



SUNDAY, 17 AUGUST 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 – 23/24 August 2025

Ss Peter and Paul, Kiama – Vigil 6:00pm; Sunday 8:00am and 5:00pm

St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong and St Matthew's Jamberoo – Sunday 9:30am

SS PETER AND PAUL PRESBYTERY: 94 Manning St, Kiama

Parish Priest: Father Chris Roberts **Priest in Residence:** Father George Condookala

SS PETER AND PAUL PARISH OFFICE: 96 Manning St, (PO Box 299) Kiama NSW 2533

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 19/8 5.00pm

Wednesday 20/8 8:00am *St Bernard*

Thursday 21/8 8:00am *St Pius X*

Friday 22/8 9:30am *The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary*



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:

17 August: Group 1 – Gavan Hctor

24 August: Group 2 – Ross Smith

REFLECTION

SPIRITUAL UNITY

Jesus introduces this passage by saying, "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!" The "fire" of which He speaks is His purifying fire of mercy that He poured forth from the Cross as He offered His life for the salvation of the world. His mercy is given to free us from our sins and to cleanse our souls so that God Himself can come to dwell within us. This is why we exist. God wants to dwell within us, and He wants us to be in perfect union with Him.

One of the glorious effects of uniting yourself to God is that this union also brings about a spiritual bond with others who are united to God. We are made for communion with God, but also for communion with each other. God especially invites family members to share in this unity. Though there are many levels of friendship and unity we can have with each other, the deepest bonds come from two souls each being united to God. For example, two people may both like the same sports team or

have the same interests, resulting in a bond or form of friendship. This is good. But when each of those friends also is deeply united to God, the unity comes from God and not from something more superficial.

The challenging Gospel passage above reveals to us what happens when one or more members of a household fail to open themselves to the cleansing fire of God's love and, therefore, fail to live in union with God. The result is disunity, at least on the deepest and truest level. God is not the cause of disunity; sin is. When one person is united to God and another is immersed in a life of sin, true spiritual unity is not possible. Of course, the two might still share some common interests and might even superficially get along each day, but there will never be an experience of authentic spiritual friendship and communion if God is absent from one or both hearts.

When Jesus says that He has come to establish division within a household, He is simply pointing out that there will indeed be a division within a household

when all are not united to God. Additionally, Jesus is warning us that if someone within our household tries to draw us into a life of sin with them, that person's invitation must be rejected. And when that happens, that rejection is often experienced as a rejection of the person and results in even greater disunity. The bottom line is that it is not possible to be authentically united in sin or any form of lie.

Reflect, today, upon the deepest spiritual desire you have. If you are honest with yourself, you will discover that this deepest desire in your heart is the desire for love. We are made to give and receive love. First, this desire is fulfilled by opening ourselves to the love of God. When that happens, we will be able to share God's love with others and receive God's love from them. Nothing in life could be more fulfilling than this.

Source of content: www.mycatholic.life

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:

Nicole Phelan; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Joey O'Neill; Kevin & Dorothy Walsh; Stephan Zadravec; Jack Vinson; Tony Condrion; Elsie Weston; Fr Pat Kenna; Cáceres, Rios, Alonso & Santa Cruz families; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Chris Riley; Fr Aloysius Condookala CST; Fr Davidanthony Davies; Fr David Catterall; Fr Peter Thompson; Joan Gilmore; 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** - NEW TIME: 11:00am to 12:00pm, 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.**



WAYS TO HELP SUPPORT OUR PARISH

All financial support for our Parish is received primarily through the second collection at Mass and online Giving. Funds received cover all running costs and maintenance for the whole Parish. If you would like to support us you can do so in the following ways:

- * **Second Collection at Mass.**
- * **Donation Point Tap devices** at the entry to Ss Peter and Paul and St Mary Star of the Sea churches (**please note that all donations collected through these devices go towards the second collection, which is for the upkeep of the entire parish**).
- * **Online donations.** Visit the Diocesan website "Giving" page at <https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/> for one-off donations or for signing up to regular Planned Giving. The website also has Information about wills and bequests.
- * **Planned Giving envelopes:** contact the Parish Office for a set of envelopes.
- * **DOW App:** Download the App at <https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/parishgiving/dow-app/> The App also has an amazing Diocesan Mass times finder, daily Mass readings, upcoming Diocesan news and events, and links to other important Diocesan media and resources.

