



# SUNDAY, 24 AUGUST 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 – 30/31 August 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**

**SS PETER AND PAUL PRESBYTERY:** 94 Manning St, Kiama

**Parish Priest:** Father Chris Roberts **Priest in Residence:** 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

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**Web:** [www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au](http://www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au)



**SS PETER AND PAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL:** 98 Manning St, (PO Box 248) Kiama **Web:** [www.ssppdow.catholic.edu.au](http://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](mailto:info@ssppdow.catholic.edu.au)

#### WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA

Tuesday	26/8	5.00pm	
Wednesday	27/8	8:00am	St Monica
Thursday	28/8	8:00am	St Augustine
Friday	29/8	9:30am	The Passion of St John the Baptist



#### 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 – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office to book.

#### COUNTER'S ROSTER:

**24 August:** Group 2 – Ross Smith

**31 August:** Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

### PERCEIVING THE DIGNITY OF OTHERS

The context of the Gospel provides insight into Jesus' mission and His concern for each and every person. Note that Jesus was traveling toward the large and populous city of Jerusalem. But as He travelled, He passed through "towns and villages" and taught the people as He went. This might seem like a small detail, but it is also a significant one.

A city like Jerusalem was large and often had wealthy, influential, and "important" people. The less-populated towns had borders and often some form of local government. Villages were much smaller rural areas, often made up of poorer, less educated, less influential, and simpler people. One historian, Josephus, wrote that there were about 240 villages throughout Galilee at the time Jesus lived. It's interesting to note that Jesus wanted to teach everyone. He didn't care if they were wealthy and powerful people in the large city or peasant farmers and

### REFLECTION

shepherds from the countryside. His mission was to all.

One thing this teaches us is that we, also, must have love and concern for everyone, regardless of their social status. Each and every person is equal in dignity. From the president of a large country, to the beggar in an alleyway, everyone deserves our respect and attention in an equal way.

Our fallen human nature experiences various forms of temptation. Among them are temptations for riches, power and prestige. For that reason, we tend to admire those who have obtained worldly success because we want it for ourselves. As a result, we tend to show greater respect for those who have achieved what we covet and give less attention to those who do not have that success. This, of course, goes to the heart of the problem.

When you think about the people whom you have encountered recently, what comes to mind? Perhaps your "encounter" was to read about

someone's great success in the financial world. Or perhaps it was to read about someone's demise in another way. Perhaps a neighbour has done well and purchased a new car, or a friend got fired from a job. Whatever the case may be, it is important to consider the level of personal respect and love you show for each person. It must be equal. Worldly status cannot determine how we treat others. This is hard to avoid.

The teaching that Jesus gave to those in the towns and villages was an exhortation to holiness. "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." And at the end of today's Gospel, Jesus says, "For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." The latter statement must have especially resonated with those who felt somewhat insignificant and unimportant in life. Those who felt like they were "last" would have received a certain hope.

**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:**

*Nicole Phelan; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.*

### **Anniversaries:**

*Betty O'Halloran; Ken Condon; Joey O'Neill; Kevin & Dorothy Walsh; Stephan Zadavec; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.*

### **Recently Deceased:**

*Trevor Newcombe; Amelia Alegria; Fr Chris Riley; Fr Aloysius Condookala CST; 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

\* **Amelia Alegria** – 11:00am, Saturday, 30 August, 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 their non-Catholic partners.** If you would like further information, please contact the Parish Office on 4232 2081 or email [kiama@dow.org.au](mailto: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** – NEW TIME: 11:00am to 12:00pm, 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.**

## 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 us you can do so in the following ways:

\* **Second Collection at Mass.**

\* **Donation Point Tap devices** at the entry to Ss Peter and Paul and St Mary Star of the Sea churches (**please note that 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.

## 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 3:**

**3 & 17 September.**

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

## 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](http://www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program)

Enrolments close on the following dates:

\* **Confirmation** – Finished for 2025.

\* **First Reconciliation** – Enrolments closed.

