



# CATHOLIC PARISH CENTRES OF PAMBULA

Parish Bulletin

*Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 20 September 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

Ann Garcia  
Open to the public on Wed & Fri from 10am-2pm  
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 23 Sept 10am  
Eden: Thursday 24 Sept 10am  
Merimbula: Friday 25 Sept 10am

### Sacrament of Baptism

Families are warmly invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism in our parish. Baptism is celebrated after Mass on the 4th Saturday/Sunday of the 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

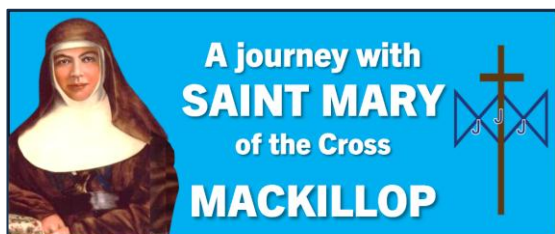
Merimbula: Cenacle & Holy Hour 11am Monday  
Pambula: Wednesday 9:30am  
Eden: Thursday 9.30am followed by Mass at 10am.

## 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

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)



**Earnestly desire to live more purely for God,  
especially in little things, and by such means,  
to be faithful in greater.  
(Retreat notes 1877)**

## COMING EVENTS/NOTICES

### Aged Care Facility Mass

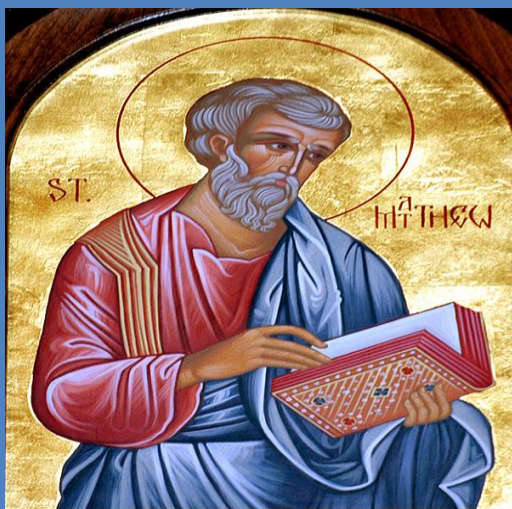
1 Oct 1.30am Imlay House Pambula  
6 Oct 2 pm Albert Moore Gardens, Merimbula  
8 Oct 11.30am Uniting Age Care, Eden  
6 Nov 1 pm Hugh Cunningham Gardens Tura Beach

### New Parishioners

If you are new to the parish, please contact the Parish Office or Fr. Kose so we can include your contact details in our records. Thank you.

**NO MASS ON TUES 22 SEPT**

## FEAST OF ST. MATTHEW – 21 SEPT



**The Holy Apostle and Evangelist Matthew** was one of the Twelve Apostles, and was brother of the Apostle James. He was a publican, or tax-collector for Rome.

When Matthew heard the voice of Jesus Christ: **“Come, follow Me”** (Mt. 9:9), he left everything and followed **the Savior**. Christ and His disciples did not refuse Matthew’s invitation and they visited his house, where they shared table with the publican’s friends and acquaintances. Like the host, they were also publicans and known sinners. This event disturbed the pharisees and scribes a great deal.

Publicans who collected taxes from their countrymen did this with great profit for themselves. Usually greedy and cruel people, the Jews considered them pernicious betrayers of their country and religion. The word “publican” for the Jews had the connotation of “public sinner” and “idol-worshipper.” To even speak with a tax-collector was considered a sin, and to associate with one was defilement. But the Jewish teachers were not able to comprehend that the Lord had **“come to call not the righteous, but sinners to repentance”** (Mt. 9:13).

Matthew, acknowledging his sinfulness, repaid fourfold anyone he had cheated, and he distributed his remaining possessions to the poor, and he followed Christ with the other apostles. Saint Matthew was attentive to the instructions of the Divine Teacher, he beheld His innumerable miracles, he went together with the Twelve Apostles preaching to “the lost sheep of the house of Israel” (Mt. 10:6). **He was a witness to the suffering, death, and Resurrection of the Savior, and of His glorious Ascension into Heaven.** (Extract from [www.o.ca.org/saints](http://www.o.ca.org/saints))



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### We pray for the recently deceased

Alvin Ureta, Conrad de Zwart, Peter Geraghty, Ruth Joan Mercieca, Michael Gandon, Sr. Magdalen McDonald, Alec Mocjec, Wendy Kukla, Sr. Myree Harris

### And for all the faithful departed who we remember at this time

Max Andrew, Henk Westerlaken, Errol David Cole, Kate Webster, Deborah Joan, Cynthia & Martin Walker, Domenic & Gloria,

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

John Liston\*, Carolyn Meers, Jed Descutido, Monica Paffen, Pat Wong, Ros Beveridge, Anne Cooper\*

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:

\$1,536.50- 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.

