



CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRES OF PAMBULA

Parish Bulletin

Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

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 27 March 10am
Pambula: Wednesday 29 April 10am
Eden: Thursday 28 May 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

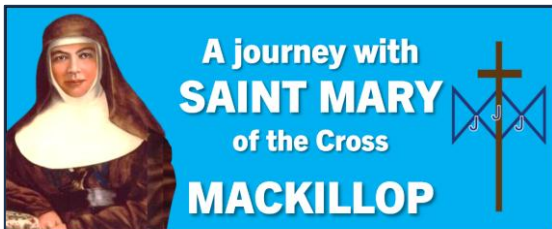
Rosary

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

Let us do the will of God, the
beautiful, wise will of God.
(5.3.1870)

COMING EVENTS/NOTICES

Aged Care Facility Mass

12 March 11.30am Uniting Age Care, Eden
2 April 11.30am (Liturgy) Imlay House, Pambula
7 April 2pm Albert Moore Gardens, Merimbula

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.



This year's PALM CROSSES will be made on **Saturday 21 March** in the courtyard of St Joseph's Church, from **11am - 12:30pm**. Helpers most welcome. Please bring a pair of scissors.

Weekend Mass Collection – New Arrangement from 28–29 March

From the weekend of 28–29 March, our parish will move to one collection at all weekend Masses. This is in line with the common practice across the Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn, where parishes with one collection share the funds between the Parish and the Central Presbytery Fund (CPF), which supports the clergy of our Archdiocese.

How the Collection Will Be Split
To the Parish:

- 100% of Planned Giving envelopes
- 70% of loose cash collections
- 70% of tap machine donations
- 100% of any special appeals (these will be transferred to the relevant appeal account)

To the Central Presbytery Fund (CPF):

- 30% of loose cash collections
- 30% of tap machine donations
- 100% of donations specifically marked for CPF

All money will be banked into the parish account by the counters, and the 70/30 split will be processed accordingly. This new arrangement is a simpler and clearer system. It ensures that our parish continues to meet its local needs while also supporting the priests of our Archdiocese. Thank you for your ongoing generosity and support of our parish and clergy.

Tree update

Due to the recent weather, the cutting down of the large grey gum has been delayed. The new date is not known at this stage.

SOLEMNITIES/FEAST DAYS

19 March (Thursday) St Joseph, spouse of the blessed virgin Mary
25 March (Wednesday) The Annunciation of the Lord
29 March (Sunday) Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



PRAYER INTENTIONS



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

Murray Beveridge, Dragan Pelt, John Reynolds, Jenny Reynolds, Frank Elton, Sr June Bath rsj, Marykuty Joseph, Warwick Glendenning, Hugo, Tom Kennedy, Damien Lambourne, Ann Johnston, Irma Kelly, Jocilyn Petty

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, Bernadette Wright

(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: \$1187.80 - Support Clergy in Parish & Archdiocese
Second: \$879.90 - 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.



Way of the Cross

During this Lenten season, the Way of the Cross will be held every Fridays immediately after the 10am Mass at St Joseph's Church, Merimbula

Quiet in the Church after Mass

After Mass people are still praying. Could those who wish to talk and catch up with one another please move to outside the Church so that people who are still praying may do so in the quiet of the Church after Mass.
-Thank you-

Thank You

To all parishioners who attended to the Meeting and Parish Financial Report Presentation, thank you for your time, your valuable ideas, and your support. Your participation and input are truly appreciated.

Catechism Corner

Did Jesus work miracles, or are they just pious tales?

Jesus really worked miracles, and so did the apostles. The new Testament authors refer to real incidents.



Service for World Day Of Prayer



We would like to sincerely thank all the parishioners who participated and helped make the gathering a success. A special thank you to the organizing team, especially those who took leadership in coordinating the event. We are also grateful to those who generously brought food for the morning tea, the students and teachers from LCCC who attended, and the choir for their beautiful singing. Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported the event. Your time, effort, and participation are greatly appreciated.



LCCC library – 3:30pm for 3:45pm Monday 23rd March

All parishioners are invited to come and meet Sr Quintilia Trotta FSSA, who will talk about her life as a Franciscan Missionary Sister. I will also talk about the time I spent with the Sisters in Tanzania.
-Teresa-

Lenten, Holy Week & Easter Schedule 2026

Lenten Discussion Groups:

Merimbula – 12.30pm Mondays during Lent in Meeting Room.
Eden – 3.30pm Thursdays during Lent at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church, Eden

Solemnity of St Joseph – Thursday 19.03.26:

10am Mass – Our Lady Star of the Sea, Eden
5.30pm Mass – St Joseph’s Church, Merimbula followed by supper
Please bring some food to share

Holy Week & Easter Mass times:

Palm Sunday 28.03.26 – usual Saturday/Sunday Mass times.
Holy Thursday 02.04.26 – 7pm St Peter’s Church, Pambula
Good Friday 03.04.26 – 11am Stations of the Cross at each Mass centre
2.15pm Commence Divine Mercy Novena – St Joseph’s Church, Merimbula
3pm Good Friday Service - St Joseph’s Church, Merimbula
Saturday 04.04.26 – Easter Vigil – 7pm Our Lady Star of the Sea, Eden
Invite people to bring –
Bottles/containers to fill with Easter water after the Vigil
Candles to light from the Paschal Candle
Sunday 05.04.26 - Easter Sunday –
8am Mass – St Peter’s Church, Pambula
10am Mass – St Joseph’s Church Merimbula, followed by morning tea
Bring some food to share/celebrate Easter.

Divine Mercy Sunday – 12.04.26

Usual Saturday/Sunday Mass times
2.30-3pm Confession
3pm Divine Mercy Service (short)



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Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

First Reading Ex 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the rock, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

(R.) If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks, with songs let us hail the Lord. (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert when your fathers put me to the test; when they tried me, though they saw my work.' (R.)

Second Reading Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 4:42. 15

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.**

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel shorter form

Jn 4:5-15, 19-26, 39-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Jewish people worshipped at the Temple in Jerusalem. The Samaritans to the north worshipped on Mount Gerizem. But Jesus says to the woman of Samaria: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem . . . true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth.'

We do this by acknowledging Jesus Christ as *our* sacred site. Jesus is where God is to be found. In his earthly ministry this was around places like the well in Samaria. As Risen Lord, he is to be found in those in dire need, and in the Heavenly Bread. In both cases we need to incline the body as an act of worship: in the case of the needy, by doing something practical; in the case of the Heavenly Bread, by genuflecting, bowing, before the Blessed Sacrament.

We could pause for a moment to reorientate ourselves to the Sacred Site who is the Risen Christ, acknowledging him as indeed the 'Saviour of the World'.

mtate@bigpond.com

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