\* **First Holy Communion** – Friday, 12 September

## SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following winners of Silver Circle:

### **Week 1:**

1<sup>st</sup> – Michele Micallef (#4);

2<sup>nd</sup> – Jeff Spillane (#3);

3<sup>rd</sup> – Jane Stokes (#16)

## LET US CONTINUE TO PRAY



Following on from Archbishop Fisher's call to prayer, we as a parish will continue to pray that the sanctity of human life will be respected and revered from conception to natural death and that all legislation will promote the great dignity of each individual. **Let us pray.**

## GERRINGONG NEWS

\* **Special Morning Tea:** There will be a special morning tea after Mass this Sunday, 24 August to celebrate the 143<sup>rd</sup> Year Anniversary of St Mary's.

## ADORATION AT ST MARY'S

Please note the new time for Adoration at St Mary's, Gerringong. Each Monday from 1 September, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will now be at 11:00am. Please come and spend a quiet hour with Our Precious Lord. Even if you can spare a short time – the benefits are great. Jesus is always waiting for us to come and be with Him.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to all those who have put their names forward to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at the Saturday Vigil Mass. Your help is very

much appreciated. A new roster will be prepared and sent out by the end of the week.

## **KBECET BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER**

Thank you to all who have donated items to the book stall to be held in Ss Peter and Paul Parish Hall from 9:00am to 4:00pm, Friday, 29 to Sunday 31 August, for KBECET, the charity which supports the KHS Scripture teacher. We are full to capacity now and cannot take any more donations. Please consider giving to another charity or hold until St Matthew's Jamberoo Church fundraiser to be held in the near future.



**I am now asking for assistance for this fundraiser. Help is needed to set up the books on Thursday 28 from 8:00am, sell items over the weekend, and then help pack up on Sunday. If you can spare a couple of hours or more please contact Gai on 0401 468 209.** We are also having a cake stall. Donations of baked goods are gratefully accepted. Everyone is invited to come and have a browse.

## **COMMUNITY BUILDING GRANT APPROVAL**

We are grateful to Premier Chris Minns and the NSW government for the approval of part of a Community Building Grant grant application, which the Parish lodged for installation of solar panels on the parish buildings in Kiama. The part of the grant approved was for solar panels for the church, which has a costing of \$34,060.00. The first stage of the process is in progress and we will notify parishioners via the bulletin when the final stage is completed.

## **FOR SALE**

Mobility walker for sale: \$50. Hardly used and in excellent condition. Contact Fr Mark O'Keefe on 0408 611 320.



## **DEATH CAFE**

**Talking about death won't kill us!**

Friday, 18 September

2.00pm

Gerrigong Library

Afternoon Tea provided

Book online at Kiama Library

[www.library.kiama.nsw.gov.au/death-cafe](http://www.library.kiama.nsw.gov.au/death-cafe)

## **DIOCESAN NEWS**

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](http://dow.sh/stayingconnected) or visit [dow.sh/weeklybulletin](http://dow.sh/weeklybulletin) to see everything that is on around our Diocese!

## **PARISH PILGRIMAGE DAY – YEAR OF JUBILEE**

**Saturday, 6 September**

**80 Demetrius Road, Rosemeadow**

To help us on our journey as Pilgrims of Hope in this Year of Jubilee, our Parish Community has been invited to participate in a Jubilee Pilgrimage to Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Church, Rosemeadow on Saturday, 6 September. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with our Diocesan community, celebrating our shared faith, honouring our Church's call and spending this special day of retreat with Our Blessed Lord.

**The proposed format for the day is as follows:**

10:00am – Mass

11:00am – Catechesis (presented by Mrs Elise Duval)

12:00pm – Adoration

1 – 2:00pm – Confessions

3:00 pm – Benediction

There will be time for breaks for tea and coffee and BYO lunch.

The plan is to carpool. If you require a lift, please ensure that you register your intention to attend with the Parish Office (4232 2081 or [kiama@dow.org.au](mailto:kiama@dow.org.au)).

