



SUNDAY, 9 AUGUST 2026

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 – 15/16 August 2026

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 **Assistant Priest:** 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	11/8	5.00pm	St Clare
Wednesday	12/8	8:00am	
Thursday	13/8	8:00am	
Friday	14/8	9:30am	St Maximilian Kolbe
Saturday	15/8	9:00am	Kiama and Gerringong – The Assumption 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 (except Easter Saturday).

WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS: by arrangement.

BAPTISMS: Kiama – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office to book.

COUNTER'S ROSTER:

9 August: Group 1 – Gavan Hctor

16 August: Group 2 – Ross Smith

REFLECTION – FOOD IN DUE SEASON

By Scott Hahn

How do we find God in the storms and struggles of our lives, in the trials we encounter in trying to do His will?

God commands Elijah in today's First Reading to stand on the mountain and await His passing by. And in the Gospel, Jesus makes the disciples set out across the waters to meet Him.

In each case, the Lord makes Himself present amid frightening tumult— heavy winds and high waves, fire and earthquakes.

Elijah hides his face. Perhaps he remembers Moses, who met God on the same mountain, also amid fire, thunder, and smoke (see Deuteronomy 4:10–15; Exodus 19:17–19). God told Moses no one could see His face and live, and He sheltered Moses in the hollow of a rock, as He shelters Elijah in a cave (see Exodus 33:18–23).

The disciples, likewise, are too terrified to look on the face of God. Today's Gospel is a revelation of Jesus' divine identity. Only God treads across the crest of the sea (see Job 9:8) and rules the raging waters (see Psalm 89:9–10). And the words of assurance that Jesus speaks— "It is I"— are those God used to identify Himself to Moses (see Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 43:10).

Even Peter is too overcome by fear to imitate his Lord. His fears, Jesus tells him, are a sign of his lack of faith. And so it often is with us. Our fears make us doubt, make it hard to see His glory dwelling in our midst.

Yet, we should know, as we sing in today's Psalm, that His salvation is near to those who hope in Him. By faith we should know, as Paul asserts in today's Epistle, that we are heirs to the promises made to His children, Israel.

We must trust that He whispers to us in the trials of our lives—that He who has called us to walk along the way of His steps— save us whenever we begin to sink.



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For more reflections, studies, and resources, go to stpaulcenter.com

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:

Michael Doherty; Bede Cummins; Graham Murphy; Ann Dawes; Denise Tierney (nee Farrugia); Marg Snelling; John Nash; Jason Dorahy; Mel Condon; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Warren Beecham; May & Leo Russell; Nelson & Joshua Chan; Joey O'Neill; Ray Bartley; Jack & May Vinson; Mary Newn; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

David Johnson; Fr Rick McCann; June Costello; Dorothea Wright; Wladyslaw Malysiak; Mary Suggan; Paul Quinn; Guy Lee; Terence Barrett; Peter Donnelly; 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

For the interment of ashes. If you would like further information, please contact the Parish Office on 4232 2081 or email kiama@dow.org.au

ADORATION AND HOLY HOUR

* **SS PETER AND PAUL KIAMA:** Every **Saturday**, 8:00am to 9:00am. Includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Perpetual Succour Novena, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet.

* **ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA GERRINGONG:** Every **Monday**, 11:00am to 12:00pm. An invitation to all,

to step into one hour of silent adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament.



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 our Parish you can do so in the following ways:

* **Second Collection at Mass.**

* **Donation Point Tap devices** – located in Ss Peter and Paul and St Mary Star of the Sea churches (**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.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING COMMITMENT

Ss Peter and Paul Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all our children and vulnerable people. If anyone has any concerns or questions about these matters, please contact a member of our Parish Safeguarding Team:

Maggie Phelan - 0417 064 826

Carole Parsons - 0429 040 502

Julianne Douglas - 0418 491 125

HOME COMMUNION VISITS

If you know someone who would like to receive Communion at home because of illness or frailty, please contact the Parish Office.

PARISH PLAYGROUP

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

Term 3 2026: 19 August; 2 & 16 September.

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 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.

SACRAMENTS 2026

Information about the 2026 Sacramental Program is now available on the Parish website. For more information about each Sacrament and dates for each program please visit our website: <https://www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program>

ENROLMENT DATES

* **Confirmation** – Enrolments closed.

* **First Reconciliation** – Enrolments closed.

* **First Holy Communion** – Online enrolments close Friday, 11 September.

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

Assumption 2026

Regarding the celebration of the Assumption, Bishop Brian Mascord advises the following:

"Saturday, 15 August is the Holy Day of Obligation, therefore the Vigil Mass on Friday is for the Assumption. Morning Mass on Saturday 15 August is for the Assumption. These masses would fulfill the requirement for the Holy Day of Obligation. The Vigil Mass on Saturday evening 15 August would be celebrating the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time and not the Feast of Assumption."

ASSUMPTION MASSES



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on **Saturday, 15 August** is a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at **9:00am at both Ss Peter and Paul Kiama and St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong.**

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following winners of Silver Circle:

Week 2:

- 1st – Tom Nilan (#35);
- 2nd – Marion Rattray (#33);
- 3rd – Steve McGuinness (#43)

CLERGY RETREAT

Fr Chris and Fr George will be away at a Clergy Retreat from Sunday evening, 16 August to Friday, 21 August. Fr John Crothers will celebrate the Sunday evening Mass and possibly the Friday morning Mass. Weekday Masses during this time will be Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion.

