



# SUNDAY, 31 AUGUST 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 – 6/7 September 2025**

**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](mailto:kiama@dow.org.au)

**Web:** [www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au](http://www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au)

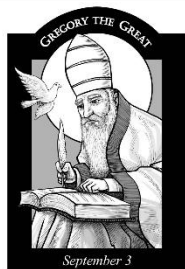
**SS PETER AND PAUL PRIMARY SCHOOL:** 98 Manning St, (PO Box 248) Kiama **Web:** [www.ssppdow.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ssppdow.catholic.edu.au)

**Principal:** Peter Michael **Admin Officer:** Liz Brown **Ph:** (02) 4232 2442 **Fax:** (02) 4232 1064 **Email:** [info@ssppdow.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@ssppdow.catholic.edu.au)



### **WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA**

Tuesday	2/9	5.00pm
Wednesday	3/9	8:00am <i>St Gregory the Great</i>
Thursday	4/9	8:00am
Friday	5/9	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 – 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office to book.

### **COUNTER'S ROSTER:**

**31 August:** Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

**7 September:** Group 4 – Mike Doherty

## **REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD SJ**

One of the most basic human responses to anything new is to ask, 'What's in it for me?' We would like to think our motives are pure and our interests are for others, but there is often a nagging voice reminding us that selfish desires are never far from the surface. That said, we all know heroic individuals who care for sick spouses or children, who go to faraway places to give those in need their time and talent or who stay at home and do the same in their local neighbourhood. That's what makes them heroic. There is nothing in it for them; they are drawn by bonds of love, faith or by a desire to create a better world.

There are at least two ways we can hear Jesus' words in today's gospel. The first is as a strong challenge about social justice.

National boundaries mean nothing to God. All people are equal in God's sight, so the banquet Jesus refers to has implications for how we share the riches with which we have been blessed with others in the world. The poor, crippled, lame and blind of our world are the majority of God's children who mainly

live in the Third World. They are our brothers and sisters. At the banquet of life Christians are called to give priority to the needs of these people, not only because they have a just claim on our resources, but also because they can't do anything for us in return. They purify our motives. When we link our concern, time, talent, career, and money with these children of God, we tame that nagging question, 'What's in it for me?' with a firm reply, 'Very little – except God's justice.'

A somewhat comforting angle to take on this gospel is more psychological. Many of us, when we come to God at any time, try to dress ourselves up to look better than we are! This gospel reminds us that at Christ's banquet, however, it's not the poised and perfect who are most welcome, but the vulnerable. What does this mean for us who pray and celebrate the Eucharist? That God embraces those parts of us that are in greatest need of his love and healing – where we are poor, crippled, blind and lame.

We know this is true because if Jesus is telling us to host the poor and broken at

our tables, then as the perfect host he must do exactly the same with us at this Eucharistic meal as well.

When I was a child we referred to our finest clothes as our 'Sunday best' and we wore them proudly to Mass. Not only did we look good, we acted the part as well. Everyone was on best behaviour for the entire parish to see. Now, I have nothing against dressing with care and behaving well at Mass; it can be a sign of our self-respect, our courtesy toward others and our devotion to God. But God cares more about what's going on inside us. We can never hide from God, especially at the Eucharist because we have been invited to be here, not as we would like to be, but as we are.

May this Eucharist – this taste of heaven's justice – give us renewed courage to think beyond our self and national interests, and show to others the hospitality of God that has been lavished on us. May we discover that where faith is concerned, the answer to 'What's in it for me?' is 'More than we can ever hope or imagine.'

# 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:

*Nicole Phelan; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.*

### Anniversaries:

*Pat McAuley; Ann Tinney; Kevin Quinn; Betty O'Halloran; Ken Condon; Joey O'Neill; Kevin & Dorothy Walsh; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.*

### Recently Deceased:

*Dorothea Quinn; Trevor Newcombe; Amelia Alegria; Fr Chris Riley; 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 their non-Catholic partners.** If you would like further information, please contact the Parish Office on 4232 2081 or email [kiamo@dow.org.au](mailto: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** - NEW TIME: 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.

*\* 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.*

## PARISH PLAYGROUP



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

### Term 3:

**3 & 17 September.**

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

## SACRAMENTS 2025



Information and enrolment forms for the 2025 First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion programs are now available on the Parish website. Visit [www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program](http://www.kiamacatholicchurch.com.au/sacramental-program)

Enrolments close on the following dates:

- \* **Confirmation** - Finished for 2025.
- \* **First Reconciliation** - Enrolments closed.
- \* **First Holy Communion** - Friday, 12 September

## SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the following winners of Silver Circle:

### Week 2:

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Clare Anderson (#26);
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Peter Ryan (#37);
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Kim Day (#47)

## LET US CONTINUE TO PRAY

Following on from Archbishop Fisher's call to prayer, we as a parish will continue to pray that the sanctity of human life will be respected and revered from conception to natural death and that all legislation will promote the great dignity of each individual. **Let us pray.**

## 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.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Fr George, who has now received official confirmation that he is the Assistant Priest for our Parish.

