



SUNDAY, 16 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 – 22/23 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



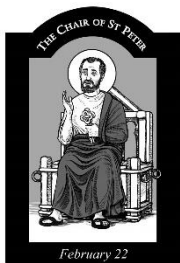
SS PETER AND PAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL: 98 Manning St, (PO Box 248) Kiama

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	18/2	5.00pm
Wednesday	19/2	8:00am
Thursday	20/2	8:00am
Friday	21/2	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:

16 February: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

23 February: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD SJ

The Pope had just finished a tour of the USA and was taking a limousine to San Francisco. Having never driven a limo, he asked the chauffeur if he could drive for a while.

Well, the chauffeur didn't have much choice, so he climbs in the back and the Pope takes the wheel.

The Pope starts accelerating to see what the limo could do. He gets to 130 kph and suddenly sees the lights of the highway patrol in his rear vision mirror. He pulls over, but the policeman, seeing who it is, says, 'Just a minute your Holiness, I'm going to have to call in about this one'.

The trooper asks for the chief. He tells the chief he's got someone really important pulled over.

- *It's not Ted Kennedy again is it?*
- No Chief, it's more important.
- *Is it the Governor?*
- No sir, it's more important.
- *Good God man, you haven't pulled over the President?*
- No sir, even more important.

- *Who the heck is more important than the President of the USA?*

- I don't know sir, but he's got the Pope as his chauffeur.

What you see is often not what you get.

What we have just heard in Luke's Gospel falls into this category.

When we hear the phrase 'Blessed are you' it can sound rather patronising. It can seem that Jesus glosses over all sorts of tough human realities with, 'Well done, keep it up, be happy and we'll fix it all up in heaven'.

But reading the beatitudes in this light is a direct contradiction of what Jesus says in this text and certainly how he lived it out.

The Hebrew concept of a blessing isn't about Divine pats on bowed human heads; it is about where the presence of God is to be found. In the Hebrew Scriptures, a blessing is the discovery that God is present and active in one's experience, right here and right now.

So the beatitudes are saying that we do not need to go past our own daily struggles to find the presence of God. Jesus tells us that when we see the poor, the compassionate, the mournful, those who campaign for a just society and suffer because of it, the gentle, the innocent, the peacemakers and the martyrs; we are encountering, in a special way, the presence of God.

Jesus teaches us that God is not impervious to our pain and happiness, or a great manipulator desiring terrible things to punish us or teach us something. No. The God of the beatitudes is a companion with us in every experience we go through either personally or as a community.

Luke goes on to give us the 'woes and warnings' and these are as important as the beatitudes. Luke highlights for us that every blessing carries with it a call, every gift contains a duty to share it, and every right houses within it a responsibility.

Continued on back page ...

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:

Margaret Killmore; Beverley Wilson; Catherine O'Keefe (sister of Margaret Di Salvio); Carmelina Cassar; 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.

FUNERALS

- * **Greg Twemlow** – 11:00am, Thursday, 20 February, Ss Peter and Paul Kiama
- * **Margaret Killmore** – 11:30am, Friday, 21 February, Ss Peter and Paul Kiama

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

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.

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 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 – 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

SACRAMENTS 2025



Information and enrolment forms for the 2025 Confirmation Program are now available on the Parish website. 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

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.



Happy Birthday and congratulations to John Howell on your 90th birthday. Thank you for your many contributions to our Parish in the past in many different ways and now particularly all that you do for our Parish Rosary Makers group ensuring Rosaries are sent where needed to many places here and overseas. May God bless you in abundance always. From your Parish Family.

HELP NEEDED

Catechists are needed this year for several classes in our local schools.

- * Year 3 and 5/6 at Minnamurra PS Tuesday at 12:00pm
- * Year 2 at Gerringong PS Friday 9⁰⁰am
- * All classes at Kiama PS Wednesday 12:55pm and 1:55pm

Please consider joining our Parish Catechist Group, so that all children may come to know the love of Jesus in their lives. *It's really not as difficult or as daunting as you may think.* If you would like to find out what is involved call Gai on 0401 468 209.

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Week 1

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

1st – Tom Nilan (#35)

2nd – Joy Fardy (#31)

3rd – Neville Micallef (#25)

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 each service. **KIAMA ONLY:** Light refreshments will follow in Ss Peter and Paul Hall after the service. **Enquiries:** Kiama - Anne Hassett 0418 207 860; Gerringong – Fran Egan 0428 317 014.