MUSICIANS NEEDED FOR 8:00AM MASS AT KIAMA

The 8:00am Sunday Mass in Kiama needs musicians to play the piano or organ, or any instrument, or to sing. We are desperate to recruit new members. Please contact Leonie Dewhurst on 4232 1201 if you can help.

TAIZÉ EVENING

Ss Peter and Paul Church
14 August at 7:00pm.

Everyone is welcome, cuppa in the parish meeting room afterwards.

SVDP WINTER APPEAL FOOD AND TOILETRY DONATIONS



Donations of food and toiletries to SVDP Kiama are welcomed and may be left in the designated baskets in our churches. The baskets will be in place for the rest of winter.

PRIME TIME – WINTER CHEER

Wednesday, 12 August

Join us in fellowship, fun and food. The Crescent Singers are coming to do a sing-along concert with us. We warmly welcome you to join in the fun by wearing your winter scarves, hats and beanies.

- * Wednesday, 12 August 10:45am – 1:00pm, Kiama Anglican Church, 2 Terralong Street, Kiama
- * Cost – \$10, includes lunch.
- * RSVP by 12.00pm, Monday, 10 August by phoning 4232 2066.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Check out upcoming Diocesan events and courses – too many to list in one place. Subscribe at dow.sh/stayingconnected and we will keep you in the loop about what's happening around our Diocese!

CATHOLIC FILM: HOLY DAYS



Come along and support the Australian release of *Holy Days*, a heartwarming Catholic comedy-drama now showing in cinemas. The film tells the uplifting story of three elderly nuns and a grieving young boy on an unforgettable journey of faith, friendship, hope, and community. *Holy Days* is a hilarious, heartwarming 1970s dramedy with a star-studded cast. When young Brian discovers plans to close a convent of delightfully eccentric nuns, he sets off on a wild road trip across New Zealand to save them. Packed with laughs, quirky characters, and heart, this is a joyful adventure the young at heart will adore. Visit the official website for more information: <https://holydays.com.au/>. Sessions are now showing at Event Cinemas Shellharbour (limited sessions), Hoyts Warrawong and Gala Cinema Warrawong.

EUCCHARIST 28 – ADORE & PRAY

In preparation for the International Eucharistic Congress 2028, join us for an overnight prayer vigil before Jesus, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament, at **St Joseph's Parish, Bulli. Friday, 14 August 7.30 pm** – Vigil Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Includes Taizé Chant, all-night Prayer Vigil with Jesus Youth, including Rosary, Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross and quiet prayer. Supper will be available in the parish hall. Those wishing to do so are welcome to bring a plate to share. **Saturday, 15 August 7.30 am** – Mass for

the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. *Everyone is warmly invited to join us for all or part of the vigil.*

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Supporting the persecuted: Help rebuild a Cathedral in the Philippines

In 2017, Christians in the city of Marawi in the southern Philippines faced brutal persecution from Islamist militants. More than 800 people were killed and thousands of families were displaced. During the five months of violence, the Cathedral of St Mary was bombed, desecrated and destroyed. Nine years on, there is a growing desire for healing and reconciliation. The poor and faithful people of Marawi have asked for our help to rebuild their beloved cathedral so they can once again gather, pray, and be witnesses of Christ in this Muslim-majority region. To learn more or provide your support, please visit:

aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject

Thanks to generous supporters, every contribution during August will be doubled.

SIMPLICITY SEPTEMBER

This September, simplify one thing in your life and discover what truly matters. Sponsor yourself, your family or a friend to participate and raise money for **Palms International Volunteering**, Australia's only Catholic lay organisation that delivers international development and formation through long term international volunteering. *Join Australians across the country supporting Palms' work in the Asia-Pacific.* **02 9560 5333 / 0422 472 567** www.simplicityseptember.org.au

CURSILLO

**Diocesan Women's Encounter,
Thursday 10 to Sunday 13 September
Carmel House Varroville**

Cursillo is a life changing experience providing a method to support and nurture our faith journey and enable us to live vibrant Gospel oriented lives. The weekend will include talks, discussions fostering friendship, daily Mass, spiritual direction, good music, fun and laughter.

Cost: \$320 (payment options available) covers all meals, accommodation, resources and activities. **Enquiries:** Shirley Parker 0431 513 109 cursillo3dayweekend@hotmail.com dow.sh/cursillo

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

9 AUGUST 2026

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9.11-13

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by.

There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8

(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say,

a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

3. The Lord will make us prosper and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Psalm 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord,

I trust in his word.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray.

When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear.

But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.'

It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.'

'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink.

'Lord! Save me!' he cried.

Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

READINGS FOR 16 AUGUST

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A/1

1ST READING: Is 56:1, 6-7

PSALM: Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8 (R.) *O God, let all the nations praise you!*

2ND READING: Rom 11:13-15, 19-332

GOSPEL: Mt 15:21-28



LIVING & gospel

Christian

What does it mean to describe oneself as a Christian today? A common understanding might be 'one who follows the teachings of Jesus Christ'. Perhaps, based on the understanding of what it meant to be a disciple, we might better describe a Christian as one who learns from the teachings of Jesus and seeks to emulate the work of Jesus. That is, a Christian is someone who models their life on the example of Jesus and is the face of Jesus to others. That's a tougher job description than just turning up to church once a week or putting a bumper sticker on your car.