



SUNDAY, 23 FEBRUARY 2025

PARISH of Ss PETER AND PAUL, KIAMA

*Incorporating the Church Communities of
St Mary Star of the Sea, Gerringong; St Matthew's, Jamberoo;
and Ss Peter & Paul, Kiama.*

Next Weekend's Mass Times – 1/2 March 2025

Ss Peter and Paul, Kiama – Vigil 6:00pm; Sunday 8:00am and 6:00pm
St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong and St Matthew's Jamberoo – Sunday 9:30am

Parish Priest: Father Chris Roberts

Presbytery: 94 Manning Street, Kiama **Parish Office:** 96 Manning Street (PO Box 299), Kiama

Parish Secretary: Louise Cobby **Office Hours:** 9am - 1pm (Tues to Thurs); 9am - 4pm (Fri)

Phone: (02) 4232 2081 **Email:** kiama@dow.org.au **Web:** www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au



SS PETER AND PAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL: 98 Manning St, (PO Box 248) Kiama

Web: www.sppdow.catholic.edu.au **Principal:** Peter Michael **Admin Officer:** Liz Brown

Ph: (02) 4232 2442 **Fax:** (02) 4232 1064 **Email:** info@sppdow.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA

Tuesday	25/2	5.00pm
Wednesday	26/2	8:00am
Thursday	27/2	8:00am
Friday	28/2	9:30am



RECONCILIATION: Ss Peter and Paul Kiama

Every Saturday: 8:30am – 9:00am (except Easter Saturday) **Monthly:** first Saturday, 5:00pm – 5:30pm.

WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS: by arrangement.

BAPTISMS: Kiama – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office to book.

COUNTER'S ROSTER:

23 February: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

2 March: Group 4 – Gavan Hctor

REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD SJ

Some years ago I was at an annual parents' dinner for a Catholic school for profoundly disabled children. A well-known local politician, whose child was in the school, was asked to speak. This is what he said:

'I would like to pay tribute to the staff at this school. Only parents and teachers know what a joy and a heartbreak it is to have a profoundly disabled child. I always wanted the perfect child, but where is the perfection in my son David? We are told that God looked at the world and it was perfect, but my son cannot understand things as other children do. David cannot remember facts and figures as other children do. David walks with difficulty and cannot speak. How can God be filled with joy at David?'

The audience was shocked by this pained question from an anguished father.

'I believe', the father continued, 'that when God allows a world in which David can now live for 50 years, perfection is found in the way people react to children like him.'

'Just recently David and I were walking in our local park. Some boys had been there most of the day playing cricket. They were serious about this competition. David was very excited and I knew he wanted to join in. David has terrible physical co-ordination, but I approached one of the boys on the pitch and asked if David could play. The boy looked around for guidance from his mates. Getting none, he took matters into his own hands and said "Things are tight, we have to get six runs to win but we'll try and give him a bat". David smiled broadly. After scoring three more runs the next boy got out. David was put up the batting order and called to the wicket. I helped him get out there.'

'Everyone knew that it was all but impossible for my son to help them win the game. He didn't even know how to hold the bat properly, let alone hit with it. The bowler, however, sent down a soft ball so David could at least make contact. The second similar ball came and David swung clumsily and missed it. One of David's team mates came up to him and

together they held the bat and faced the bowler waiting for the next ball.'

'As the ball came down, David and his teammate swung at the ball and together they hit a strong ground shot to the boundary. At his captain's urging David stumbled up the pitch as quickly as he could. Never in his life has David run so fast. He came back for a second run as the fielder saved the ball from being four runs and so the team was screaming for a third run. The fielder could have thrown the ball to David's stumps and got him out. On the winning third run, however, he threw the ball to the other end where the other batsman was safely home. The keeper casually sent it up to David's end, just as David was completing the third, winning run.

'That day', said the father softly with tears now rolling down his face, 'those boys showed me why God always looks at creation and knows it is very good.'

Jesus said, 'If you love those who love you, what credit is that? Be kind, be merciful, forgive and do not condemn, for the measure you give out is the measure you will receive'.

PARISH NOTICES

We would like to respectfully acknowledge the Wadi Wadi people of the Dharawal nation, who are the Traditional Custodians and First Peoples of the lands on which we worship.

