



SUNDAY, 3 MAY 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 – 9/10 May 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.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	5/5	5.00pm
Wednesday	6/5	8:00am
Thursday	7/5	8:00am
Friday	8/5	9:30am



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:

3 May: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

10 May: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD SJ

I have a friend who is a great lover of classical music. His knowledge of it is vast. He only needs to hear a few bars of most musical works and he confidently declares, 'Mozart's Piano Concerto in A' or 'Stravinsky's Rite of Spring'. He's always right.

Another of his superfluous, but amusing gifts is to pick the singer. He can hear a soprano and declare it to be Callas, Te Kanawa or Sutherland. He knows which of the three Tenors is belting out that particular top C. Again, he's almost always right. What intrigues me about this gift is that he remembers the timbres of each voice, not just the famous ones, but some rather obscure soloists as well. It helps that he has listened to the sound of these voices for years. It's the same with recognising the voice of Christ – it comes with practice and exposure to it.

In our world there are a multitude of voices clamouring for attention. The loudest or the longest voices we hear are not always the wisest ones. Jesus invites us to attune our listening to the sound of his voice so that even if it is faintly heard

amidst the noise, we can lift our heads, turn our gaze and walk towards it.

More than ever, there are some voices which entice us away from the Gospel. We are told that it is impossible to be happy unless we are wealthy. Impossible to be fulfilled unless we are sexually active with several partners. Impossible to be free unless we answer to no one.

And in this crowded marketplace the voice of Jesus keeps saying the same thing it's been saying for two thousand years. Happiness is found in sharing what we can with the poor, in being faithful and loving in all our relationships and in surrendering our freedom to the service of His kingdom of justice and peace.

The problem is not that Jesus should yell more loudly, it is that at crucial moments in our lives when we have to make important decisions, we close our ears. We refuse to listen to any other voice except that one that reinforces the destructive decision we want to make. Jesus reminds us in today's Gospel that this choice can be a moment of death.

What his call offers is life and life abundantly. But at various times we blot it out and tune our hearing elsewhere.

There are, however, at least two times in our lives when we respond immediately to the sound of a loving voice: as a baby and in old age. A parent's voice soothes and reassures a baby like no other. Look at how a screaming child calms down as a mother nurses it. Look at how a loved one's voice comforts and gives confidence to an older person when they are distressed or disoriented.

What wonderful images these very human moments provide in terms of hearing the voice of the Good Shepherd. At the moment of our death, in the midst of all the other sounds we hear as we leave this world we will hear Christ's voice – soothing, reassuring, comforting and confident. And at that moment we will do what we have tried to do always all our lives – we will walk straight toward it.

Now that will be life, and life abundantly.

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:

Denise Tierney (nee Farrugia); Andrew Mulroe; Paul Anderson; Margaret Di Salvio; Marg Snelling; John Nash; Jason Dorahy; Mel Condon; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Brian Tyrie; Jan, Miecia & Zyguich; Bernard Cook; Sr Bernadette O'Sullivan; Peter Fogarty; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Kathryn Flynn; Donna Barry; Craig McLeod; Leonard Fletcher; Clare Manahan; 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

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

* **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 us 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 2 2026: 6 & 20 May; 3 & 17 June; 1 July.

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** – Online enrolments close Friday, 24 July.
- * **First Holy Communion** – Online enrolments close Friday, 11 September.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office is closed for annual leave until 11 May. It will reopen at 9:00am on Tuesday, 12 May. If you wish to see Fr Chris or Fr George during this time, please phone 4232 2081 and listen to the answering service for their contact numbers.

DAILY MISSALS

If anyone would like to order a Daily Missal please contact Louise at the Parish Office - we can get them at a slight discount. **Costs:** \$65 for a **Weekday Missal**. \$36 for a **Sunday Missal**. The following are annual publications which can be ordered at the end of each year: **Daily Mass Book** - \$30 (still available to buy) and **God's Word** – price TBC (sold out for 2026, can order for 2027). Please note, prices are approximates. The final price will depend on the number ordered and postage costs.

GERRINGONG NEWS

- * St Mary's **morning tea** will be held after Mass this Sunday, 26 April.
- * The next **quarterly meeting** will be held on Sunday, 3 May after Mass.

SILVER CIRCLE

A new Silver Circle will commence soon. Please contact Sue (0408 979 005) or Thea (0450 015 547) to secure your ticket. *Homestead of Hope*

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE

Tickets will be on sale at all Masses within the parish this weekend.

1st Prize - Mother's Day Gift Hamper.

2nd Prize - De Lorenzo Hamper.

3rd Prize - Ladies overnight Luggage Set.

4th Prize - Basket Hamper.

5th Prize - Towel set, six pieces.

Tickets, cash only, \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Raffle Drawn on Friday, 8 May after the 9:30am Mass at Ss Peter & Paul.