KBECET NEWS

The commissioning service for the new KHS Scripture Teacher, Ryan Sherring, and all Scripture teachers will be held at 2:00pm on Sunday, 2 March at Kiama Presbyterian Church. Parish Catechists and parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

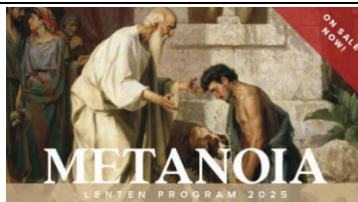
THANK YOU

Thanks again to Jane and the staff from CatholicCare for their presence at our weekend Masses last week. It is great to have such thorough information about our social services agency and how they can support all areas of our life. Please take a brochure from the back of the church at Gerringong and Kiama when you leave, or contact Jane Hollier on 0417 018 152.

LAUDATO SI CIRCLE BY THE OCEAN

You are invited to join with us for our next meeting to be held from 4:00 – 4:45pm on Thursday 20 February in the Kiama Meeting Room. *"To contemplate is to restore harmony to the soul. Those who know how to contemplate do not remain with their hands in their pockets, but instead do something tangible. Contemplation leads one to perform an action, to do".* Pope Francis. **Inquiries: Denis Quinn Mobile 0429 064 496**

DIOCESAN LENTEN PROGRAM "METANOIA"



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.

The books are now available from the Parish Office during office opening hours. Get in quick because stock is limited. A small number of accompanying CD's is also available for those running Lenten Groups. Book cost: \$5. CD cost: \$5.

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

ST MARY'S MONTHLY MORNING TEA

The Gerringong monthly morning tea will be held next Sunday, 23 February after the 9:30am Mass at St Mary's.

SEEN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

SEEN Women's Conference is dedicated to encouraging and empowering women to step into all that God is calling them to be. It will be a day filled with worship, fellowship, and reflection on the powerful truth that we are not only *seen* but *seen in His story*.

Date: Saturday, 31 May, **Time:** 9:00am – 4:00pm, **Location:** The Pavilion Kiama, 2 Bong Bong St, Kiama, **Ticket Price:** \$60 for adult tickets until 28 February (price increase afterward).

Tickets:

<https://kiamabaptistchurch.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2298485>

Website:

<https://www.kiamabaptist.church/seen/>

Promotional Video:

<https://youtu.be/YxOeLC30N7g>

Contact: 4233 1277 or contact@kiamabaptist.church

ENROLLING NOW

St Joseph's Catholic High School

Join us for our Year 7 2026/2027 Open Afternoon and Information Evening. Tuesday 4 March 2025

- Student-led tours at 3:30, 4:30 and 5:30pm

- Information Session at 6:45pm

Bookings are essential. Use the QR code or the link below:

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1354348>

PILGRIMAGES 2025

Magi Pilgrimages Australia is organising the following Jubilee Pilgrimages 2025. 1. Streams of Mercy (May); 2. Italy & Poland (May); 3. Marian Shrines (June); 4. Shrines of our Lady (August); 5. Pilgrimage of Hope (October). The fare includes Return Economy Airfares, Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches, Stay in Premium Hotels, All Breakfasts & Dinners, Catholic Priest, English speaking professional guides.

For itineraries and bookings call 03 8839 6615 or 1300 721 561, or email us pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

16 FEBRUARY 2025

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-8

*A curse on those who trust in humanity;
a blessing on those who trust in the Lord.*

The Lord says this: 'A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord. He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited.

'A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope. He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 1:1-4. R. Ps 39:5

(R.) Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

1. Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked;
nor lingers in the way of sinners
nor sits in the company of scorners,
but whose delight is the law of the Lord
and who ponders his law day and night. **(R.)**
2. He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters,
that yields its fruit in due season
and whose leaves shall never fade;
and all that he does shall prosper. **(R.)**
3. Not so are the wicked, not so!
For they like winnowed chaff
shall be driven away by the wind.
For the Lord guards the way of the just
but the way of the wicked leads to doom. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

If Christ is not raised from the dead, your faith is in vain.

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be

saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people.

But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in heaven.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 6:17. 20-26

Happy are the poor. Woe to the rich!

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon who had come to hear him and to be cured of their diseases.

Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said: 'How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God. Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied. Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

'But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now. Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry. Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

'Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS – 23 FEBRUARY

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time –
Year C/1

1ST READING: 1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13,
22-23

PSALM: Ps 102:4, 8, 10, 12-13 (R.) *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

2ND READING: 1 Cor 15:45-49

GOSPEL: Lk 6:27-38

REFLECTION CONTINUED ...

This is particularly true of our nation where the vast majority of our citizens are housed, educated, have clean drinking water, a long life span, a job and enjoy a stable democracy. This places us in the top fifteen percent of the world's population. We should discover God's presence in the midst of these blessings, but we must face up to the responsibilities they give us.

It is not good enough to be simply appalled at the widening gap between rich and poor in our own country and around the world. Today's Gospel places at our feet the challenge to do something about it, in our prayer, in our careful use of resources, in what we spend our money on and how we vote for governments which might affect international change.

The Beatitudes and warnings call us to become so transparently attentive to justice, development and peace for all people that what others see in the followers of Christ is precisely what they get.

