



SUNDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 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 – 21/22 February 2026

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	17/2	5.00pm	
Wednesday	18/2	9:30am and 6:00pm	Ash Wednesday
Thursday	19/2	8:00am	
Friday	20/2	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:

15 February: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

22 February: Group 1 – Gavan Hctor

PROJECT COMPASSION 2026



PROJECT COMPASSION

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes and envelopes at the back of each church

Or online at:

www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

REFLECTION

Many people were astonished, to say the least, last year when one of the richest people in the world proclaimed that 'the fundamental weakness in Western

civilisation is empathy.' The gentleman was clearly not familiar with the New Testament. Compassion is the calling card of Christians. We announce our presence by acts of love. That is what Jesus did and taught.

If you look at the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 29-37), we get an idea of just how empathy and compassion are signs of strength, not weakness. The story says that the Samaritan came across somebody who'd been assaulted and robbed. The stranger 'looked at him with compassion.' He doesn't just look. In the next few lines, he takes ten separate actions: he goes over, he bandages the man, he pours oil on his wounds, he lifts him onto his donkey, he takes him to an inn, he looks after him, he pays the innkeeper, he asks the innkeeper to help, he promises to return, he commits to meeting the bill. Compassion is an action not just a feeling.

This week, we begin our annual journey of Lent and with it our annual commitment to Project Compassion,

organised by Caritas Australia. For generations, Project Compassion has helped us express our Lenten commitment to prayer, personal sacrifice and almsgiving. Our focus this year is a call to 'Unite Against Poverty.' It is a powerful call.

Every day, the news brings us distressing stories about how the divisions in the world bring disastrous consequences for the most vulnerable people. Our work for Project Compassion is a significant way to bring healing to God's family.

This week, the readings ask us to travel to deeper places in our lives. The Gospel warns us against shallow virtue which 'goes no deeper to that of the scribes and Pharisees.' St Paul speaks about mature wisdom, a view of the world that is at odds with those who have power. 'The masters of this age' seldom understand compassion and the way in which 'the Spirit reaches the depths of everything.' Those depths will take us to the margins and stir in us a longing to Unite Against Poverty.

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:

Albert Tory; Geoff Guska; Joy Raines; Barbara Bennett; Denise Tierney (nee Farrugia); Kate Conlon; Andrew Mulroe; Paul Anderson; Margaret Di Salvio; Marg Snelling; John Nash; Jason Dorahy; Mel Condon; Joy Fardy; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Josefina & Vendelin Melinz; Warren Beecham; Anthony Russell; Leo & May Russell; Fay Roch; Kevin Dorahy; Patricia Shallcross; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Greg Steele; Christine Patton; Barbara Bennett; Thomas O'Dwyer; May Vinson; Vojislav "Voy" Ilic; Morris Veness; Jim Malcolm; Sharron Adcock; 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 kiamo@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.

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 1 2026: 25 February; 11 & 25 March.

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 Confirmation Program is now available on the Parish website. Information for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will be published once the dates have been set.

For more information about each Sacrament please visit our website: <https://www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/confirmation>

CONFIRMATION 2026

SAVE THE DATE

Parent Information Night

Wednesday, 11 March, 6:30pm

Ss Peter and Paul Church, Kiama

Enrolment forms will be provided during this meeting.

If your child made First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion at another parish, please bring their Baptism and First Holy Communion certificates to the meeting.

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following winners of Silver Circle:

Week 2:

1st - Mary Farrugia (#4);

2nd - Mike O'Dwyer (#2);

3rd - Colleen Rae (#24)

FOUND

A St Paul's Weekday Missal (blue cover) was found on Charles Avenue, Minnamurra some time ago but only recently handed in to the Church. If it belongs to you please see Louise at the Parish Office.

ANOINTING MASS

The 9:30am Mass in Kiama on Friday, 20 February will be an Anointing Mass.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

Wednesday, 18 February, 9:30am and 6:00pm, Ss Peter and Paul Church. NB: There will be no 8:00am Mass today.

