert Moore Gardens, Merimbula
8 January 11.30am Imlay House, Pambula
15 January 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.

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 now available. You can purchase a copy for \$20 at the Parish Office or by contacting Fr Kose.

Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2025



The Appeal, which has taken place over the last two weekends, has received an overwhelming response from our parishioners.

The combined effort from all three churches has raised \$2,567.00 to help people in need this Christmas.

This, after collecting \$2,862.00 for the Vinnies Winter Appeal, is an outstanding result.

We are blessed to live in such a generous and caring community.

You can be assured that your kind donations will help provide struggling families with immediate relief, and the ongoing support they need to help rebuild their lives.

Also, thank you once again for your support of the Vinnies Giving Tree, by donating puddings and cakes to add to the food hampers provided by students and staff from Lumen Christi Catholic College.

It is with great pride that our Conference was able to provide food hampers to over 60 companions this Christmas, including 26 families and 46 children.

The estimated value of the contribution from parishioners and school is over \$5,000!

What a remarkable effort!

We were also able to provide toys to the value of over \$1000, thanks to the generosity of 2EC/Power FM.

We are extremely grateful to everyone who contributed in any way to making someone’s Christmas just a little happier this year.

God bless you all and have a very happy, holy and joyous Christmas

Eden-Merimbula Conference of the St Vincent de Paul



PRAYER INTENTIONS



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

Giuseppina Gianfrotta, Ros & Ruby Hain, Shirley Aldridge, Lynette Robert, JGanette Robert, Murray Beveridge, Dragan Pelt, John Reynolds, Jenny Reynolds, Frank Elton, Sr June Bath rsj, Marykuty Joseph, Robert Gianfrotta, John Tela, Warwick Glendenning

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: \$966.70 - Support Clergy in Parish & Archdiocese
Second: \$819.85 - 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.

Catechism Corner

Week 7 — Why Do We Go to Confession?

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we meet Jesus, who forgives our sins and restores peace to our hearts.

Confession helps us grow in humility and strengthens us to resist temptation.

“Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them.” — John 20:22-23

Let us approach this sacrament often, trusting in God’s mercy and love.

Spiritual Accompaniment

We all need companions on the journey. Friends in faith who listen, encourage, and walk with us help us grow closer to Christ and to each other.

Reflection: Who has been a spiritual companion to me, and how can I accompany others?

Prayer: Jesus, bless my friendships in faith and draw us closer to You.

Memorial Mass

Fr Kose will celebrate his Mom Mrs. Marykuty Joseph’s Memorial Mass on Saturday, **10 January at 10am** at St Joseph Church, Merimbula. All are warmly invited to attend. A small gathering will follow the Mass. Kindly bring a plate to share.



SOLEMNITIES/FEAST DAYS

28 December (Sunday) The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

1 January (Thursday) Mary, the Holy Mother of God

4 January (Sunday) The Epiphany of the Lord

11 January (Sunday) The Baptism of the Lord

Vacancy for Pambula - Parish Officer

People are invited to apply for the position of Parish Officer for the Catholic Parishes of Pambula including Our Lady Star of the Sea Eden, St Joseph's Merimbula and St Peter's Pambula. This is a permanent part time position of 12 hours per week and will be based in the Parish Office, Merimbula. There may be some travel between parishes when required. Employment conditions are subject to Clerks Award. For a copy of the Duty Statement please email the Parish Office pambula@cg.org.au Applications addressing the Selection Criteria and current CV to be sent to Parish support Manager Leanne.Boyd@cg.org.au and cc: to Fr Kose Joseph, Parish Priest kose.joseph@cg.org.au by CoB 9 Jan 2026.