AS A PARISH WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS FOR:

Those who are sick:

Gerry Gilchrist; John Cull; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Milton Mitchell; Kevin Dorahy; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Antony Brennan; Margaret Killmore; Beverley Wilson; Catherine O'Keeffe (sister of Margaret Di Salvio); Carmelina Cassar; Marjorie Downes; Kevin O'Sullivan; Greg Twemlow; All recently deceased friends and relatives of parishioners.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

GERRINGONG MEMORIAL GARDEN



Spaces are available to purchase in the Memorial Garden at St Mary Star of the Sea, Gerringong for the interment of ashes, or for memorial plaques on the Memorial Wall. **Please note: spaces in the Memorial Garden are available to both Catholics and non-Catholics.** If you would like further information, please contact the Parish Office on 4232 2081 or email kiama@dow.org.au

HOME COMMUNION VISITS

If you know someone who would like to receive Communion at home because of illness or frailty, please contact Sr Maureen on 0427 941 855.

ADORATION AND HOLY HOUR

* **Every Saturday** - 8:00am to 9:00am, Ss Peter and Paul Church, **Kiama**. The hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Perpetual Succour Novena, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.



* **Every Monday** - 3:00pm to 4:00pm, St Mary Star of the Sea Church, **Gerringong**. An invitation to all, to step into one hour of silent adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

All are welcome to attend.

SVDP HELP CENTRE

Mondays – 4.00pm to 5.00pm (excluding public holidays)

SVDP Kiama Conference operates a Help Centre in the Parish Meeting Room, Kiama, for those seeking assistance. People must phone for an appointment. **Calls and texts are taken from 12:00pm each Monday only. Please phone 0402 518 377.**

Current income statements and ID are required.

** If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, new members are always welcome to join the team. All enquiries can be made through the Parish Office.*

PARISH PLAYGROUP



Ss Peter and Paul Parish Hall, Kiama
Wednesdays, 9:00am – 11:30am.

Term 1 – 5 & 19 March, 2 April.

For further details please contact Susie Hartley on 0438 377 292.

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT US THROUGH PARISH GIVING

If you would like to help support our Parish, either through a one-off donation or via regular giving, please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/> for access to the different ways to give, including wills and bequests. Alternatively, you can donate to a specific collection via our bank details below:

* FIRST COLLECTION

(supporting our priests)

Account name: Kiama Presbytery;

BSB: 066711; **Account number:** 002126

* SECOND COLLECTION

(supporting our Parish)

Account name: Kiama Parish;

BSB: 066711; **Account number:** 001774

SACRAMENTS 2025



Information and enrolment forms for the 2025 Confirmation Program are now available on the Parish website. Visit www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program

Information for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be advertised once dates have been set.

Enrolments close on the following dates:

- * **Confirmation** – Friday, 21 March
- * **First Reconciliation** – Still to be organised
- * **First Holy Communion** – Still to be organised

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Week 2

Congratulations to the following winners of this week's Silver Circle:

- 1st – Gerda Doherty (#17); 2nd – Ken Rae (#36); 3rd – Anne Hassett (#4)

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES



Wednesday, 5 March,
Ss Peter and Paul Church
9:30am and 6:00pm

OLD PALM SUNDAY PALMS FOR ASH WEDNESDAY ASHES

If you have palms that you don't want from previous year's Palm Sunday Masses, could you please return them to the Parish Office, send them back in the Gerringong or Jamberoo bag, or leave them in the basket at the back of Ss Peter and Paul Church by Sunday 2 March and they will be burned for the ashes for Ash Wednesday.

ST MARY'S MORNING TEA

The Gerringong monthly morning tea will be held this Sunday, 23 February after the 9:30am Mass at St Mary's.

CURSILLO WEEKEND

Ladies of the Wollongong Diocese are invited to a 3-day Cursillo weekend at Carmel House, Varroville. Talks, discussion, friendship, daily Mass and Spiritual guidance on request. Our Spiritual Director is Fr Chris Roberts. The weekend commences Thursday evening,

6 March, and concludes Sunday afternoon, 9 March 2025. For further information please contact Margaret French 0417 041 721 or email cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com

KBECET NEWS

The commissioning service for the new KHS Scripture Teacher, Ryan Sherring, and all Scripture teachers will be held at 2:00pm on Sunday, 2 March at Kiama Presbyterian Church. Parish Catechists and parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

JUBILEE PILGRIM PASSPORT

Bishop Brian requested the development and wide distribution of Pilgrim Passports as a very tangible and creative way to ensure that the faithful in the Diocese of Wollongong are able to faithfully respond to Pope Francis' call to embrace the Jubilee as Pilgrims of Hope. The Passports can be found at the back of the church.

