



SUNDAY, 11 MAY 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 – 17/18 May 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

Parish Priest: Father Chris Roberts **Priest in Residence:** Father George Condookala
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	13/5	5.00pm	
Wednesday	14/5	8:00am	<i>St Matthias</i>
Thursday	15/5	8:00am	
Friday	16/5	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:

11 May: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

18 May: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD SJ

The passages from the Gospels where Jesus likens us to being sheep leave me a bit cold. I think I must lose something in the translation from first century Palestine to today. Most of the sheep I have ever watched may well be cute, in a woolly sort of way, but they are anxious creatures often running in packs in every direction, are notoriously stupid and difficult to manage or direct. On second thoughts maybe the analogy is not so bad after all! We, the people of God, can certainly be an anxious lot, a bit slow on the uptake and difficult to lead.

It also true, however, that sheep are incredibly useful and adaptable animals. Think about all the places they have been taken throughout the world. They thrive. With all due respect to the vegans, vegetarians and animal liberationists here today, think about the multiple ways they have served humanity.

The point of the shepherd analogy in the Gospels, of course, is about the importance of intimacy. A sheep in those days is similar to the central role some

domestic cats and dogs have in our homes. They are members of the family.

Shepherds in Jesus' day belonged to nomadic tribes that moved with their small flock throughout Israel. Every sheep mattered. Every sheep had a name. In an agrarian society every sheep was a vital economic unit. To lose one caused trouble not only to the individual, but also to the tribe. To lose a flock was financial ruin for a generation. As a result when Jesus invokes the image of the shepherd he draws attention to the intimate knowledge and care the shepherd has of them.

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that we follow him, not because we are too dumb to know otherwise, or because we are anxious or fearful of our alternatives, but because we know his voice, we know him, he knows our name. We follow Jesus' lead for no other reason than throughout our life we have come to trust him and to rely on the intimacy of our relationship with him. In return he protects us and makes sure no one can steal us from his flock.

The possibility of being stolen away from the Christian family is a real one. We know many people who, for a variety of reasons, have left the fold and been seduced into pursuing other leads. Whereas every Sunday we affirm that we cannot find a better way to live than following the Way, the Truth and the Life which is Christ present here and now. No one can suggest it is always easy to follow the Gospel and hang in here with one another. Jesus was never under any illusions about what following his lead may cost, but he underlines how much we need each other to survive in this world.

In this Eucharist, then, let's steal a few moments to experience again the intimate love of the Risen Lord who knows, claims and loves us. May we respond by following his lead by enfolding all our world in our care and welcoming all his children into his flock.

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:

Dom McBride; Norma Raposas; Stevan Zadravac; Brian Tyrie; Warren Beecham; May & Leo Russell; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Pope Francis; Fr Michael Fallon MSC; Dm Peter Presdee; Thomas "Lloyd" Downes; Graham Clifford; Bob Barabach; 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** - 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 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 2 –

14 & 28 May; 11 & 25 June.

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

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT US THROUGH PARISH GIVING

You can help support our Parish through a one-off donation using the banking details below, by using the Donation Point Tap devices at the entry to Ss Peter and Paul and St Mary Star of the Sea, or via regular Planned Giving. Please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/> for information about online giving, including wills and bequests.

* 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 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** – Enrolments closed.
- * **First Reconciliation** – Friday, 18 July
- * **First Holy Communion** – Friday, 12 September

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE DIOCESE?

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!

GERRINGONG NEWS

- * **Quarterly Meeting** – The Quarterly meeting has been changed to Sunday, 18 May, straight after the 9:30am Mass.

CONDOLENCE BOOKS FOR POPE FRANCIS

- * **Gareth Ward, Kiama** - Member for Kiama Gareth Ward has opened a condolence book to commemorate the life of His Holiness Pope Francis. The condolence book is available for signing now at Mr Ward's Kiama Electorate Office at 102 Terralong Street, Kiama. The condolence books and their messages will be sent to The Vatican via the Australian Ambassador to the Holy See.
- * **Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC)** - Anyone wishing to write a message of condolence following the death of Pope Francis is invited to do so at this email address established by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference condolencebook@catholic.org.au. Messages will be passed on to the Apostolic Nuncio and in turn to the Vatican.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

On Friday, 16 May only, the Parish Office will close at 1:00pm as the Parish Secretary will be attending a meeting in Wollongong.

CLAIM THE DATE! **KBECET BOOK FUNDRAISER**

KBECET will be holding a preloved book sale fundraiser here in Ss Peter and Paul Parish Hall from 29-31 August to raise funds to support the Christian Education Teacher at Kiama High School. All donations of books and small bric a brac items gratefully accepted and can be left at the Parish office during Parish Office hours, or for other arrangements call Gai on 0401 468 209.



INVITATION – JAMBEROO **LAY CARMELITES**

Jamberoo Lay Carmelites invite you to join them for a Day of Reflection on Saturday, 24 May in St Matthew's Hall, Jamberoo, 9:30am – 3:00pm.

Topic: "Scripture is all about Relationships" **Speaker:** Laurie Woods, recently retired from the school of Theology, ACU Strathfield.

Donation: \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Please bring a plate to share for lunch, with morning tea provided.

