



SUNDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 2024

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 – 24/25 February 2024

Ss Peter and Paul, Kiama – Saturday 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	20/2	5:00pm	
Wednesday	21/2	8:00am	
Thursday	22/2	8:00am	<i>The Chair of St Peter</i>
Friday	23/2	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:

18 February: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

25 February: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

PROJECT COMPASSION REFLECTION

Written by Michael McGirr

Mark's Gospel is bold and challenging. It doesn't beat around the bush. Throughout this year, there will be many Sundays when we really need to tune in because Mark's Gospel doesn't wait for the reader to be ready. It is right in your face, to use a modern expression. Sometimes Mark reminds us of the wise old person who doesn't use many words, but every one of those words counts. There can't be many books of so few pages that have had such a mighty impact on the world.

Today, a few lines tell us that Jesus went into the desert for 40 days and 'was tempted by Satan.' He was 'with the wild beasts', meaning he was vulnerable as he was immersed in the natural world. This was surely an experience of struggle and growth. Then suddenly Jesus discovers that John the Baptist has been arrested. In a few lines, Mark creates the impression of a challenging time.

How did Jesus respond? He seems to have been enlivened, to have decided to create change. He is full of energy and purpose. 'The time has come,' he says. In his vulnerability, he has discovered that 'the kingdom of God is close at hand.'

This year, through Project Compassion, Caritas Australia will ask us to consider several stories of vulnerability and hope in action. Over the coming weeks, we will meet a number of extraordinary women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. They remind us that in many situations around the world, women are the heart of the community and the drivers of change. In each case, a partnership involving Caritas Australia and local agencies has led to new opportunities not just for an individual but for families and communities. The kingdom of God is, indeed, closer than we think. Together with Ronita, Leaia

and Memory, our decisions help to bring it to reality around the globe.

Perhaps we might spend time with the words of today's Psalm: 'God guides me in the right path; God teaches the Lord's way to the poor.'



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women: Ronita from the Philippines, Leaia from Samoa and Memory from Malawi. While from three different corners of the world and facing vastly different challenges, they are all united by one dream: to create a better world *for all future generations.*

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

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:

Doreen Delaney; Bernard Wakim; Mary Newn; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Ronald Donoghue; Patricia Shallcross; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Ryan Dorahy; Fr Kevin Bates SM; Narelle Jackson; Terence McGill; 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

HOLY HOUR KIAMA

Every Saturday Morning

From 8:00am to 9:00am in Ss Peter and Paul Church, Kiama. The hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Perpetual Succour Novena, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Everyone is welcome!



ADORATION AT ST MARY'S

An invitation to all, to step into one hour of silent adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament held at St Mary Star of the Sea, Gerringong on Mondays, 3:00pm – 4:00pm. All welcome.

PARISH PLAYGROUP



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

Term 1 2024 –

**28 February; 13 & 27 March;
10 April.**

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

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 seeking assistance 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.*

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

Thank you very much for your support.

SACRAMENTS 2024



Information for the 2024 Sacramental Program is now published on the Parish website. For details visit www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program.

Enrolment forms are to be completed online via the website and enrolments close on the following dates:

- * **Confirmation** – 8 March
- * **First Reconciliation** – 2 August
- * **First Holy Communion** – 20 September

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Fridays during Lent at 5.30pm, Ss Peter and Paul Church. Starts 23 February.

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Week 2

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

- 1st – Mary Farrugia (#7)
- 2nd – Michael Brady (#25)
- 3rd – Mary Lovegrove (#12)

HOME COMMUNION VISITS

If anyone knows of someone who would like to receive Communion at home because of illness or frailty, please contact Sr Maureen on 0427 941

855. We have a team of very compassionate and dedicated people.



A huge THANK YOU to Gerry Gilchrist, who has recently retired from the Parish Finance Council after 21 years of dedicated service, including 10 years as the Chair of the Council. Thank you, Gerry, for all of your hard work in overseeing the finances of the Parish. Your commitment has been very much appreciated.

100TH BIRTHDAY MORNING TEA

A morning tea will be held in Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room after the 9:30am Mass on Friday, 23 February to celebrate Jean McBride turning 100 years young. Happy Birthday Jean! All welcome. If you could bring a plate of food it would be much appreciated.

PIETÀ LENTEN BOOKS

All remaining Lenten books have been divided between our three churches and are available at the back of each church. Cost: \$5. If none are available they have sold out.

CANCELLATION: HOMESTEAD OF HOPE GATHERING

Due to a clash of bookings in the Parish Hall, the February gathering for the Homestead of Hope has been cancelled. Instead, members are encouraged to support the World Day of Prayer. See details below. All are welcome to attend.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 1 March 2024

Focus: Prayer for peace in Palestine

* **Gerringong** - Anglican Church, 103 Fern Street, 10:00am.