**Everyone is asked to meet in the carpark of Ss Peter and Paul Church at 8:15am on Saturday, 6 September. We will depart for Rosemeadow in allocated cars no later than 8:30am and should arrive at OLHC Rosemeadow by 9:45am.**

## **KANGAROO VALLEY JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE DAY**

**Saturday 30 August, 10:30am**

The Parish of Nowra invites the faithful to a Jubilee Pilgrimage Mass to be held at

St Joseph's, Kangaroo Valley, 130 Moss Vale Road, to be celebrated by Bishop Brian Mascord, who will impart the papal blessing, offering attendees the opportunity to gain the Jubilee indulgence under the usual conditions. Don't forget to bring your Pilgrim Passport, and have it stamped as a reminder of your visit.

## **CATECHIST CREATIVE STORYTELLING AND CRAFT MORNING IN-SERVICE**

Build up your confidence in storytelling and create anticipation in your lessons using simple visual items and techniques. We'll draw from the spirit of Advent and our upcoming Saints as role-models to guide us.

**ROSEMEADOW:** Friday 5 September 10:00am – 1:30pm, Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Meeting Room, 80 Demetrius Rd.

**WOLLONGONG:** Monday 8 September 10:00am – 1:30pm, Xavier Centre, 38 Harbour St. Morning Tea will be provided.

Click here to register at either location:

<https://dow.sh/45ne1hv>

Enquiries: Sue Clark 0457 427 583

## **INTERDIOCESAN TRIBUNAL**

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote that "charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her." The Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney, which has an Office in the Diocese of Wollongong, is a service of the Church to assist with the pastoral care of Catholics and non-Catholics who are civilly divorced, and who are seeking to remarry or who want clarification of their standing in the Church. **The Tribunal also assists remarried persons seeking to have their current marriage recognised in the Church, and remarried persons wishing to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church.** Any divorced person, or a divorced and remarried person is welcome to contact the Wollongong Office of the Tribunal to obtain further information, or to have their status within the Church clarified. Brochures are available from the church foyer or notice board area. The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on 4222 2409 or [tribunal@dow.org.au](mailto:tribunal@dow.org.au) or visit [www.tribunal.dow.org.au](http://www.tribunal.dow.org.au)



# 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

## 24 AUGUST 2025

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 66:18-21

*They will gather all of your people from all nations.*

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the nations of every language. They shall come to witness my glory. I will give them a sign and send some of their survivors to the nations: to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan, to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an offering to the Lord they will bring all your brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord. And of some of them I will make priests and Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

**(R.) Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations, acclaim him all you peoples! **(R.)**

2. Strong is his love for us; he is faithful for ever. **(R.)**

### SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13

*The Lord disciplines those he loves.*

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in which you are addressed as sons? My son, when the Lord corrects you, do not treat it lightly; but do not get discouraged when he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the ones that he loves and he punishes all those that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering is part of your training; God is treating you as his sons. Has there ever been any son whose father did not train

him? Of course, any punishment is most painful at the time, and far from pleasant; but later, in those on whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and steady your trembling knees and smooth out the path you tread; then the injured limb will not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;  
no one comes to the Father, except through me.  
Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Luke 13:22-30

*From East and West they will come to take their place in the kingdom of God.*

Through towns and villages Jesus went teaching, making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because, I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed.

'Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, "Lord, open to us" but he will answer, "I do not know where you come from." Then you will find yourself saying, "We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets" but he will reply, "I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!"

'Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their

places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

'Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

### READINGS – 31 AUGUST

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
– Year C/1

1<sup>ST</sup> READING: Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

PSALM: Ps 67:4-7, 10-11 (R.) *God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.*

2<sup>ND</sup> READING: Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

GOSPEL: Lk 14:1, 7-14



**Reflection continued** ... This tells us that God never measures us by our successes from a worldly standpoint. He measures us only on the level of our fidelity to His holy will.

Reflect, today, upon how you look at all people. Do you see every person in the way that God sees them? Do you see everyone with equal dignity and worth? Or do you elevate those whom you envy and whose success you covet? Seek to eliminate all worldly ways of looking at others so that you will only look at others through the lens of their dignity and fidelity to the will of God.

*Lord, as You journeyed through life, You looked only at the hearts of those You encountered. You treated each person with dignity and love. Please help me to shed all temptations to see others through the eyes of the world and to show full respect to all of Your sons and daughters. Jesus, I trust in You.*

Source of content: [www.mycatholic.life](http://www.mycatholic.life)