Essential Requirements for Parish Officer positions:

- Experience with database packages & Microsoft Suite
- Strong communication and liaison skills
- Strong organizational skills
- Ability to work on your own, as part of a team, and take direction
- Understand and administer areas of church and regulatory compliance (eg. Parish sacrament registers, Working with Vulnerable People, WHS, child protection, copyright)
- Understanding and respect for the Catholic Church and its teaching
- Current experience in an office environment

Thank You Note



I sincerely thank all our parishioners for your prayers, messages of sympathy, and kind wishes on the passing of my beloved mother. Your spiritual support, compassion, and closeness during this time of grief have been a great comfort to me and my family. I am deeply grateful for your love and prayers. May the Lord bless you all abundantly.

God Bless !
Fr Kose Chennelil MS

Congratulations

Congratulations to our newly baptised, Antonia, Charlie, Eliza, Noah, Olivia, Oliver and William. We thank the parents and Godparents for their commitment to raising these children in the Catholic faith. May the Lord bless them and help them grow strong in faith and love.



As we prepare to welcome the New Year, we pray for God's blessings, peace, and joy for all our parishioners and their families.

"The Lord will watch over your coming and going." (Psalm 121:8)

2026
HAPPY NEW YEAR



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28 December 2025

First Reading Sir 3:2-6. 12-14

Whoever fears the Lord honours his parents.

The Lord honours the father in his children, and upholds the rights of a mother over her sons.

Whoever respects his father is atoning for his sins,

he who honours his mother is like someone amassing a fortune.

Whoever respects his father will be happy with children of his own, he shall be heard on the day when he prays. Long life comes to him who honours his father,

he who sets his mother at ease is showing obedience to the Lord.

My son, support your father in his old age, do not grieve him during his life.

Even if his mind should fail, show him sympathy,

do not despise him in your health and strength;

for kindness to a father shall not be forgotten

but will serve as reparation for your sins.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 127:1-5. R. see v.1

(R.) Happy are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.

- O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. *(R.)*
- Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. *(R.)*
- Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life. *(R.)*

Second Reading Col 3:12-21

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you and you should be clothed in sincere compassion, in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same. Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them, put on love. And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body. Always be thankful.

Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you. Teach each other,

and advise each other, in all wisdom. With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns and inspired songs to God; and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, give way to your husbands, as you should in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives and treat them with gentleness. Children, be obedient to your parents always, because that is what will please the Lord. Parents, never drive your children to resentment or you will make them feel frustrated.

Gospel Acclamation Col 3:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and the fullness of his message live within you.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 2:13-15.19-23

Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.

After the wise men had left, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you, and escape into Egypt, and stay there until I tell you, because Herod intends to search for the child and do away with him.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, left that night for Egypt, where he stayed until Herod was dead. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken through the prophet:

I called my son out of Egypt.

After Herod's death, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother with you and go back to the land of Israel, for those who wanted to kill the child are dead.' So Joseph got up and, taking the child and his mother with him, went back to the land of Israel. But when he learnt that Archelaus had succeeded his father Herod as ruler of Judaea he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he left for the region of Galilee. Here he settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way the words spoken through the prophets were to be fulfilled:

He will be called a Nazarene.



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Herod is seeking to annihilate all the male children in Bethlehem. The child Jesus is in mortal danger. 'Arise, take the child and his mother, and flee into Egypt.' And Joseph did so. *That* night and by night, such was the urgency.

Have you ever thought: What if Egyptian border guards had turned back this refugee family? What if, instead of finding safe haven and sanctuary, this desperate family had been denied entry? The Divine plan to rescue Jesus from a murderous tyrant depended not only on Joseph but, also, on the Egyptian people.

And so we discover two Holy Families in this Gospel episode. One is the little Holy Family with Joseph, Mary and Jesus. The other is the larger Holy Family of humanity embodied in those Egyptians who provided sanctuary, who opened their land to allow Joseph, Mary and Jesus to settle out of danger.

We might pause for a moment to ask: Can we be as hospitable and open as the Egyptians of today's Gospel? Another baby in another family of refugees may depend on our answer!

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