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 0416 928 247.** 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 3:

20 August, 3 & 17 September.

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

SACRAMENTS 2025



Information and enrolment forms for the 2025 First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion programs are now available on the Parish website. Visit www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program

Enrolments close on the following dates:

- * **Confirmation** - Finished for 2025.
- * **First Reconciliation** - Enrolments closed.
- * **First Holy Communion** - Friday, 12 September

LET US CONTINUE TO PRAY



Following on from Archbishop Fisher's call to prayer, we as a parish will continue to pray that the sanctity of human life will be respected and revered from conception to natural death and that all legislation will promote the great dignity of each individual. **Let us pray.**

GERRINGONG NEWS

* **Special Morning Tea:** There will be a special morning tea after Mass on Sunday, 24 August to celebrate the 143rd Year Anniversary of St Mary's.

ADORATION AT ST MARY'S

Please note the new time for Adoration at St Mary's, Gerringong. Each Monday from 1 September, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will now be at 11:00am. Please come and spend a quiet hour with Our Precious Lord. Even if you can spare a short time - the benefits are great. Jesus is always waiting for us to come and be with Him.



Happy 73rd Birthday to Fr Chris for Wednesday, 20 August. We hope you have a wonderful birthday.

HELP DESPERATELY NEEDED!

We are in desperate need of Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) for the **Saturday Vigil Mass at Kiama**. If you are a parishioner who has completed EMHC training in the past but isn't on a roster,

we ask you to please consider having your name added to the roster to help take a load off the current Ministers. If you would like to be added to the roster for the Saturday Vigil Mass, or any other Mass, or you are interested in being trained as an EMHC, please contact the Parish Office on 4232 2081 or email: kiama@dow.org.au.

CATECHISTS NEEDED

Please, can you spare a couple of hours each week to go into our local public schools to teach the Catholic children about Jesus? Right now we need Catechists for classes. Parents make the choice to send their children to Catholic scripture but if we don't have teachers children miss out. All you need is a willing heart to speak of God's love and in so doing sow seeds of faith and hope in the next generation. A training course will take place in person in Wollongong or by Zoom from 4 August to 1 September to prepare you to become a part of this vital and wonderful Ministry. Please consider becoming a Catechist. It might just change your life. For more information please call Gai on 0401 468 209.

KBECET BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who have donated items to the book stall to be held here 29th-31st August for KBECET, the charity which supports the KHS Scripture teacher. We are full to capacity now and cannot take any more donations. Please consider giving to another charity or hold until St Matthew's Jamberoo Church fundraiser to be held in the near future.



I am now asking for assistance for this fundraiser. Help is needed to set up the books on Thursday 28th from 8am, sell items over the weekend, and then help pack up on Sunday. If you can spare a couple of hours or more please **contact Gai on 0401 468 209**. Everyone is invited to come and have a browse.

FOR SALE

Mobility walker for sale: \$50. Hardly used and in excellent condition. Contact Fr Mark O'Keefe on 0408 611 320.



LAUDATO SI CIRCLE BY THE OCEAN

Letter Writing to Make a Difference

Calling all people, who are passionate about our Federal government addressing Climate Change and Caring for Creation. Join our Letter Writing Afternoon this Sunday 17 August, 2:30 – 4:00 pm, in Ss Peter and Paul Parish Meeting Room. You don't have to be an expert. Resources and advice will be provided for you to choose an issue dear to your heart. Please bring your own device as the focus will be on sending emails. Paper and pens will also be available. We hope to see you there. For further information please call Denis Quinn on 0429 064 496.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE DAY

Saturday 6 September

80 Demetrius Road, Rosemeadow

To help us on our journey as Pilgrims of Hope in this Year of Jubilee, our Parish Community has been invited to participate in a Jubilee Pilgrimage to Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Church, Rosemeadow on Saturday, 6 September. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with our Diocesan community, celebrating our shared faith, honouring our Church's call and spending this special day of retreat with Our Blessed Lord. The proposed format for the day is as follows: **10:00am** - Mass; **11:00am** - Catechesis (presented by Mrs Elise Duval); **12:00pm** - Adoration; **1:00pm to 2:00pm** - Confessions; **3:00pm** - Benediction. There will be time for breaks for tea/coffee and BYO lunch. Parishioners are invited to register their intention to attend with the Parish Office (4232 2081 or kiama@dow.org.au) by 31 August. Travel arrangements will be coordinated once numbers are finalised.

