



SUNDAY, 28 APRIL 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 – 4/5 May 2024

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

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	30/4	5:00pm	
Wednesday	1/5	8:00am	
Thursday	2/5	8:00am	St Athanasius
Friday	3/5	9:30am	Sts Philip and James

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:

28 April: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

5 May: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

REFLECTION BY GREG SUNTER

The Lectionary of this Easter season draws out some of the 'classic' gospel passages, particularly some of the discourses from the Gospel of John. Like many 'famous' or familiar passages, it can be true that familiarity breeds contempt – we think we are so familiar with the passage that we don't need to pay it much attention.

At first glance, it appears that there is a certain ruthlessness about the image of the vinedresser pruning the vine: perform or perish! However, the process of cutting away and pruning branches is an incredibly nurturing action; it is removing the unproductive portions of the plant so that the vine has an even better opportunity to produce fruit in the next season. It is an act of love; not an act of economic rationalism. Within our own lives we are called to make decisions about which of our thoughts and actions are life-giving (fruit-bearing) and which are unproductive; negative; crippling; life-diminishing. If we are able to

'prune' our life-diminishing thoughts and actions we allow ourselves the freedom and the ability to really flourish. Feelings of jealousy, greed, resentment, self-doubt and lack of confidence can limit our ability to be fully alive just as addictive and harmful behaviours can physically take away our ability to perform at our best.

I am reminded of the old *Karate Kid* movie when the boy, Daniel, is introduced to the art of bonsai. He is told to close his eyes, imagine the perfect tree and then start clipping and shaping the plant to make real the perfection that lies within it. It is only through a process of cutting away and pruning that we can nurture ourselves to realise the beauty of our potential.



LIVING THE GOSPEL

Bearing fruit

The vinedresser of this passage cuts away the dead branches and prunes back those that are not bearing fruit. In what way do we bear fruit? When we strive to reach our fullest potential in whatever we do, we bear fruit. When we act out of motivation for the other person rather than ourselves, we bear fruit. When we strive to bring about the reign of God in our small part of the world, we bear fruit. Sometimes we too need to have some of our thoughts and actions pruned so that we might better bear the fruit that we are truly capable of producing.

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:

Keren Davenport; Donna Truscott; Joy Raines; Mark Huxley; Rob Ferrari; Bernard Wakim; Mary Newn; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Philippa Hardy; Mark Anderson; Warren Beecham; Leo and May Russell; Bernard Cook; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Barbara Kelly; Peter Fogarty; 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

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 kiamo@dow.org.au

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.

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** - 3:00pm – 4:00pm, 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.

PARISH PLAYGROUP

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

**Term 2 - 1, 15 & 29 May;
15 & 26 June.**

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.*

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

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

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

* Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, 1 May, 2.30pm in Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room.

* Monthly Mass and Morning Tea

Friday 3 May, the CWL 9:30am Mass will be offered for "Mothers". Following the Mass morning tea will be served in Parish Meeting Room.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE



Drawn 5 May. Several prizes to be won. 1st Prize - Bar Mixture Cocktail Set
Tickets 3 for \$5. On sale at Ss Peter and Paul Church after weekend Masses. **Tickets will also be available from the Parish Office (during Office hours) from Tuesday 30 April to Friday 3 May.**



Ss Peter & Paul Church is in need of more people to come forward as readers, commentators and Eucharistic Ministers. At the moment there are only eight Eucharistic Ministers rostered on, and six of those people are also readers, commentators and acolytes. This is making it increasingly difficult for those people to fill their roles each and every week especially if they need to get a swap. It is not always appropriate to do

more than one Ministry at each Mass. Come and offer your time, gifts and worship to Jesus in an active way, by taking part in any of these beautiful and sacred Ministries. Please phone or email your details to the Parish office. Thank you.

CATECHISTS NEEDED



Following the celebration of Catechist Sunday at all Masses recently, were you encouraged to become involved in the wonderful work of our SRE Catechists?

We need you.

Answer the call to Mission and become a Catechist.

Bishop Brian says of the Ministry, "One of the greatest gifts we can offer our children in State Schools is the opportunity to get to know Jesus. As we focus on the teachings that He has given us around respect, compassion, love and service, we provide ways by which that relationship with Jesus can be fostered and developed. It is a great privilege to work with them as they discover the great love God has for them." Come join us. For more information, please call Gai on 0401 468 209.

AGEING WITH CONFIDENCE

CatholicCare's Ageing with Confidence forum is returning across the Diocese, with sessions in Campbelltown, Wollongong and Nowra. The half-day information session will provide seniors with practical information on the aged care system and healthy ageing. Expert presentations from CatholicCare staff will be joined by presenters from the Seniors Rights Services NSW and the NSW Fire & Rescue Service to discuss topics such as accessing support services, keeping your mind and body fit, and advocating and supporting older people.

• **Campbelltown** – Wednesday, 8 May, 9:30am - 1:00pm, Campbelltown Catholic Club, 20/22 Camden Road.

• **Wollongong** – Wednesday, 5 June, 9:30am – 1:00pm, The Fraternity Club, 11 Bourke Street, Fairy Meadow.

