



SUNDAY, 26 JULY 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 – 1/2 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.spppdow.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Peter Michael **Admin Officer:** Liz Brown **Ph:** (02) 4232 2442 **Fax:** (02) 4232 1064 **Email:** info@spppdow.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA

Tuesday 28/7 5.00pm

Wednesday 29/7 8:00am *Sts Martha, Mary & Lazarus*

Thursday 30/7 8:00am

Friday 31/7 9:30am *St Ignatius of Loyola*

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:

26 July: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

2 August: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly was instituted by Pope Francis in 2021. It is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. This year it lands on the 26th July and is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for our grandparents and all the Elderly that we come across.

The celebration of this day provides an opportunity for the Church, at all levels, to draw close to the Elderly; to celebrate their unique communities; and to reach out to those who may feel lonely or forgotten. The theme that Pope Leo has chosen for the 2026 World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is:

"I will never forget you." Isaiah 49:15

According to Vatican News, this theme is both a message of comfort and hope for grandparents and elderly people, as well as a reminder to families and

communities not to forget them, but rather to recognise them as "precious presence and a blessing" (Deborah Castellano Lubov, Vatican News, 10 February 2026).

Dioceses, parishes, associations, and ecclesial communities across the world are encouraged to mark this day in two important ways: by celebrating the Eucharist together with grandparents and the elderly, and by reaching out to those in our communities who experience loneliness or isolation. These two actions help us to appreciate more deeply the unique vocation of the elderly, who keep us connected to the roots of our faith, pass on the faith to the next generation, and intercede for us.

These actions also help to raise awareness in the wider community of the need to support and pastorally care for the elderly. As Pope Francis said, this is part of being "a Church that challenges the throw-away culture with the overflowing joy of a new embrace between the young and old!" (General Audience, 11 March 2025).

A PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Lord God, you have promised, "I will never forget you." In quiet moments, when grandparents and the elderly in our lives feel unseen or alone, remind them through the presence of your Holy Spirit, that they are always held in your love.

Thank you for the years you have given them, for the love they have shown us, and for the influence of their example.

Continue to guide and help them to bear witness to your love for all those they come into contact with.

May their words offer encouragement and wisdom, their presence bring peace, and their prayerful support uphold all those entrusted to them, especially their children, grandchildren, and the young people in their lives.

*Saints Joachim and Anne, pray for us.
Amen.*

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:

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:

Ray Bartley; Jack & May Vinson; Mary Newn; Eileen Milne; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

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.

FUNERALS

- * **June Costello** – 10:00am Rosary, 10:30am Funeral, Tuesday, 28 July, St Matthew's Jamberoo
- * **Dorothea Wright** – 10:30am, Wednesday, 29 July, St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong
- * **Wladyslaw Malysiak** – 11:30am, Friday, 31 July, St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong

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: 5 & 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.

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

COUNTERS NEEDED

We are in need of more counters to count the weekend collections. Our pool of volunteers is very small and we are seeking extra volunteers to help spread the workload. Typically, counting is done on a Sunday evening in Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room and takes around 1 hour, however it is also possible to do it on a Monday at a more suitable time if this suits a team better. With the current 4 teams, each team counts once a month, but with more teams there would be a bigger break for everyone. If you are interested or like more information, please contact the Parish Office on 4232 2081 or kiama@dow.org.au

GERRINGONG NEWS

- * The **Monthly Morning Tea** at St Marys will be held this Sunday, 26 July after the 9:30am Mass. All welcome.
- * The next **Quarterly Meeting** will be held next Sunday, 2 August after the 9:30am Mass. All welcome.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

Help spread the word, sow the seed, to any family and friends who have stopped coming to the Mass. They are warmly invited to attend 6 one-hour weekly sessions to assist them return home to practicing their faith. Commencing Wednesday, 29 July at 6:30pm in Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room. For details contact Dana, 0408 321 891 or Vince, 0401 276 344.

WINTER WARMER WELCOME SOCIAL EVENING

Thursday, 6 August. 5:30pm arrival for 6:00pm start.