RSVP: Mary Clarke on 4232 2970 or email: pandmclarke@gmail.com

BIGGEST MORNING TEA **INVITATION**

You are cordially invited to Australia's Biggest Morning Tea and Op-Shop Fashion Parade on Monday, 19 May at 10:30am in The Presbyterian Church Hall, Kiama. Gold coin donation for Cancer Research. **RSVP Monday, 12 May to Joyce Schweitzer.** Phone: 4232 1020 or 0411 156 430

FREE FALLS PREVENTION **GROUP FOR OVER 65's**

The Stepping On program will be running every Thursday in Ss Peter and Paul Parish Hall, Kiama from 15 May to 26 June. This program is designed to build knowledge, strength and confidence to remain independent. This program fills up quickly so **please register ASAP by phoning Sharon Concannon** at NSW Health on 4267 0164 or 0477 337 634.

LAUDATO SI CIRCLE BY THE **OCEAN**

You are invited to join with us for our next Laudato Si meeting to be held from 4:00 - 4:45pm on Thursday, 15 May in the Parish Meeting Room Kiama. We will

reflect on this Laudato Si theme for May, *Honouring Gratitude and Grief*, in which we grieve the passing of Pope Francis and give thanks for his extraordinary life, his teaching and the example he shared with all peoples – his tenderness, commitment to justice and care for our common home. Inquiries: Denis Quinn Mobile 0429 064 496.

LAUDATO SI WEEK

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, 30 MAY, 5:00pm
Ss Peter and Paul Hall

Join us! Ss Peter & Paul Parish Laudato Si Circle by the Ocean Group invites you to celebrate Laudato Si week (24 – 31 May) for a screening of the film "The Letter". More details next weekend.

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Our Christian vocation, or "calling", begins in our baptism, lived out either in single life, marriage, ordained ministry or consecrated life. The motto Pope Francis chose for himself as Bishop and Pope, *miserando atque eligendo*, means "having mercy, he called him", and the Pope constantly reminded us of the joyful message he experienced in his own life: in spite of our weaknesses and sins, Jesus, our Good Shepherd, has looked upon us with perfect love and mercy and called us to follow him. Each year the Pope writes a message to the whole Church for this day. In his final message for this day Pope Francis wrote:

"Dear friends, the world pushes you to make hasty decisions and bombards you with a constant blare that prevents you from experiencing a silence that is open to God who speaks to the heart. Have the courage to pause, to listen to what your heart tells you, and to ask God about his dreams for you. The silence of prayer is indispensable if we are to learn how to hear God's call amid the specific circumstances of our lives and to respond consciously and freely." <https://dow.sh/gss25>

Fr Duane Fernandez, Diocesan Vocations Director, would love to speak with you to help you to discern God's call in your life. Contact him at vocations@dow.org.au

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE **WALK FOR LIFE**

Join pilgrims from around the Diocese from Fri 23 May - Sat 24 May for all or part of the walk for life along the stunning South Coast from Kiama to

Culburra. Pope Francis has urged us in this Jubilee Year to build a culture of life, where every human life is cherished and protected.

Day 1: From Kiama to Gerringong, followed by dinner with Bishop Mascord and overnight adoration.

Day 2: Gerringong to Culburra, finishing with Mass and dinner.

For more information go to dow.sh/WFL or contact jude.hennessy@dow.org.au 4222 2407. **This is a free event, but registration is essential.**

LAY LEADERSHIP IN THE **ABSENCE OF A PRIEST**

Sr Monica Barlow is running a formation session for anyone interested in exploring the possibility of leading liturgical celebrations in the absence of a Priest. This ministry is open to both men and women. To be held at: **Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour St, Wollongong** Saturday morning, **24 May from 10:00am – 12:00pm**. The link to register for this formation session is <https://dow.sh/LayLeadership>

AGEING WITH CONFIDENCE

A CatholicCare initiative

Friday, 13 June, 10:00am – 1:00pm
The Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow.

Join Robert Fitzgerald AM, Age Discrimination Commissioner, as he explores the critical issues facing older Australians today - including elder abuse and ageism - while offering practical insights and strategies for ageing with dignity, purpose and positivity.

To register for this free community event including morning tea, please visit:

<https://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/get-involved/events-calendar/ageing-with-confidence-2025-wollongong/>

For any other information, please contact Jane Hollier on 0417 018 152 or janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au

MOTHER'S DAY BLESSING

May Mary, the mother of our Lord, all the saints and all the holy women of ages past, be with you.

May the gentle spirits of sun, wind and rain, the promise of spring, and the beauty of flowers be your constant companions.

May God, compassionate as a mother, cause His blessing to rest on you. Amen.

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers, grandmothers and all women who are like mothers.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

11 MAY 2025

FIRST READING

Acts of the Apostles 13:14, 43-52

We are now turning to the gentiles.

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the sabbath and took their seats.

When the meeting broke up, many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them.

The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said: I have made you a light for the nations, so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside.

But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 99:1-3. 5. R. v.3

(R.) We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before him, singing for joy. **(R.)**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God.

He made us, we belong to him, we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **(R.)**

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, eternal his merciful love.

He is faithful from age to age. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Revelation 7:9, 14-17

The Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands.

One of the elders said to me, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 10:27-30

I give my sheep eternal life.

Jesus said:

'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice;

I know them and they follow me.

I give them eternal life;

they will never be lost

and no one will ever steal them from me.

The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone,

and no one can steal from the Father.

The Father and I are one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS - 18 MAY

Fifth Sunday of Easter -
Year C/1

1ST READING: Acts 14:21-27

PSALM: Ps 144:8-13 (R.) *I will praise your name forever, my King and my God*

2ND READING: Rev 21:1-5

GOSPEL: Jn 13:31-35

