



SUNDAY, 7 DECEMBER 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 – 13/14 December 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

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 9/12 5.00pm

Wednesday 10/12 8:00am

Thursday 11/12 8:00am

Friday 12/12 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:

7 December: Group 1 – Gavan Hctor

14 December: Group 2 – Ross Smith

REFLECTION

KINGDOM COME

By Scott Hahn

"The kingdom of heaven is at hand," John proclaims. And the Liturgy today paints us a vivid portrait of our new king and the shape of the kingdom He has come to bring.

The Lord whom John prepares the way for in today's Gospel is the righteous king prophesied in today's First Reading and Psalm. He is the king's son, the son of David—a shoot from the root of Jesse, David's father (see Ruth 4:17).

He will be the Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit (see 2 Samuel 23:1; 1 Kings 1:39; Psalm 2:2), endowed with the seven gifts of the Spirit—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

He will rule with justice, saving the poor from the ruthless and wicked. His rule will be not only over Israel—but will extend from sea to sea, to the ends

of the earth. He will be a light, a signal to all nations. And they will seek Him and pay Him homage.

In Him, all the tribes of the earth will find blessing. The covenant promise to Abraham (see Genesis 12:3), renewed in God's oath to David (see Psalm 89:4,28), will be fulfilled in His dynasty. And His name will be blessed forever.

In Christ, God confirms His oath to Israel's patriarchs, Paul tells us in today's Epistle. But no longer are God's promises reserved solely for the children of Abraham. The Gentiles, too, will glorify God for His mercy. Once strangers, in Christ they will be included in "the covenants of promise" (see Ephesians 2:12).

John delivers this same message in the Gospel. Once God's chosen people were hewn from the rock of Abraham (see Isaiah 51:1–2). Now, God will raise up living stones (see 1 Peter 2:5)—children of Abraham born not of flesh and blood but of the Spirit.

This is the meaning of the fiery baptism He brings—making us royal heirs of the kingdom of heaven, the Church.

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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:

Sr June Bath; Margaret Di Salvio; Fr John Pickering OFM; Marg Snelling; John Nash; Jason Dorahy; Mel Condon; Clare Anderson; Joy Fardy; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Hannah Plowman; Tom & Luisa Bawden; Bill Martin; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Michael Parkinson; Judith Atkinson; Fr Leonard Testa OFMConv; Peter Gallop; Bev Steinhour; Margaret Fisher; 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

* **Michael Parkinson** – 11:00am, Tuesday, 16 December, Ss Peter and Paul Kiama

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

* **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** – 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.

PARISH PLAYGROUP



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

Term 4: 17 December.

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

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.

SACRAMENTS 2026



Information and enrolment forms for the 2026 Sacramental Programme will be available on the Parish website from the beginning of Term 1.

For more information visit our website: www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



KIAMA - Christmas Vigil Masses - Wednesday, 24 December

- **6:00pm** (outdoor Mass – please bring along a chair or blanket to sit on. If raining the Mass will be held in the church)
- **9:00pm** (indoor Mass - carols start at 8:45pm)

KIAMA - Christmas Day - Thursday, 25 December – 9:00am

GERRINGONG - Christmas Day: Thursday, 25 December, 8:30am

JAMBEROO - Christmas Day: Thursday, 25 December, 9:30am

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

* **Jamberoo – Tuesday, 9 December, Reid Park.** BBQ from 6:00pm. Carols from 6:30pm. Glow sticks on sale. Hosted by Jamberoo Combined Churches.

* **Kiama – Wednesday, 10 December, Hindmarsh Park, 6:30pm.** BYO picnic blanket or camp chair. Sausage sizzle available. Glow sticks for sale. Hosted by Kiama Combined Churches.

* **Gerringong – Sunday, 21 December, Town Hall, 5:00pm.** Rehearsals at Anglican Church: Sunday, 14 December, 2:00pm and Thursday, 18 December at 7:30pm. Hosted by Gerringong Combined Churches.

SVDP CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CALENDARS

Christmas cards - \$10. Calendar - \$15. To order please phone Thea on 0450 015 547.

GERRINGONG NEWS

* **WORKING BEE:** We are having a working bee at St Mary's Gerringong on Wednesday, 17 December at 10:00am, with morning tea provided. All welcome.

* **BLESSING OF NATIVITIES:** On Sunday, 14 December, the third Sunday of Advent (JOY Sunday), the congregation at St Mary's is invited to bring along their Baby Jesus from their home nativity set to be blessed by the presiding priest at Mass.



FRESH FLOWERS NEEDED

For Ss Peter & Paul Church, Kiama for Christmas



Anyone who may have flowers in their garden close to Christmas, and is happy to share some for the church, please ring Maria on 0421 227 534. She can organise a time to collect the flowers from your home.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Donations of non-perishable food (E.g. cereal, coffee, beans, biscuits, pasta sauce, peanut butter, tinned fruit, tinned veg, tinned fish) are gratefully welcomed and can be left in the designated baskets in the churches. *St Vincent de Paul Conference Kiama*

KIAMA COMBINED CHURCHES CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

We need your help to fill food hampers for people in need. By donating towards our 2025 Christmas Hamper Appeal you'll be helping ensure that local families don't go without this Christmas.

