



CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRES OF PAMBULA

Parish Bulletin

The Ascension of the Lord, Year A 17 May 2026

Our mission as a Christian community of the Catholic Parish Centres 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
Ann Garcia
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 27 May 10am
Eden: Thursday 28 May 10am
Merimbula: Friday 29 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
Eden: Thursday 9.15am


Rosary

Merimbula: Cenacle & Holy Hour 11am Monday
Pambula: Wednesday 9:30am
Eden: Thursday 9.30am 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



**Find happiness in making others happy.
(21.11.1899)**

COMING EVENTS/NOTICES

Aged Care Facility Mass

2 June 2pm Albert Moore Gardens, Merimbula
4 June 11.30am Imlay House, Pambula
11 June 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.

May is the month of the Rosary

Rosary will be prayed before Saturday Mass in Eden and before Sunday Masses in Pambula and Merimbula, beginning thirty minutes prior to the start of Mass.

Pray for Nigeria

During this Marian month of May, **Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)** is inviting all Catholics to pray a decade of the Rosary for those suffering persecution in **Nigeria**

2026 National Count of Attendance at Mass and Sunday Assemblies

Counting continues. You may notice someone taking this count at the Mass.

NO MASS THESE WEEKDAYS

There will be no mass these weekdays as Fr. Kose will have to attend the Clergy Assembly.

Catechism Corner

Why does Faith in Jesus Christ not enough? Why does God give us the sacraments too?

We can and should come to God with all our senses, not just with the intellect. That is why God gives Himself to us in earthly signs – especially in bread and wine, the body and Blood of Christ.
(1084,1146-1152)

SOLEMNITIES/FEAST DAYS

17 May (Sunday) The Ascension of The Lord
22 May (Friday) St. Rita of Cascia
24 May (Sunday) Pentecost Sunday



PRAYER INTENTIONS



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

Cynthia & Martin Walker, Domenic & Gloria, Marcel (Mike) Aggenbach, Edward Cutajar, Ann Johnston, Irma Kelly, Jocilyn Petty, Paul Geraghty

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

Jed Descutido, Monica Paffen, Pat Wong, Ros Beveridge*, Matilda Blake, John Liston,* Margot Neilsen, Anne Cooper*, Carolyn Mears

(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's Collection:

\$1,556.10 - Support Clergy in Parish & Archdiocese & 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.

Welcome to the Catholic Church

We rejoice as we welcome our newly baptized member, Sofia Rose Vitale who was baptized last 09 May at St. Joseph's Merimbula



Event Photos

When special parish events take place and photos are taken, please inform the parish office if you do not wish to have your photo included in the bulletin.

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

Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord



*Go, therefore,
make disciples of
all the nations...*

*teach them to observe
all the commandments
I gave to you.*

*And know that
I am with you always;
Yes, to the end of time...*

Mt 28:16-20

On this day O, Beautiful Mother... we give thee our Love ...



MERIMBULA



EDEN



PAMBULA



ENCOUNTERING JESUS TOGETHER



PARISH ASSEMBLY

Saturday 20th June, 2026
2.30pm - 5.15pm
Mary MacKillop Hall
Calle Calle Street, Eden

All Welcome

Our Parish Assembly is a time to explore the opportunities to discern where Jesus is calling us to walk together on our Pilgrim Journey.

PRAYER FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY

Heavenly Father, As we gather together to pray for the success of the Parish Assembly, we ask that you send your Holy Spirit to unite us. Open our hearts to listen to each other with humility and empathy and guide our minds to discern your will for our Parish.

Help us to build a community that is vibrant and welcoming, working together for the glory of God. May the Blessed Virgin Mary intercede for us. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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17 May 2026

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

**(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.
or**

(R.) Alleluia.

- All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,
great king over all the earth. (R.)
- God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise. (R.)

- God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne. (R.)

Second Reading Eph 1:17-23

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

**I am with you always, until the end
of the world.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Mt 28:16-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ could have continued to appear to groups of followers, century after century – until now!

But, he didn't, because the disciples had to be weaned of his Risen-mode of appearance among them lest they think that the victory over Death is meant for human beings alone.

But, as St Paul says, the Risen Lord is the One who 'fills all creation' with His power radiating out from his Risen Humanity.

However, dis-appearance is not the same as absence. We believe that Our Risen Lord is present in many modes, including as St Paul says '... the Church which is His Body'.

That is why the figures in white rebuke the disciples: 'Why do you stand looking into Heaven?'

The Disciples had, rather, to ready themselves to be the Spirit-filled body of Jesus Christ in their own time and place. As we do.

We might pause for a moment to stop staring into Heaven, to ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit as at Pentecost in order to be 'The Church which is His Body.'

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