They are compact and beautifully presented documents and contain:

- * A welcome and introduction from Bishop Brian and Pope Francis' message
 - * An explanation of the Jubilee Practices, including Pilgrimage and the Plenary Indulgence
 - * Information and links to the six Jubilee Pilgrim sites, with a dedicated space to record and stamp visits at each designated pilgrimage site.
 - * Pilgrim Prayers and a guide to the Sacrament of Reconciliation
 - * QR codes to all essential Jubilee Year information on the Diocesan Website.
- Please take a copy home and consider doing one or more of the pilgrimages during the year.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 7 March

Focus: The Cook Islands

- * **Gerringong** – St Mary Star of the Sea Church, 10:30am.
- * **Kiama** – Ss Peter and Paul Church, 10:30am, followed by morning tea in the Parish Hall.

CAN YOU GIVE ONE HOUR PER WEEK FOR LENT . . . ?

You are warmly invited to come to the Church for one hour of prayer, reflection and quiet time each Thursday afternoon for five weeks of Lent in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. A different Lenten Reflection sheet for personal prayer / reflection will be provided each week.

This is not a Lenten Group (no sharing) and is open to all the parish and beyond.

Begins: Thursday, 13 March for five consecutive Thursdays. **Time:** 4:00 to 5:00pm. **Where:** Ss Peter and Paul Church (Blessed Sacrament Chapel), Kiama. *Please 'Come and see . . .'*
For more information phone 0409 562 830 or Email smabela@bigpond.com

BELLES LUNCH GERROA

The Belles lunch will be held at the Fisherman's Club in Gerroa at 12:00pm on Monday, 3 March. All ladies welcome.

DICOESAN LENTEN PROGRAM "METANOIA"

This Lent, embark on a journey of metanoia — a transformative change of heart inspired by the Gospels. Let this beautifully designed, 76-page, full-colour companion guide your spiritual renewal through daily reflections, Sunday readings and reflections, spiritual direction, prayers, and group discussion questions. **The books are now available from the Parish Office during office opening hours. Get in quick because stock is limited. A small number of accompanying CD's is also available for those running Lenten Groups. Book cost: \$5. CD cost: \$5.**

POSITION VACANT

SAFEGUARDING SUPPORT OFFICER
Department: Office of Professional Standards and Safeguarding

About the role: OPSS has an exciting opportunity for an organised and enthusiastic professional to join the team as a Safeguarding Support Officer on a fixed term contract. The successful applicant will be primarily responsible for compliance, case management and project support. The Safeguarding Support Officer will be part of a team that assists the agencies and ministries in the Diocese in their continued commitment to ensuring safe environments in all Diocesan services across the Illawarra, Macarthur, Shoalhaven and Southern Highlands. **How to apply:** If you are interested in applying for this position, please email safeguarding@dow.org.au and the detailed Position Description will be emailed to you. If you have any questions please contact Asanta Viswasam by email at asante.viswasam@dow.org.au or phone 0408 512 163. Applications close 5:00pm, 2 March.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

At the Parish Pastoral Council, we are committed to nurturing a vibrant and inclusive community that fosters faith and connection. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated members Anne Wenham, Christine Holloway, Julieanne Douglas, and Michael Brady, who have completed their terms. Your commitment has made a significant impact, and we are truly grateful.

If any parishioners are interested in joining the Parish Pastoral Council in 2025, we warmly invite you to leave your name and number with the Parish Office at kiama@dow.org.au or 4232 2081.

Lastly, please join us for a 'Thank You' morning tea for all Parish Ministries at 11:00am on Sunday, 30 March, in Ss Peter and Paul Hall. Everyone welcome. We look forward to celebrating together!

LENT 2025 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed! For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is FREE and you can sign up here: <https://brucedownes.org/lent2025> Go to www.BruceDownes.org for more information.

HOPE FOR THE ILLAWARRA INTER CHURCH EVANGELISATION EVENT

I invite Catholics in the Diocese of Wollongong, especially those in the Illawarra Region, to attend this Ecumenical Event, inviting others so as to hear the Gospel proclaimed anew. In embracing our Jubilee Year of Hope, consider attending Hope for the Illawarra on March 28-29 in Wollongong." Bishop Brian Mascord

MAIN EVENTS: **Friday 28 March** - An Evening for Youth (7:00pm); **Saturday 29 March** - A Morning Event for Children (11:00am); A Celebration with Dr Michael Youssef (7:00pm). For more information phone 4222 2407, email jude.hennessy@dow.org.au or visit <https://www.hopefortheillawarra.com.au/about-1>,

7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

23 FEBRUARY 2025

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is compassion and love,

slow to anger and rich in mercy.

He does not treat us according to our sins

nor repay us according to our faults. **(R.)**

4. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 6:27-38

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what

thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS - 2 MARCH

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time -
Year C/1

1ST READING: Sirach 27:4-7

PSALM: Ps 91:2-3, 13-16 (R.) *Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.*

2ND READING: 1 Cor 15:54-58

GOSPEL: Lk 6:39-45