CATHOLIC CARE WEEKEND

Staff from CatholicCare will be attending Mass at Ss Peter and Paul Parish on consecutive days from Friday, 27 February to Sunday, 1 March to share with you the variety of the services that we provide throughout the Diocese. After the 9:30am Mass on Friday our Aged Care staff will talk about the new Support at Home aged care program and how it is changing the way older Australians access support. No need to register. We look forward to seeing you

LITURGY MEETING

An open invitation to all interested in Parish music and liturgy

You are invited to a pre-Easter planning meeting on Thursday, 19 February at 5:00pm in the Parish Meeting Room, Kiama. We would warmly welcome new members to this beautiful ministry.

LENTEN PROGRAM

The Diocesan Lenten Program is now available at the back of each church. **Cost: \$5.** Limited stock available. **Please place your money in the containers provided, or in the second collection if no containers are available.**

LENTEN GROUP

A Lenten Group will run from Thursday, 26 February until Thursday, 2 April from 9:30am to 10:30am in Ss Peter and Paul Sacramental Room. Phone Angie for more information – 0404 856 379.

ONE HOUR PER WEEK DURING LENT . . .

You're warmly invited to come to Ss Peter and Paul Church for one hour of prayer, quiet time and personal reflection each Thursday afternoon for five weeks of Lent in preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

A different Lenten Reflection sheet for personal prayer and reflection will be provided each week. No sharing – All parishioners and friends warmly welcome.

Begins: Wednesday, 25 February

Time: 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Where: Ss Peter & Paul Church, Kiama
'Come and see . . .'

For more information phone 0409 562 830 or Email smabela@bigpond.com

HELP NEEDED!

KBECET are having a Bunnings BBQ fundraiser on Saturday, 7 March. If you can help, please call Gai on 0401 468 209.

KBECET

The commissioning service for the Kiama High School Scripture Teacher, Ryan Sherring, and all Scripture teachers in our local state schools will be held at 2:00pm on Sunday, 1 March at Kiama Anglican Church. Parish Catechists and parishioners are warmly invited to attend to pray for SRE in our local state schools 2026.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

2026

FOCUS ON NIGERIA

10:00AM, FRIDAY, 6 MARCH

* **KIAMA:** Kiama Presbyterian Church, 40 Shoalhaven Street. **RSVP by 27 February to Sue, 0412 70 0381 (including any dietary requirements).** Please come and join our Kiama Christian Community on this important day. Please bring your friends.

* **GERRINGONG:** Gerringong Uniting Church, 24-28 Fern Street. Lunch will follow at Jack's Grill at Cronin's Hotel. **Please RSVP to Bernadette Murphy 0407 074 416 if you would like to attend lunch.** Please invite others.

LAUDATO SI LENTEN JOURNEY

"Return to me with all your heart"

Joel 2:12

'It is only by returning to the heart that a true **ecological conversion** can take place". Pope Leo XIV

The heart is where contemplation, discernment and action for our common home become one. Some may wish to engage in this **online** Lenten journey. Each week a movement of the heart is revealed through the liturgy, Pope Francis' encyclical Dilexit Nos (He loved us), and guided meditations.

<https://laudatosimovement.org/lent/>.

Inquiries: Denis Quinn 0429 064 496.

GERRINGONG NEWS

Help Needed to assist at Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, 3 April.

As usual, Stations of the Cross will be held at St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong at 10:00am. If anyone is available, we are looking for a couple of people to assist in reading, someone to play the piano, a singer or two and a few

adults or children to join the acolyte as we progress to each station. Please contact Steve Pearson on 0493 022 068 for further information. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Katherine Bramley, who was received into the Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Holy Communion during last Saturday's Vigil Mass. Ss Peter and Paul Parish community welcomes you to the Holy Catholic Church and will continue to pray for you and your family as you move forward with us and the whole Universal Church in our journey with Christ!