## CATECHISM CORNER

### Original sin? What does the fall of Adam and Eve have to do with us?

In the strict sense, sin implies guilt for which one is personally responsible.

Therefore, the term “Original Sin” refers, not to a personal sin, but rather to the disastrous, fallen state of humanity into which the individuals are born, even before they themselves sin by a free decision (388-389, 402-404)

## SOLEMNITIES/FEAST DAYS

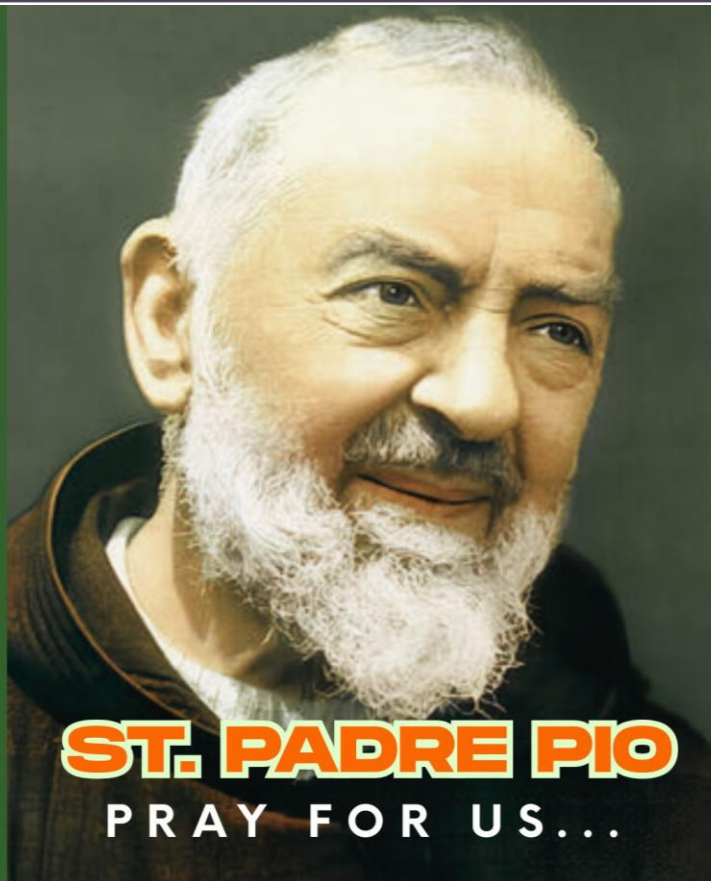
19 Sept (Sat) Our Lady of La Salette

21 Sept (Mon) Feast of St. Matthew

23 Sept (Wed) St. Pio of Pietrelcina

29 Sept (Tue) Feast of St. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

## FEAST OF ST. PADRE PIO – 23 SEPTEMBER



**Blessed is the crisis that  
made you grow, the fall that  
made you gaze up to  
Heaven, the problem that  
made you look for God!**

**PRAY, HOPE,  
AND DON'T  
WORRY**

-Padre Pio-

**St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)** was a Capuchin friar, priest, and mystic who lived in Italy until his death in 1968. Renowned for his deep holiness, charity, and devotion to God, he is one of the few saints in the Church known to have borne the **stigmata**, the wounds of Christ.

On 20 September 1918, while praying before a crucifix, Padre Pio received the visible wounds of Jesus' crucifixion on his hands, feet, and side. These wounds remained with him for fifty years, and many witnesses reported that the blood carried a fragrance resembling flowers.