* **Kiama** - Anglican Church, 1 Terralong Street, 10:00am morning tea, prayer starts 10:30am.

HOOR OF PRAYER

CAN YOU GIVE ONE HOUR PER WEEK FOR LENT?

You are warmly invited to come along for one hour of prayer, reflection and quiet time before the Blessed

Sacrament in Ss Peter & Paul Church this Thursday and each Thursday during Lent at 4:00pm, in preparation for Holy Week and Easter. A different Lenten Reflection sheet will be provided each week. This is not a Lenten Group and is open to the whole Parish. *'Come and join us . . .'*

When: Thursday, 22 February and each following Thursday during Lent

Time: 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Where: Ss Peter & Paul Church, Kiama *'Come and see . . .'*

THANK YOU

Thank you to Fr Chris, Sr Maureen, Kim, Angela, Gai and all of the Parish Liturgy Team who do so much behind the scenes to organise our upcoming meaningful Lenten liturgy and Easter Triduum. We welcome and thank Mike and Stephan who attended our meeting this week. As Catholic Christians we pray for and look towards to celebrating the Alleluia Resurrections times of Peace to come in Palestine (World Day of Prayer 2024).

INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Be still and know that I am God.

Ps 46:10



Meditation is an ancient form of prayer. Its aim is to bring the distracted mind to silence and stillness, and rest in the presence of God.

Even in our modern, busy lives, this is possible. We invite you to come along and try this form of prayer which is simple and peaceful. The introductory course provides an opportunity to experience the practice of Christian meditation in a small group, to learn about its origins and to discover its relevance as a form of prayer for the contemporary world. We meet at the Uniting Church, Gerringong from 4:00-5:00pm every Tuesday. The FIVE WEEK course will begin on **TUESDAY 27 FEBRUARY**.

Contact Maria: 0408 245 212 or email mariakazimierabaden@gmail.com

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF ST CECILIA RETREATS

The following retreats are being offered by the Dominican Sisters:

* **Behold, I Make All Things New** - A Eucharistic Retreat Day, 24 February, 10:00am - 4:00pm, St Michael's Church, Nowra. This day will help you grow in your love for and devotion to the gift of

the Holy Eucharist. Holy Hour and Reconciliation will be available. Morning tea and lunch are provided. Retreat Fee: \$20. Financial assistance is available.

* **Women's Lenten Retreat** - 16 March 9:30am - 4:00pm, St Mary's Cathedral Sydney. Women of all ages are invited to join the Dominican Sisters of Saint Cecilia for a Lenten Retreat Day. This day will focus on renewing the foundations of the spiritual life as we strive to live the Paschal Mystery throughout the coming year. The retreat day will include all day Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions, talks by the sisters, a personal testimony, a Holy Hour, and discussion groups. Morning tea and lunch are included. A \$20 fee assists with covering retreat expenses.

For questions about either retreat, please contact the Sisters by email: sydney@op-tn.org.

LAUDATO SI' CIRCLE BY THE OCEAN

You are invited to join with us for our next meeting at 4.30pm on Thursday, 22 February in Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room. Lent is a special season for reflection and action through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, so this year we'll live it more profoundly by focusing on the theme **"Listen to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor" (LS 49)**. Laudato Si' Movement views prayer not as an abstract exercise, but as a call to action that grounds our lives spiritually. Let the Creator Spirit guide you as you seek to live this Lenten season more intentionally in the light of Laudato Si'. For further information please ring Denis Quinn, 0429 064 496.

JAMBEROO ABBEY WORKING BEE

Encouraged by the wonderful response we received last year, we are now asking again for help with outdoor gardening and general clearing. **AIM:** To plant and restore various gardens, removal of shrubs etc., which are now too close to the building. **DATES:** Saturdays - 16 and 23 March. **TIME:** Commencing 9:00am but feel free to come whenever suits. **MORNING TEA and LUNCH PROVIDED.** Chainsaws, Utes, general gardening tools, whatever you think useful would be very helpful.

CONTACT: Vince - 0488 360 110



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

18 FEBRUARY 2024



FIRST READING

Genesis 9:8-15

I will recall the covenant between myself and you... the

waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**
3. The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path;
he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 3:18-22

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

Mark 1:12-15

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan.

He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS – 25 FEBRUARY

2nd Sunday of Lent – Year B/2

1ST READING: Gen 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

PSALM: Ps 115:10, 15-19 (R.) *I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.*

2ND READING: Rom 8:31-34

GOSPEL: Mk 9:2-10

