



SUNDAY, 2 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 – 8/9 February 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.ssppdow.catholic.edu.au **Principal:** Peter Michael **Admin Officer:** Liz Brown

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

WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA

Tuesday	4/2	5.00pm	
Wednesday	5/2	8:00am	<i>St Agatha</i>
Thursday	6/2	8:00am	<i>St Paul Miki & Companions</i>
Friday	7/2	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:

2 February: Group 1 – Gavan Hocter

9 February: Group 2 – Ross Smith

REFLECTION BY MYCATHOLICLIFE.COM

THE CULMINATION OF A LIFE OF FAITH

At the time of Jesus' birth, there was a man named Simeon who had spent his whole life preparing for one significant moment. Like all faithful Jews at the time, Simeon was waiting for the coming Messiah. The Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would indeed see the Messiah before his death — and so this happened when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus into the Temple to offer Him to the Lord as an infant.

Try to imagine the scene. Simeon had lived a holy and devout life. And deep within his conscience, he knew that his life on earth would not come to an end until he was privileged to see the Savior of the World with his own eyes. He knew this by a special gift of faith, an interior revelation of the Holy Spirit, and he believed.

It's helpful to think about this unique gift of knowledge that Simeon had throughout his life. Normally we gain knowledge through our five senses. We

see something, hear something, taste, smell, or feel something, and as a result come to know it to be true. Physical knowledge is very reliable and is the normal way we come to know things. But this gift of knowledge Simeon had was different. It was deeper and was spiritual in nature. He knew he would see the Messiah before he died, not because of some external sensory perception he had received but because of an interior revelation from the Holy Spirit.

This truth begs the question, which type of knowledge is more certain? Something you see with your eyes, touch, smell, hear or taste? Or something that God speaks to you in the depths of your soul by a revelation of grace? Though these types of knowledge are different, it's important to understand that the spiritual knowledge that is given by the Holy Spirit is far more certain than anything perceived through the five senses alone. This spiritual knowledge has the power to change your life and direct all your actions toward that revelation.

For Simeon, this interior knowledge of a spiritual nature suddenly united with his five senses when Jesus was brought into the Temple. Simeon suddenly saw, heard and felt this Child Whom he knew he would one day see with his own eyes and touch with his own hands. For Simeon, that moment was the culminating moment of his life.

Reflect, today, upon anything that our Lord has spoken to you in the depths of your soul. Too often we ignore His gentle voice as it speaks, preferring instead to live only in the sensory world. But the spiritual reality within us must become the centre and foundation of our lives. It is there where God speaks, and it is there where we, too, will discover the central purpose and meaning of our lives.



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:

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:

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

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.

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 February; 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

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.

SACRAMENTS 2025



Information and enrolment forms for the 2025 Confirmation Program will be available on the Parish website after 4:00pm on Friday, 7 February. 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

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.

CATHOLIC CARE VIST

CatholicCare Weekend is coming up in early February. Staff from CatholicCare will be presenting at the following Masses and will also be available after Mass to answer any questions you might have:

- Saturday 8 February, 6:00pm Kiama
 - Sunday 9 February, 8:00am Kiama
 - Sunday 9 February, 9:30am Gerringong
- CatholicCare's services include: Counselling, Foster Care, Family Support Workshops, Age Care, Disability Programs and Support, Marriage and Relationship Education, Children's Contact and more.

LITURGY MEETING

Lent/Easter tide liturgies are soon upon us. This Jubilee year are YOU called to join the parish liturgy team to prepare the beautiful Triduum ceremonies? We will need new supporters and organisers 2025 as some others, after many years, step down. Come and join us - you will be warmly welcomed!
WHEN: Thursday, 13 February 5:00pm in Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room. If you can't make the meeting but are interested in supporting this central church ministry ring the Parish Office or Fran on 0428 317 014.

GERRINGONG QUARTERLY MEETING

St Marys Quarterly Meeting will be held after the 9:30am Mass this Sunday, 2 February. All welcome.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

* **1st Friday Parish Morning Tea** - after 9:30am Mass on 7 February in Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room. All welcome.

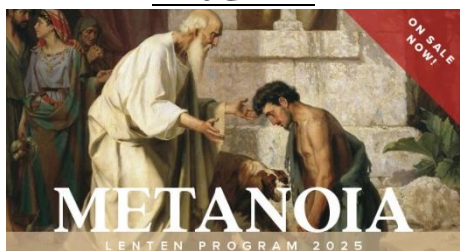
* **Catholic Women's League Monthly Meeting** – held on the second Monday of each month at 1:30pm for 2:00pm start, Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room. New or interested members are welcome. Diocesan Membership fees for 2025 are due at the meeting on 9 February and World Day of Prayer is the item on this month's agenda.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**Theme: The Cook Islands
Friday, 7 March, 10:30am**

Christian Women from the Cook Islands have prepared the service booklets. Invitations to all for the one-hour World Day of Prayer ecumenical service, which will be held at both **Ss Peter and Paul Kiama** and **St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong**. To assist the International work of The Bible Society a cash donation collection will take place at the service. Light refreshments will follow in Ss Peter and Paul Hall and Gerringong Meeting Room. Enquiries: Kiama - Anne Hassett 0418 207 860; Gerringong – Fran Egan 0428 317 014.

