



# SUNDAY, 12 JANUARY 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 – 18/19 January 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](mailto:kiama@dow.org.au) **Web:** [www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au](http://www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au)



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

**Web:** [www.ssppdow.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ssppdow.catholic.edu.au) **Principal:** Peter Michael **Admin Officer:** Liz Brown

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### **WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA**

Tuesday	14/1	5.00pm	
Wednesday	15/1	8:00am	
Thursday	16/1	8:00am	
Friday	17/1	9:30am	St Anthony



### **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 – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office to book.

### **COUNTER'S ROSTER:**

**12 January:** Group 2 – Ross Smith

**19 January:** Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

## **REFLECTION**

### **“YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON”**

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes for us the Christmas Season and transitions us into the beginning of Ordinary Time. From a Scriptural point of view, this event in Jesus' life is also a transitional moment from His hidden life in Nazareth to the beginning of His public ministry. As we commemorate this glorious event, it's important to ponder a simple question: Why was Jesus baptized? Recall that John's baptism was one of repentance, an act by which he invited his followers to turn from sin and to turn to God. But Jesus was sinless, so what was the reason for His Baptism?

First of all, we see in the quoted passage above that Jesus' true identity was made manifest through His humble act of baptism. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased," spoke the voice of the Father in Heaven. Furthermore, we are told that the Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove. Thus, Jesus' baptism is in part a public declaration of

Who He is. He is the Son of God, a divine Person Who is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. This public testimony is an "epiphany," a manifestation of His true identity for all to see as He prepares to begin His public ministry.

Second, by His baptism, Jesus' incredible humility is made manifest. He is the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, but He allows Himself to become identified with sinners. By sharing in an act that was focused upon repentance, Jesus speaks volumes through His action of baptism. He came to unite Himself with us sinners, to enter our sin and to enter into our death. By entering the water, He symbolically enters into death itself, which is the result of our sin, and rises triumphantly, allowing us to also rise with Him to new life. For this reason, Jesus' baptism was a way of Him "baptizing" the waters, so to speak, so that water itself, from that moment onward, would be endowed with His divine presence and could be communicated to all who are baptized after Him. Therefore, sinful humanity is

now able to meet divinity through baptism.

Lastly, when we share in this new baptism, through water that has now been sanctified by our divine Lord, we see in Jesus' baptism a revelation of who we become in Him. Just as the Father spoke and declared Him as His Son, and just as the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, so also in our baptism we become the adopted children of the Father and are filled with the Holy Spirit. Thus, Jesus' baptism gives clarity as to whom we become in Christian baptism.

*Lord, I thank You for Your humble act of baptism by which You opened the Heavens to all who are sinners. May I open my heart to the unfathomable grace of my own baptism each and every day and more fully live with You as a child of the Father, filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus, I trust in You.*

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# 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:

*All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.*

### Anniversaries:

*Terry McGill; Patricia Bartley; Nicole Jones; Frank Mete; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.*

### Recently Deceased:

*John Eccleston; Hannah Plowman; 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](mailto:kiama@dow.org.au)

## 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 starting from 3 February 2025** - 3:00pm – 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. **If anyone would like to have Adoration on 13, 20 or 27 January please phone Ann Barron on 0407 220 560.**

*All are welcome to attend.*

## HOME COMMUNION VISITS

If you know someone who would like to receive Communion at home because of illness or frailty, please contact Sr Maureen **after 26 January** on 0427 941 855. Sr Maureen is away until 26 January.

## SVDP HELP CENTRE

The St Vincent de Paul Help Centre is closed over the Christmas/early New Year period and will reopen on Monday 20



January. However, we will be able to respond to emergency calls to our phone number listed below with a food parcel. Ph. 0402 518 377

*\* 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.*

## 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

## INSPIRATIONAL CDS

Check out our range of Inspirational CDs located in the white stand at the back of Ss Peter & Paul Church and be inspired! Only \$5 per CD.