MESSAGE FROM SR MAUREEN

Thank you for the beautiful farewell mass, morning tea, cards, gifts and the presence of so many parishioners at Gerringong, Jamberoo and Kiama. Thank you to Sylvia for playing beautifully, and to Leonie for singing. A big thanks to CWL and parishioners for preparing beautiful morning teas. I feel so gifted to have had the last 7 years here. I was welcomed, accepted and inspired by your sense of fun, your community spirit, outreach, spirituality, sense of liturgy and your generosity. It has been a privilege to be among you. Thanks to Gerringong and Jamberoo for your touching farewells. I have been overwhelmed. A special thank you Fr Chris who has supported me so gently. He is a good priest, a good man, very compassionate, hospitable, loyal and committed. Thanks to Louise for her generous help and support, to Fr George and to all parishioners for your warmth and companionship! I will move off to Towradgi. It's a new phase and it should be good for me at this stage. I know Sr Therese will receive the same welcome and I wish her all the very best. God bless each of you abundantly. Sr Maureen

PRAYER INTENTIONS

* **From David Russell:** That the Lord's Will be done and He be glorified with me meeting a spouse and celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony.

* **From Slawek:** For healing and God's blessings for our Pope, our Priests, Brothers, Sisters, Nuns, Monks and Deacons - that God's Kingdom helps them bear more good fruit for us.

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

15 FEBRUARY 2026

FIRST READING

Sirach 15:15-20

He never commanded anyone to be godless.

If you wish, you can keep the commandments, to behave faithfully is within your power. He has set fire and water before you; put out your hand to whichever you prefer. Man has life and death before him; whichever a man likes better will be given him. For vast is the wisdom of the Lord; he is almighty and all-seeing. His eyes are on those who fear him, he notes every action of man. He never commanded anyone to be godless, he has given no one permission to sin.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 118:1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R. v.1

(R.) Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!

1. They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God's law!
They are happy those who do his will, seeking him with all their hearts. **(R.)**
2. You have laid down your precepts to be obeyed with care.
May my footsteps be firm to obey your statutes. **(R.)**
3. Bless your servant and I shall live and obey your word.
Open my eyes that I may consider the wonders of your law. **(R.)**
4. Teach me the demands of your statutes and I will keep them to the end.
Train me to observe your law, to keep it with my heart. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

God in his wisdom predestined our glory before the ages began.

We have a wisdom to offer those who have reached maturity: not a philosophy of our age, it is true, still less of the masters of our age, which are coming to their end. The hidden wisdom of God which we teach in our mysteries is the wisdom that God predestined to be for our glory before the ages began. It is a wisdom that none of the masters of this age have ever known, or they would not have crucified the Lord of glory; we teach what scripture calls: the

things that no eye has seen and no ear has heard, things beyond the mind of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.

These are the very things that God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit reaches the depths of everything, even the depths of God.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

See Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 5:17-37

Such was said to your ancestors; but I am speaking to you.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven.

'For I tell you, if your virtue goes no deeper than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the kingdom of heaven.

'You have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not kill; and if anyone does kill he must answer for it before the court. But I say this to you: anyone who is angry with his brother will answer for it before the court; if a man calls his brother "Fool" he will answer for it before the Sanhedrin; and if a man calls him "Renegade" he will answer for it in hell fire. So then, if you are bringing your offering to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar, go and be reconciled with your brother first, and then come back and present your offering. Come to terms with your opponent in good

time while you are still on the way to the court with him, or he may hand you over to the judge and the judge to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. I tell you solemnly, you will not get out till you have paid the last penny.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must not commit adultery. But I say this to you: if a man looks at a woman lustfully, he has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body thrown into hell. And if your right hand should cause you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; for it will do you less harm to lose one part of you than to have your whole body go to hell.

'It has also been said: Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a writ of dismissal. But I say this to you: everyone who divorces his wife, except for the case of fornication, makes her an adulteress; and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have learnt how it was said to our ancestors: You must not break your oath, but must fulfil your oaths to the Lord. But I say this to you: do not swear at all, either by heaven, since that is God's throne; or by the earth, since that is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, since that is the city of the great king. Do not swear by your own head either, since you cannot turn a single hair white or black. All you need say is "Yes" if you mean yes, "No" if you mean no; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the **Lectionary for the Mass** © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from **The Psalms, A New Translation**, © 1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the **Jerusalem Bible**, published and © 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. © **Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd**

READINGS – 22 FEBRUARY

1st Sunday of Lent –
Year A/2

1ST READING: Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7

PSALM: Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17 (R.) *Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.*

2ND READING: Rom 5:12-19

GOSPEL: Mt 4:1-11