DIOCESAN LENTEN PROGRAM



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.

YOUR SPIRITUAL GUIDES

For the Sundays of Lent, we are honoured to have:

- Fr John Corrigan whose beautiful and challenging Gospel reflections illuminate Christ's teachings.
- Mother Hilda Scott OSB our spiritual director, who invites us into a deeper encounter with God's love.

SPECIAL FEATURES

- *Artwork Spotlight Reflections* by Monsignor Graham Schmitzer with an accompanying visio divina — an ancient Christian prayer allowing your heart and imagination to engage with sacred images in silence.
- *The Passion of St Thérèse of Lisieux*, a poignant reflection by Mons Graham Schmitzer marking the centenary of her canonisation.
- Daily reflections crafted by 21 extraordinary contributors worldwide, promising inspiration and challenge.
- *A detailed examination of conscience* to deepen your Lenten journey.

If you would like a copy reserved for you, or you are running a Lenten Group, please contact the Parish Office with your name, phone number and number of books you need. A small number of accompanying CD's have been ordered for those running Lenten Groups. Book cost: \$5. CD cost: \$5.

JAMBEROO ABBEY RETREATS

* **Believing All Shall Be Well with Julian of Norwich** - *Cottage Weekend Retreat, 7 - 9 February*. What makes Julians most famous saying, "All shall be well," more than a medieval "Don't worry! Be happy"? That's the question Julian herself wrestled with for twenty years. Retreat Cost: \$150 + accommodation cost.

* **Metanoia: A change of heart** - *Day Retreat, 8 March*. Join us this Lent for a day of reflection as we explore what it means to experience a genuine change of heart. "Metanoia" invites us to more than simple repentance – it calls us to transformation, to seeing our lives and our world with new eyes. Retreat Cost: \$50 (*Limited space available*)

* **Hospitality: A versatile Charism** - *Cottage Weekend Retreat, 14 - 16 March*. There is an invitation in these uncertain times to go deeper, a call to a deeper contemplative living which is rooted in the unconditionally hospitable embrace of God. From this place we are enabled to embrace ourselves with

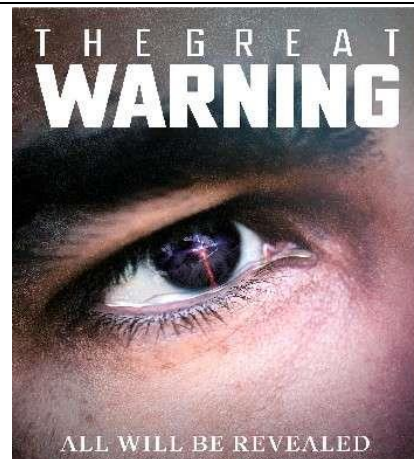
unconditional hospitality from which a natural flow extends to the embrace of the other – as our very self. Retreat Cost: \$150 + accommodation cost.

* **Oblate Weekend** - *Cottage Weekend Retreat, 21 - 23 March*. A weekend retreat for Oblates of Jamberoo Abbey. Retreat Cost: \$150 + accommodation cost.

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

THE GREAT WARNING FILM



In a world where the inexplicable becomes reality, this documentary immerses us in the impactful experiences of people from different countries, unknown to each other but united by a common destiny. Through dramatic and gripping accounts, these individuals reveal that they have lived through supernatural encounters linked to ancient prophecies and biblical passages. Their testimonies, filled with mystery and wonder, converge in an alarming revelation: an event of unimaginable proportions is about to occur and will change the course of humanity forever. This documentary film invites us to question our perception of reality and warns us of an imminent future we cannot ignore.

One screening only - Gala Cinema Warrawong, Monday, 10 February at 6:30pm.

Buy your tickets at <https://fan-force.com/screenings/the-great-warning-gala-twin-cinema/>

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - YEAR C

2 FEBRUARY 2025

FIRST READING

Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

(R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **(R.)**
2. Who is the king of glory?
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,
the Lord, the valiant in war. **(R.)**
3. O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! **(R.)**
4. Who is he, the king of glory?
He, the Lord of armies,
he is the king of glory. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:14-18

He had to be made like us in all things.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and

set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the

salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS – 9 FEBRUARY

**The Presentation of the Lord –
Year C/1**

1ST READING: Is 6:1-8

PSALM: Ps 137:1-5, 7-8 *(R.) In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord*

2ND READING: 1 Cor 15:1-11

GOSPEL: Lk 5:1-11