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office is closed for annual leave and will reopen at 9:00am on Tuesday, 28 January. **If you need to see**

**Fr Chris during this time, please phone 4232 2081 and listen to the answering service for his contact number.**

## ST MATTHEW'S EXTENDED BOOK FAIR - KIAMA

10-12 January

Sacramental Room Kiama

St Matthew's Community will be holding an extra book fair in the Sacramental Room at Ss Peter and Paul Kiama to sell the leftover books from their last book fair. Funds raised will go towards the maintenance of St Matthew's. The Sacramental Room is located behind the Kiama Parish Hall, near the basketball courts. **The Book Fair will be held from 9:00am to 4:00pm this weekend, Friday 10, Saturday 11 and Sunday, 12 January.**

## SUMMIT NIGHT: "GOD, THE UNIVERSE & EVERYTHING"

Join us for a transformative evening of faith formation. Young adults of the diocese, it's time to climb the highest peak and seek truth — and we invite you to do it with us at our Summit Night, a brand-new event designed just for you! Whether you're seeking deeper understanding or simply craving a vibrant community of like-minded young adults, this night is for you.

**When:** 6:30pm – 9:15pm Wednesday 29 January

**Where:** The Xavier Conference Centre, next to the Wollongong Cathedral

**For whom?** This is an 18+ event and primarily for young adults.

We're thrilled to welcome **Matt Fradd**, renowned Catholic speaker, author, and apologist. Matt will lead us in an inspiring talk on seeking truth through our faith, challenging us to deepen our relationship with God and discovering the fullness of the Gospel.

This Summit night is more than just an event — it's a chance to encounter Christ, dive deep into the faith, and be part of a community that is committed to growing together in truth. Whether you're new to faith formation or looking for ways to strengthen your spiritual life, this is the place for open, honest conversations. Bring your friends, bring your questions, and be ready to experience a night that will leave you feeling inspired, encouraged, and closer to Christ.

**Registration is essential**, secure your place ASAP and scan the QR code to register.



**A**s a young man, *Saint Anthony* sold all his land and possessions and gave the proceeds to the poor. He lived by himself in the Egyptian desert for 20 years, before being sought out by admirers. He encouraged his followers to base their lives on the Gospel and in the early fourth century he established a monastery.



# Wordsearch

Try to find these words:

baptised	heaven	prayed
dove	John	sandals
excited	pleased	sky
fire	powerful	water

R L B I R S A N D A L S Z T Q  
 S H O V E C J R W A T E R M M  
 B M M W U J O H N N Q U X G F  
 A Z E R T F I R E C J H O X M  
 I G M U U X J I H E E K D L U  
 X Q D J O B D H A X X S I E M  
 B C A H S E P Z V O C Q G U P  
 C C F Z P Q M X A C I P Y X Y  
 P E P O W E R F U L T L S K Y  
 A F D C P R A Y E D E E P Y X  
 Q U X F K H I Q M D D A P O I  
 V T Y K D O V E H R R S A G O  
 U H E A V E N I D X S E Z H Y  
 R F S Q U R B K T S P D C O W  
 A K N V L B A P T I S E D Z L

Draw a line to connect each symbol with its correct meaning.



Candle

*Symbolises the Holy Spirit*

*Symbolises life, cleansing and growth*

*Symbolises purity and freedom from sin*

*Symbolises the emergence from darkness into the light*

Dove



Water

White Gown



# **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD - YEAR C**

## **12 JANUARY 2025**

### **FIRST READING**

Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it.*

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.'

A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

The word of the Lord.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 103:1-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-30. R. v.1  
**(R.) Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!**

1. Lord God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe! You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **(R.)**
2. Above the rains you build your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot, you walk on the wings of the wind, you make the winds your messengers and flashing fire your servants. **(R.)**
3. How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all.

The earth is full of your riches. There is the sea, vast and wide, with its moving swarms past counting, living things great and small. **(R.)**

4. All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it, they gather it up: you open your hand, they have their fill. **(R.)**
5. You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. **(R.)**

### **SECOND READING**

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

See Luke 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL**

Luke 3:15-16. 21-22

*When Jesus had been baptised and had been praying, the heavens were opened and the Holy Spirit came upon him.*

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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### **READINGS - 19 JANUARY**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time -  
Year C/1**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Is 62:1-5

**PSALM:** Ps 95:1-3, 7-10 (R.) *Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all nations.*

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING:** 1 Cor 12:4-11

**GOSPEL:** Jn 2:1-11