Our Kiama Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) group would like to host a social evening at Ss Peter



and Paul for all parishioners. All are welcome to join for an evening of prayer, social catch up and share a meal.

If you would like to attend please contact Angela Quinn 0418 403 691.

RCIA is a preparation program for older teens and adults wishing to become Catholic, or for Catholic adults who have not yet completed the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist, or Confirmation. Contact Angela Quinn on for more information about RCIA.

CATECHIST CORNER

Have you considered becoming a Catechist?

It's not as difficult as you may think. All you need is a love of your faith, willing to do some training, and enjoy being with young children.

The children in our public schools need teachers to help them learn the truths of our Catholic faith and know the love of Jesus in their lives to help guide them in all that they do. We are always in need and there are currently classes without teachers, so children are missing out. There is a 5-week training course commencing 3 August to prepare you to become a Catechist in our Parish. The course is run via zoom or in person in Wollongong each Monday, 9.30am to 1.30pm.



Even if you are initially unsure about becoming a Catechist, the course will help you discern whether or not you can commit. At least, it will deepen the knowledge of your faith as it covers many and varied topics relating to our faith. Please contact Gai on 0401 468 209 for more information.

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.

FREE!!!

Upright piano, good condition. Must organise removal. Call Gai on 0401 468 209.

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!

RENEWED AND SENT: PARISH RENEWAL SUMMIT

Bishop Brian Mascord invites you to the Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit, to be held at St Gregory's College, Campbelltown, from 1-3 October 2026. Join clergy, religious, lay leaders, ministry volunteers and parishioners from across the Diocese of Wollongong for three days of inspiring keynote presentations, practical workshops, prayer, and opportunities to connect with others who share a passion for the future of our parishes. This opportunity aligns with Bishop Brian Mascord's *Come & See, Go & Make: A Vision for Parishes*, helping us to grow as communities where people encounter Jesus, become his disciples, and are sent to share the Gospel. Whether you come on your own or as part of a parish team, you'll leave encouraged, inspired, and equipped with practical ideas to help

your parish grow in faith, mission, and community.

For the full program and registrations, visit renewedandsent.com.au.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

And *Vocaris* for Young Adults

National Vocations Awareness Week takes place from 2 - 9 August: a time for every one of us to be renewed in our commitment to living out our Christian vocation or "calling", which begins in baptism and is then lived out through ordained ministry, religious life, marriage or the single life. The next *Vocaris* event will provide a unique opportunity for young adults (18+) to learn more about responding to the call of Jesus, on **Saturday 15 August from 6:00pm - 9:30pm at the Wilton Community Centre**, featuring the testimonies of a deacon (soon to be ordained priest), a religious sister and a married couple, each sharing the joy of discovering God's unique call in their lives. Go to dow.sh/Vocaristestimony or use the QR code for more information or to register.

If you would like to discuss your vocation, contact Fr Duane Fernandez, Vocations Director, at vocations@dow.org.au

WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

Applications are now open for the Diocese of Wollongong's pilgrimage to **World Youth Day Seoul 2027!** If you're interested in joining thousands of young Catholics from around the world for this once-in-a-lifetime experience of faith, community and pilgrimage, visit dow.org.au/wyd27 for information on the itinerary, costs, travel arrangements and FAQs. Not ready to apply just yet? Join our mailing list at dow.sh/wyd27 to receive the latest updates and announcements.

COUNSELLING AT CATHOLICARE

Feeling overwhelmed or finding things difficult? CatholicCare's team of counsellors are here for you. Our caring counsellors support children, adults, couples, and families through life's challenges. Appointments are available in-person, online, or by phone - 1800 967 894.

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

26 JULY 2026

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5.7-12

You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97

(R.) Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **(R.)**
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **(R.)**
3. That is why I love your commands more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **(R.)**

4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:28-30

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the

fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

READINGS FOR 2 AUGUST

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time –
Year A/1

1ST READING: Is 55:1-3

PSALM: Ps 144:8-9, 15-18 (R.) *The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.*

2ND READING: Rom 8:35, 37-39

GOSPEL: Mt 14:13-21