Anne Hassett 42322570

2026 MASS COUNT

National Count of Attendance

The 2026 National Count of Attendance (Mass Count) will take place over each weekend in May. This count is overseen by the Australian Catholic Bishop's National Centre for Pastoral Research (NCPR) and is conducted in the same year as the Australian Census (to be held on 11 August 2026) so that the information collected can most effectively be used in association with results from this other Federal government project. All dioceses throughout Australia are required to take part. Given this requirement, our own Diocesan Annual Mass Count, which is usually held in October-November, will not be conducted in 2026.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

You may have family or friends who are non-practicing Catholics who would like to rekindle their Catholic faith. Dana & Vince Breen are providing informal information sessions. All-comers are welcome no matter at what stage they find themselves on their journey home.

For further information contact Louise at the Parish Office 4232 2081 or kiama@dow.org.au

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS WALK FOR LIFE

Friday 22 and Saturday 23 May

Join walkers praying for Australia for all life issues - the elimination of abortion, euthanasia, suicide, family breakdown, and to pray for Australia's Government. We unite our prayer with sacrifice and

entrust everything to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Walk on either or both days, or for just a short section. BYO Lunch, snacks, water and hat. Support vehicle provided all the way, shuttle cars return pilgrims to point of departure on both days.

BENEFITS: Mass. Prayer. Hymns. Exercise. Spectacular scenery. Joyful fellowship. Blessings in abundance.

Day 1: Kiama Coastal Walk to Gerringong (13km). Start 9:30am Mass at Ss Peter and Paul Church Kiama. Finish 3:30pm St Mary Star of the Sea Church Gerringong (Benediction, confession available, all night adoration).

Day 2: Gerringong to Shoalhaven Heads (16km). Start 7.30am Mass at St Mary Star of the Sea Church Gerringong. Late lunch Shoalhaven Heads Surf Club 1.45pm. Shuttle bus to Crookhaven headland, for procession walk 4.00pm for Mass at Culburra. 5.30pm - Dinner to follow at Bowling Club. For more information contact Sue Hill, 0435 336 195 or sueandpeterhill@gmail.com, or Gabriella De Battista, 0414 205 404

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!

ONESYDNEY | TOGETHER IN CHRIST

**A Historic Celebration As One
Sunday 14 June 2026 Sydney Opera House (Concert Hall)**

You are invited to be part of an ecumenical evening of prayer and unity. Christians from Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Anglican, Protestant, Evangelical and Pentecostal traditions will gather as one on Australia's most iconic stage — the Sydney Opera House. programme includes Dr Mary Healy, Matt Maher, Fr Rob Galea, Byzantine Choir, Pacific Islands Choir and many more. Visit www.dow.org.au/events/one-sydney-together-in-christ for more information and to register.

CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY AT UOW

UOW students and staff are warmly invited to become involved with the UOW Catholic Society. Join us for Mass and lunch, 12:30pm Thursdays during semester in the Building 11 Clubs Room.

See @uowcathsoc on social media to find out more.

CORPUS CHRISTI RETREAT

Sunday 7 June

As we prepare for the Eucharistic Congress, join with people from across the Diocese for a retreat to deepen your love of the Eucharist. St Joachim Hall, Our Lady Help of Christians, Rosemeadow from 11:00am - 3:30pm (Following 10:00am Mass / Lunch provided) Open to adults (ages 14-17 with parent/guardian).

For more information or to register go to dow.sh/corpuschristi26

SEEKING PEACE AND HEALING?

CatholicCare Counselling Can Help

Life's burdens can feel heavy, but you are not alone. CatholicCare offers professional counselling rooted in compassion and guided by the values of faith and hope. Whether you are facing family challenges, relationship struggles, grief, or personal concerns, our counsellors walk with you on the path to healing and renewal.

Reach out today and let us walk with you. Call 4254 9395 or visit <http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au>

HEAR FROM POPE LEO XIV

Sunday Echo is a limited-release resource the Diocese has developed that contains, using the Holy Father's most recent homily or reflection and accompanying discussion questions. Each issue will be released the day after Pope Leo XIV gives a homily or reflection on the most recent Sunday Gospel readings go to www.dow.org.au/media-resources/faith-circles to access or sign up to have sent straight to you.

COMEDY FOR A CAUSE

Stand Up for Vinnies

You're invited to a fun night of laughter and fundraising! Join us on Saturday 23 May from 7:00pm at Wests Illawarra, Unanderra for *Stand Up for Vinnies*, a special fundraiser presented by Comedy for a Cause. Tickets just \$40pp. Buy at <https://comedyforacause.net/event/VW26/>. As the event takes place during *Volunteers Week 2026*, we're delighted to offer **discounted tickets for current volunteers** as a way of recognising and celebrating their contribution.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

3 MAY 2026

FIRST READING

Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v.22

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;
for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp,
with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **(R.)**
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love. **(R.)**
3. The Lord looks on those who revere
him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,

to keep them alive in famine. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Peter 2:4-9

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

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

John 14:1-12

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.'

'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?'

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.'

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

READINGS FOR 10 MAY

Sixth Sunday of Easter – Year A/1

1ST READING: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

PSALM: Ps 63:1-7, 16, 20 *(R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.*

2ND READING: 1 Pet 3:15-18

GOSPEL: Jn 14:15-21

