



SUNDAY, 10 MARCH 2024

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 – 16/17 March 2024

Ss Peter and Paul, Kiama – Saturday 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	12/3	5:00pm
Wednesday	13/3	8:00am
Thursday	14/3	8:00am
Friday	15/3	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:

10 March: Group 1 – Gerry Gilchrist

17 March: Group 2 – Irene Cook

PROJECT COMPASSION REFLECTION

Written by Michael McGirr

We have all lived through a great deal of change. Even young people have seen plenty. ChatGPT is a recent development and so are electric cars. Older people can remember having a phone plugged into a socket that you couldn't carry around with you. Sometimes we have discussions about the good old days. They are often tinged with nostalgia for things we miss and gratitude for improvements. We no longer need to buy film for our cameras or change typewriter ribbons. Climate change is deeply troubling. Many medical improvements are inspiring.

Change can certainly be frightening. It can also be an occasion of great hope. Jesus seems to have understood this. Nicodemus comes across as a character who is looking for change in his life, but he is nervous about it, so he comes to see Jesus under cover of darkness. Earlier in the chapter, Jesus uses the image of being born again. Of starting all over again. It is a dramatic description of change.

Jesus says that the light has come into the world and that people prefer the same old darkness. They are set in their ways.

Every Lent, through Project Compassion, Caritas Australia asks us to help bring light into the world and to make positive change. An example is presented to us this week in the story of Memory, a young woman from rural Malawi, the eldest child in a family living at the level of subsistence farming.



Listen to some of Memory's words: 'Growing up in the village was not easy. My parents don't have a job, so they depend on farming. When the season goes wrong, we suffer a lot and become

food insecure. Sometimes we need to bathe without soap. Sometimes we need to walk without shoes.'

With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner the Catholic Development Commission in Malawi (CADECOM), Memory was able to enrol at a technical college where she learnt practical skills in carpentry. A new life became possible. She can now realise her full potential and offer more to her family and her community.

Today, the letter to the Ephesians reminds us that every person is 'God's work of art.' God is the artist who never signs off on a painting but is always trying to make it better. Perhaps we can see the world in the same way

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available at the back of each church, by calling 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion.

Project Compassion donations are to be returned before Holy Thursday.

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:

Bishop Peter Ingham; Joe O'Neill; Bernard Wakim; Mary Newn; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Kath Pollard; Colleen McAlister; Terry McGill; Val Mountford; John Thomas; Joe Manahan; Fr Nicolaos Bozikis; Sr Grace Cini FCJ; Sr Annette Brown OSC; Ryan Dorahy; Fr Kevin Bates SM; 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

- * **Colleen McAlister** – Tuesday, 12 March, 11:00am, St Mary Star of the Sea
- * **Lenore O'Leary** – Wednesday, 13 March, 10:00am, Ss Peter and Paul

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

HOLY HOUR KIAMA

Every Saturday Morning

From 8:00am to 9:00am in Ss Peter and Paul Church, Kiama. The hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Perpetual Succour Novena, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Everyone is welcome!



ADORATION AT ST MARY'S

An invitation to all, to step into one hour of silent adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament held at St Mary Star of the Sea, Gerringong on Mondays, 3:00pm – 4:00pm. All welcome.

PARISH PLAYGROUP

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

Term 1 2024

13 & 27 March; 10 April.

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 seeking assistance 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.*

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Week 5

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

- 1st – Margaret Snelling (#16)
- 2nd – Cathy Jardim (#28)
- 3rd – Gerda Doherty (#17)

HOME COMMUNION VISITS

If anyone knows of someone who would like to receive Communion at home because of illness or frailty, please contact Sr Maureen on 0427 941 855. We have a team of very compassionate and dedicated people.

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

Thank you very much for your support.

SACRAMENTS 2024

Information for the 2024 Sacramental Program is now published on the Parish website. For details visit www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program. Enrolment forms are to be completed online via the website and enrolments close on the following dates:

- * **Confirmation – Enrolments closed**
- * **First Reconciliation** – 2 August
- * **First Holy Communion** – 20 September

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

Palm Sunday – 23/24 March

- * **Kiama:** Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm;
Sunday: 8.00am & 6.00pm
- * **Gerringong:** 9.30am
- * **Jamberoo:** 9.30am

Holy Thursday – 28 March

Kiama: 7.00pm

Good Friday – 29 March

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

10.00am Kiama, Gerringong and Jamberoo (children's Stations)

PASSION:

Kiama: 3.00pm

Easter Vigil – 30 March

Kiama: 7.30pm

(please bring a torch or battery-operated candle, no wax candles please)

Easter Sunday – 31 March

Kiama: 7.30am & 9.30am

NO SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Gerringong: 9.30am

Jamberoo: 9.30am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Fridays during Lent at 5.30pm, Ss Peter and Paul Church.

LENT CONFESSION TIMES

Fr Chris will hear confessions for a short time straight after the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses in Kiama, and after each weekday Mass up until Wednesday of Holy Week. Saturday confession times are as normal.

HOUR OF PRAYER

CAN YOU GIVE ONE HOUR PER WEEK FOR LENT?