• **Nowra** – Wednesday, 19 June, 9:30am – 1:00pm, Worrigea (Nowra) Sports Club, 131 Greenwell Point Road, Worrigea
Places are limited.

To register, call 02 4227 1122 or visit www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/events. For any other information, contact Jane Hollier on 0417 018 152 or janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au.

GET 'FORMED'

**Know & love your faith
(Free for DoW Parishioners)**

Join hundreds of other families around the Diocese of Wollongong in nurturing your faith at home, in your own time and at your own pace? FORMED is a fantastic Faith Formation Resource library website containing thousands of faith formation documentaries, courses, movies, audio, and books covering all aspects of our Catholic faith. Materials for both adults and children.

To register for FORMED:

- Go to www.formed.org
- Click 'Sign up' button.
- Click 'Sign Up as a Parishioner'
- Type 'Catholic Diocese of Wollongong' into the box on the left.
- Then click the Diocese's name and address (38 Harbour St) which will appear
- Enter your name and email address. You'll get a confirmation email asking you to sign in and then follow the prompts.

MENALIVE'S — REFUEL

**Weekly Sharing and Journaling
Sessions - Every Tuesday 7.30pm**

reFUEL is a weekly hour-long gathering of men every Tuesday evening on Zoom providing the chance to: break open the Sunday reading using a Lectio Divina style exercise "catch up" with great men from across Australia and New Zealand; gain strength and inspiration by the witness of other men and pray as a group for individual needs and the needs of others. Join via this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88436558468>

CATHEDRAL BOOKS & GIFTS WOLLONGONG

Cathedral Books & Gifts shop has a wide range of gifts for Baptism, Communion, Confirmation, Missals, books, rosaries, medals, statues, plaques, cards for various occasions, holy cards etc.

Operating hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 10:00am – 2:00pm. Entry via 38 Harbour Street, Wollongong. For any enquiries, please contact 4222 2484.

GO DEEPER IN YOUR FAITH WITH POPULAR & FREE CATHOLIC PODCASTS

• **Bible in a Year**

Ascension Press will again run the Catholic Bible in a Year Podcast featuring Fr Mike Schmitz and Jeff Cavins in 2024. It remains one of the world's leading podcasts with over 400 million downloads. While a new podcast is released daily, you can do it at your own pace signing up at www.ascensionpress.com/biy and it's not too late to catch up or simply work through at your own pace.

• **Catechism in a Year**

This year, Ascension Press will also again run the Catechism in a Year podcast which will slowly and prayerfully read through and break open the Catechism over 365 days. It's not too late to catch up, and the daily podcasts can be listened to at your own pace. It is available at www.ascensionpress.com/ciy

GET CONNECTED WITH WHAT'S ON AROUND THE DIOCESE

Every week, there are many great opportunities to be part of special events, courses, free resources and to nurture and encourage you and your family in your faith. Stay informed by subscribing at dow.sh/stayingconnected or visit dow.sh/weeklybulletin to see a full list of notices sent to Parishes weekly.

FOOTSTEPS OF ST MARY MACKILLOP PILGRIMAGE

10 – 20 October 2024

The October 2024 itinerary for the 'Footsteps of St Mary MacKillop' pilgrimage has been released. Set out on a true Australian Pilgrimage through the life and times of Mary MacKillop, as we rekindle the story, landscape, and spirit of our nation's first saint. Please share this news with family, friends, and fellow parishioners. As it is expected that this pilgrimage will 'sell out', everyone wanting to attend is encouraged to submit your deposit as soon as possible. It is the hope of Fr David Catterall (Parish Priest of St Mary MacKillop Parish, Oran Park) to be chaplain on the October 2024 departure. More info, including the costs and itinerary, can be found HERE: www.harvestjourneys.com/tour/footsteps-of-st-mary-mackillop

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

28 APRIL 2024



FIRST READING

Acts 9:26-31

He explained how the Lord appeared to Saul and spoke to

him on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 21:26-28. 30-32. R. v.26

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

1. My vows I will pay before those who fear him.
The poor shall eat and shall have their fill.
They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.
May their hearts live for ever and ever! **(R.)**
2. All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families of the nations worship before him.
They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;

before him shall bow all who go down to the dust. **(R.)**

3. And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.

They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn:

'These things the Lord has done.' **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 John 3:18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe and that we love one another.

My children,

our love is not to be just words or mere talk,

but something real and active;

only by this can we be certain

that we are the children of the truth

and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence,

whatever accusations it may raise against us,

because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything.

My dear people,

if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience,

we need not be afraid in God's presence,

and whatever we ask him,

we shall receive,

because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants.

His commandments are these:

that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ

and that we love one another

as he told us to.

Whoever keeps his commandments

lives in God and God lives in him.

We know that he lives in us

by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;

my branches bear much fruit.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15:1-8

I in them, bear much fruit.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more.

You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it.

It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS – 5 MAY

Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year B/2

1ST READING: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

PSALM: Ps 97:1-4 (R.) *The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power*

2ND READING: 1 4:7-10

GOSPEL: Jn 15:9-17