TWO OPTIONS:

1. Contribute any amount towards purchasing items, place in a sealed envelope marked "KCC Hamper Appeal" and return via the second collection or to the Parish Office.
2. Tear a ticket from one or more of the four item sheets below the poster at the back of Ss Peter and Paul Church, purchase the item/s and drop them into the Parish Office or put them in a bag marked KCC Hamper Appeal and leave them at the back of Ss Peter and Paul Church. **NB: THE FINAL DAY TO DONATE IS TUESDAY, 9 DECEMBER.** The Combined Churches thank you for

your generosity and wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.

JAMBEROO ABBEY CRAFTS & GIFTS THIS ADVENT

Prepare your hearts and homes for the coming of the Lord with beautiful Advent candles and wreaths handmade by the Benedictine Nuns of Jamberoo Abbey.

The online shop offers a range of Advent wreaths, carved candles, as well as a variety of spiritual and liturgical resources. By purchasing from Jamberoo Abbey, you support the prayerful life and work of the Sisters. Shop online at: jamberooabbey.org.au/shop

Enquiries: 4236 0011 (Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri). **Abbey Shop open:** Mon-Sat, 9:30am-3:30pm

DIOCESAN NEWS

Check out upcoming formation courses, youth events, walks, camping and jubilee events. Subscribe here to see everything that is on around our Diocese!

dow.sh/stayingconnected
or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin

WORLD YOUTH DAY – SEOUL 2027

World Youth Day is returning in August 2027- and this time it's heading to Seoul, South Korea! WYD is an unforgettable celebration of faith with millions of young Catholics from around the world, and we're excited to begin preparing a diocesan pilgrimage. If you (or someone you know) will be 18-25 years old in August 2027 and would love to experience the vibrancy of the universal Church, a new culture, and a life-changing encounter with Christ, we'd love to hear from you.

Register your expression of interest: dow.sh/wyd27

2025 ADVENT RETREAT

From Eden to Bethlehem, 9:00am – 5:00pm, Saturday 13 December
Holy Family Parish Ingleburn
Retreat Facilitator: Charbel Raish

From Eden to Bethlehem is a retreat day based on The Great Adventure Bible Timeline™ Learning System. The Bible Timeline™ Learning System ties all of Scripture together by following God's "family plan"... from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. With its unique color-coded system, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together

to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. A Life-Changing Approach to Scripture! **Cost:** Free (A donation for the retreat facilitator will be appreciated). **Please contact the Ingleburn Parish Office on 9059 4134 for more information or visit hfi.org.au.**

NEW STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Notre Dame Study Centre, Oran Park
The University of Notre Dame Australia is now offering a **Bachelor of Commerce** and a **Bachelor of Primary Education** through the Notre Dame Study Centre at Oran Park. The Reach Higher Program supports students from rural, regional, and remote areas with scholarships, flexible study options, and community engagement opportunities. For more information, please contact education@nd.edu.au

IMMACULATA MISSION SCHOOL 2026

What is it? A wonderful opportunity to grow in faith through daily Mass, Adoration and times of prayer, fantastic Catholic speakers (including international speakers Steve and Katey Norman from Renewal Ministries), share groups, fun activities, friendship and lots more. **What is the theme?** "Our Father" - join us and go deeper in God's goodness and love! **When is it?** 1-7 January for youth and young adults (14 years and up); 1-5 January for married couples and families (includes children's ministry) **Where is it?** Armidale, NSW. **For costs, information and to register visit www.immaculata.org.au/ims** Registrations close 23 December.

STOUTHEARTED MEN'S PROGRAM - COMING 2026

Stouthearted is a new Jesus-centred men's program designed to meet a desperate need in men. It's an 8-week program that draws from well-known experts, shares powerful teachings and models real world conversations. Stouthearted fosters learning, discussion, prayer, reflection, healing and builds essential practical strategies. In addition to the main sessions, there are short daily reflections that include video input, bible study, and self-reflection.

The Stouthearted program will be running in Wollongong, starting on Monday 2 February and finishing on the last Monday of March.

Register now: dow.sh/stouthearted

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR A

7 DECEMBER 2025

FIRST READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse, a scion thrusts from his roots: on him the spirit of the Lord rests, a spirit of wisdom and insight, a spirit of counsel and power, a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (The fear of the Lord is his breath.)

He does not judge by appearances, he gives no verdict on hearsay, but judges the wretched with integrity, and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land. His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless, his sentences bring death to the wicked. Integrity is the loincloth round his waist, faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb, the panther lies down with the kid, calf and lion cub feed together with a little boy to lead them. The cow and the bear make friends, their young lie down together. The lion eats straw like the ox. The infant plays over the cobra's hole; into the viper's lair the young child puts his hand.

They do no hurt, no harm, on all my holy mountain, for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters swell the sea. That day, the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples. It will be sought out by the nations and its home will be glorious.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17. R. cf. v.7

(R.) Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.

- O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**
- In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,

from the Great River to the earth's bounds. **(R.)**

- For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**
- May his name be blessed for ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in him,
all nations bless his name. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Romans 15:4-9

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 3:4, 6

Alleluia, alleluia!
Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 3:1-12

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea

and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said: A voice cries in the wilderness: Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS - 13/14

DECEMBER

**Third Sunday of Advent -
Year A/2**

1ST READING: Is 11:1-10

PSALM: Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 *(R.)*
Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

2ND READING: Rom 15:4-9

GOSPEL: Mt 3:1-12