KANGAROO VALLEY JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE DAY

Saturday 30 August, 10:30am

The Parish of Nowra, invites the faithful to a Jubilee Pilgrimage Mass to be held at St Joseph's Kangaroo Valley, 130, Moss Vale Road, to be Celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord, who will impart the papal blessing, offering attendees the opportunity to gain the Jubilee indulgence under the usual conditions. Don't forget to bring your Pilgrim Passport, and have it stamped as a reminder of your visit.

ST JOSEPH CAMINO WALK FOR MEN

5/6 September

Join men from around our Diocese as we come together with brothers in the Archdiocese of Sydney for an overnight pilgrimage in honour of St Joseph, praying for the needs of the Church, our families and the world. The walk visits 6 churches, with Catechesis and Adoration. Begins Friday, 5 September, St Joseph's, Como, with Mass at 8:00pm, and concludes with 7:00am Mass at St Aloysius, Cronulla, Saturday, 6 September, followed by a hot breakfast and drinks. **Cost:** \$35pp (free for clergy). **Bus Ticket:** \$24, leaves 7:00pm sharp on 5 September from Holy Family Church, Menai. **More info and Register:** trybooking.com.

INTERDIOCESAN TRIBUNAL

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote that "charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her." The Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney, which has an Office in the Diocese of Wollongong, is a service of the Church to assist with the pastoral care of Catholics and non-Catholics who are civilly divorced, and who are seeking to remarry or who want clarification of their standing in the Church. **The Tribunal also assists remarried persons seeking to have their current marriage recognised in the Church, and remarried persons wishing to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church.** Any divorced person, or a divorced and remarried person is welcome to contact the Wollongong Office of the Tribunal to obtain further information, or to have their status within the Church clarified. Brochures are available from the church foyer or notice board area. The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on 4222 2409 or tribunal@dow.org.au or visit www.tribunal.dow.org.au

DIOCESAN NEWS

Check out upcoming formation courses, youth events, walks, camping and jubilee events – too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin to see everything that is on around our Diocese!

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

17 AUGUST 2025

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 38:4-6. 8-10

You bore me to be a man of strife for the whole world.

The king's leading men spoke to the king. 'Let Jeremiah be put to death: he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too, by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin.' 'He is in your hands as you know,' King Zedekiah answered 'for the king is powerless against you.' So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank.

Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. 'My lord king,' he said, 'these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die.' At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: 'Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 39:2-4. 18. R. v.14

(R.) Lord, come to my aid!

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry. **(R.)**
2. He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock
and made my footsteps firm. **(R.)**
3. He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. **(R.)**
4. As for me, wretched and poor,

the Lord thinks of me.
You are my rescuer, my help,
O God, do not delay! **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:1-4

Let us bear patiently the struggle placed upon us.

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shamefulness of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!
My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;
I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-53

I have come not to give peace, but discord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a

household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

READINGS – 24 AUGUST

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
– Year C/1

1ST READING: Is 66:18-21

PSALM: Ps 116 (R.) *Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.*

2ND READING: Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

GOSPEL: Lk 13:22-30



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Family ties

In the ancient world, and particularly in Jewish culture, family meant everything. One's identity was completely tied up with family. Families absolutely depended on one another for survival and for personal identity. Young men were identified by who their father was. Women quite literally 'belonged' to their father or husband. The entire fabric of society and tradition was held together by extended families. For Jesus to say that his message would tear families apart was to say that all of society would be transformed by the message. The kingdom of God turns expectations and society on their head, breathing new life into tired, restrictive structures.