A tireless minister of God's mercy, Padre Pio spent as many as 12 to 15 hours each day hearing confessions. He often encouraged frequent reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, saying: *"Confession is the soul's bath. You must go at least once a week. Even a clean room gathers dust; so too does the soul."*

Throughout his life, Padre Pio endured intense spiritual trials, including frequent attacks from the devil. He was also known for extraordinary mystical gifts, including bilocation, the ability to be present in more than one place at the same time. One of the most remarkable accounts took place during World War II, when he was reportedly seen in the skies above San Giovanni Rotondo.

Before his death at the age of 81, the wounds of the stigmata completely disappeared, leaving no scars, just as he had foretold fifty years earlier. Today, St. Padre Pio remains a powerful witness to God's mercy, prayer, suffering, and holiness.

### **Event Notices**

**20 September | St Anthony's Parish 50th Anniversary Mass | 09:00 am**

The Archbishop will celebrate the 50th Anniversary Mass at St Anthony's on Sunday 20 September, 9:00am. All past parishioners are invited to attend. For more information please email [m57cass@gmail.com](mailto:m57cass@gmail.com)

**23 September | ACU Veritas Lecture: Never Skip Brain Day: How AI Is Changing Learning, and Why Human Thinking Matters More Than Ever | 05:30 pm**

Artificial intelligence is not just a tool. It is more like electricity, with the potential to power every tool in our daily lives. While much remains uncertain about its long-term impact on education, one thing is clear. This lecture explores possible answers to this question, focusing on the tenuous space between efficient and effortful learning.



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**20 September 2026**

## First Reading Is 55:6-9

*My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take  
pity on him,  
to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who  
speaks.  
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

## Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18**

**(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.**

1. I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
the Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. (R.)
2. The Lord is kind and full of  
compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)
3. The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. (R.)

## Second Reading Phil 1:20-24. 27

*For me to live is Christ.*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by  
my life or by my death. Life to me, of course,  
is Christ, but then death would bring me  
something more; but then again, if living in  
this body means doing work which is having  
good results – I do not know what I should  
choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want  
to be gone and be with Christ, which would  
be very much the better, but for me to stay  
alive in this body is a more urgent need for  
your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that  
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

## Gospel Acclamation See Acts 16:14

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to listen to the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!**

## Gospel Mt 20:1-16

*Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'The kingdom  
of heaven is like a landowner going out at  
daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard.  
He made an agreement with the workers  
for one denarius a day, and sent them to  
his vineyard. Going out at about the third  
hour he saw others standing idle in the  
market place and said to them, "You go  
to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair  
wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour  
and again at about the ninth hour, he went  
out and did the same. Then at about the  
eleventh hour he went out and found more  
men standing round, and he said to them,  
"Why have you been standing here idle all  
day?" "Because no one has hired us" they  
answered. He said to them, "You go into  
my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner  
of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the  
workers and pay them their wages, starting  
with the last arrivals and ending with the  
first." So those who were hired at about the  
eleventh hour came forward and received  
one denarius each. When the first came,  
they expected to get more, but they too  
received one denarius each. They took it,  
but grumbled at the landowner. "The men  
who came last" they said "have done only  
one hour, and you have treated them the  
same as us, though we have done a heavy  
day's work in all the heat." He answered  
one of them and said, "My friend, I am not  
being unjust to you; did we not agree on  
one denarius? Take your earnings and go.  
I choose to pay the last-comer as much as  
I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like  
with my own? Why be envious because I am  
generous?" Thus the last will be first, and  
the first, last.'



## Reflection by Nick Brodie

The complaining workers in today's  
Gospel assumed they were near  
the top of some unspoken  
hierarchy. They thought they  
deserved more than some of their  
co-workers. If we think of the earth  
as God's great vineyard, we can  
see obvious parallels today.  
Nations can think they deserve  
more than their less developed  
neighbours; perhaps because their  
economies have been  
industrialised longer. People can  
assume they are right to own  
multiple properties while others  
remain homeless; perhaps  
because they inherited or worked  
hard for them.

But we Christians are called to  
work in the vineyard for its good,  
and for the good of all, not merely  
ourselves. 'The way humanity  
treats the environment influences  
the way it treats itself, and vice  
versa', declared Pope Benedict XVI  
in the encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*,  
reminding us that justice for others  
and good stewardship of our world  
are intimately connected. During  
this Season of Creation, we might  
ask ourselves: How can we tend  
the vineyard into which God has  
sent us? Do we attend to the  
needs of our fellow workers,  
especially refugees and immigrants  
who have only recently arrived?

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