You are warmly invited to come along for one hour of prayer, reflection and quiet time before the Blessed Sacrament in Ss Peter & Paul Church this Thursday and each Thursday during Lent at 4:00pm, in preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

When: Thursday, 14 March and each following Thursday during Lent

Time: 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Where: Ss Peter & Paul Church, Kiama

KIAMA JAZZ GOSPEL SERVICE

Ss Peter and Paul Church, **Sunday, 10 March, 12:00pm to 1:15pm.** Come along and enjoy the uplifting, soulful and toe tapping fun of this gospel service.

SCHOOL FAMILY MASS

Ss Peter and Paul Church, Sunday, 10 March at 6:00pm. Our celebration will be led, in song, by our school choir! It would be great to see you there. All welcome.

HOMESTEAD OF HOPE FUNDRAISING LUNCH

Grab your husband, wife, partner, friends and neighbours and join us for a fun-filled lunchtime get-together with games and prizes. Bag a bargain from our 2nd hand table. Jewellery, plants, clothing, books, bags, knitted items, baked goods and lots of other bric-a-brac for sale. Raffle tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5, drawn on the day. All profits go to the valuable work Of Kiama Homestead of Hope in supporting the poor, marginalised, lonely and homeless in our community.

When: Friday, 22 March, from 11:30am.

Where: Kiama Bowling Club, Shoalhaven Street,

Cost: \$25 per person – includes entry and lunch.

Tickets can be purchased from Angie Micallef, 0404 856 379. Lunch is an alternate drop of chicken or fish, so please contact Angie before 22 March if you have special dietary requirements.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

We have an electric armchair if anyone is in need of one. Contact Dana Breen on 0408 321 891.

PRAYER POINTS

From Kiama HS SRE teacher
Wicky Ochieng' Onyango

- Praise God for the school setting up the online enrolment system for SRE.
- Praise God for the children who have chosen to attend SRE this year. Pray that God will open their eyes to see Him for who He is as they read and discuss the Bible.
- Pray for the 2024 lunchtime Bible group. Pray that parents will be willing to give their children permission to attend.
- Pray for the Breakfast Club run every Wednesday and the children who attend. Currently catering for an average of 100 children per week.
- Please take a moment to pray. KHS SRE Ministry newsletter is available at the back of each Church with more Good News stories. If you wish to make a donation to this Ministry, KBECET envelopes are also available. For more information about this Ministry, please speak to Gai Delavere 0401 468 209.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

FOR LEADING THE ROSARY AT BLUE HAVEN AGED CARE FACILITY

If you are interested in leading the Rosary for Residents at Blue Haven Aged Care Facility on **Mondays at 1:00pm**, please ring Maria on 0421 227 534. *The current Rosary Group was established in October 2017 and it has supported over 32 Catholic Residents during this time. It is a very special and rewarding Ministry for the Catholic Elderly.*

POSTPONED

COMPASS: CATHOLIC FAMILY CAMPING WEEKENDS

New Dates 17 – 19 May 2024

Diarise new dates: 17 – 19 May 2024 at Wooglemai Catholic Camping Facility, Oakdale. Join with families of all ages and stages to celebrate the incredible gift of family life. **Cost:** \$30 per adult or \$70 per family (regardless of size)
Enquiries: Jude Hennessy - 4222 2407 or jude.hennessy@dow.org.au

Camping and Bunk Room Options:

You may like to pitch a tent, stay in a caravan, camper or swag. There are also male and female dormitory rooms with bunk beds. These will be allocated during registration on a first-come-first-served basis and will require strict supervision of children by parents / guardians. Come and join in the fun with other awesome people from around the Diocese.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Women's Refuge, it has been very generous. They have enough for now. We may run the appeal again at a later date if or when they need more. *Thea*

RESTORE PALLIATIVE CARE FUNDING

In the last State budget, \$150 million was slashed from palliative care, having a direct effect on how people die in NSW. It flies in the face of guarantees made at the time of the passing of new laws for Euthanasia, ensuring that everyone in NSW would have true choice as to how they died. No one should be pushed into euthanasia because of funding issues. People of faith need to urgently stand up for the sanctity of human life by objecting to these cuts. Please urgently sign this petition and invite friends and family to do the same:

<https://bit.ly/restorethefunding>

REFLECTION

Every year I promise myself that it will be different - THIS year I will take time out with God during Lent; THIS year I'll spend more time in prayer; THIS year I'll spend time in silence so God can actually get a word in, in my busy life.

You know what happens don't you? The days rush past and suddenly it's Easter and those days God 'Lent' me, have vanished.

On Friday as we shared the Stations of the Cross, I heard familiar words as if for the first time,

'Then turn to me, my heavy laden one, and I will give you rest.'

Rest, hmm, that's quite an invitation.

Perhaps you have found yourself thinking THIS year...

Respond to the invitation, come and join us for Prayer and Adoration on Thursday at 4, or share in the Stations of the Cross on Friday at 5.30 and listen to hear what Jesus may want to share with you.

- A fellow pilgrim.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

10 MARCH 2024



FIRST READING

2 Chronicles 36:14-16.
19-23

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 136. R. v.6

(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

1. By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. **(R.)**
2. For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. 'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.' **(R.)**
3. O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! **(R.)**
4. O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:4-10

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 3:14-18

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS – 17 MARCH

5th Sunday of Lent – Year B/2

1ST READING: Jer 31:31-34

PSALM: Ps 50:3-4, 12-15 (R.) *Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

2ND READING: Heb 5:7-9

GOSPEL: Jn 12:20-30