## COFFEE, CAKE & CONVERSATION



You are invited (and bring a plate, if you wish) to our monthly Parish and visitors morning tea.

**WHEN:** Friday, 5 September following the 9.30am CWL Mass

**WHERE:** Ss Peter and Paul Meeting Room. All welcome.

## **KBECET BOOK SALE FUNDRAISER**

The KBECET Book and Bric-a-Brac fundraiser will be held in Ss Peter and Paul Parish Hall from 9:00am to 4:00pm, Friday, 29 to Sunday 31 August, for KBECET, the charity which supports the KHS Scripture teacher. We are also having a cake stall. Donations of baked goods are gratefully accepted. Everyone is invited to come and have a browse.



## **ST MARYS BELLES LUNCH**

St Marys Belles lunch is on Monday, 1 September at 12 midday at The Fishermans Club Gerroa. All welcome.

## **PARISH PILGRIMAGE DAY – YEAR OF JUBILEE**

**Saturday, 6 September**

**80 Demetrius Road, Rosemeadow**

To help us on our journey as Pilgrims of Hope in this Year of Jubilee, our Parish Community has been invited to participate in a Jubilee Pilgrimage to Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Church, Rosemeadow on Saturday, 6 September. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with our Diocesan community, celebrating our shared faith, honouring our Church's call and spending this special day of retreat with Our Blessed Lord.

**The proposed format for the day is as follows:**

10:00am - Mass

11:00am - Catechesis (presented by Mrs Elise Duval)

12:00pm - Adoration

1 - 2:00pm - Confessions

3:00 pm - Benediction

There will be time for breaks for tea and coffee and BYO lunch.

The plan is to carpool. If you require a lift, please ensure that you register your intention to attend with the Parish Office (4232 2081 or [kiama@dow.org.au](mailto:kiama@dow.org.au)).

**Everyone is asked to meet in the carpark of Ss Peter and Paul Church at 8:15am on Saturday, 6 September. We will depart for Rosemeadow in allocated cars no later than 8:30am and should arrive at OLHC Rosemeadow by 9:45am.**

## **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

Bible Society Coffee Morning  
10:00am, Wednesday 26 November  
Kiama Baptist Church

## **TAIZE SEASON OF CREATION**

You are warmly invited to join us for Taize Prayer base on the Season of Creation on Friday, 12 September at 7:30pm in Ss Peter and Paul Church. Further information - Marion Haigh, 0407 417 389.

## **LAUDATO SI CIRCLE BY THE OCEAN**

In the spirit of Pope Francis and Pope Leo XIV, as a sign of hope for creation and in light of the upcoming Kiama by-election, **yard signs** will be available at the front of the church this weekend after the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses at Kiama and Gerringong. For information: Denis Quinn 0429 064 496.

## **DEATH CAFE**

**Talking about death won't kill us!**

Friday, 18 September

2.00pm

Gerrigong Library

Afternoon Tea provided

Book online at Kiama Library

[www.library.kiama.nsw.gov.au/death-cafe](http://www.library.kiama.nsw.gov.au/death-cafe)

**catholiccare**

DIocese of WOLLONGONG

## **AGEING WITH CONFIDENCE**

\* **Aged Care at Home** - CatholicCare can assist you to access aged care support services at home ensuring you or your loved ones receive the right care and support.

\* **Help at Home with Health, Mobility and Safety** - CatholicCare has a caring Clinical Aged Care Team ready to help you or your loved ones - quickly and professionally. Their team of Registered Nurses, Occupational Therapists, and Physiotherapists can come to you.

**For more information call CatholicCare on 4211 6103 or go to [www.catholiccare.dow.org.au](http://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au)**

## **POSITION VACANT**

**Parish Finance and Payroll Officer**

The Catholic Diocese of Wollongong is seeking a full-time Parish Finance and Payroll Officer to join the Office of the Bishop (Finance Department). Reporting to the Financial Controller, this role supports parishes and clergy by managing payroll, assisting with bookkeeping and audits, and providing guidance on financial and sacramental systems. **Applications close Friday, 5**

**September.** For a detailed position description or to apply, please contact Nick Dyball (Financial Controller) by email ([nick.dyball@dow.org.au](mailto:nick.dyball@dow.org.au)) and a detailed position description will be emailed to you, or you can apply via [www.seek.com.au/job/86640070](http://www.seek.com.au/job/86640070)

## **DIOCESAN NEWS**

Check out upcoming formation courses, youth events, walks, camping and jubilee events – too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop [dow.sh/stayingconnected](http://dow.sh/stayingconnected) or visit [dow.sh/weeklybulletin](http://dow.sh/weeklybulletin) to see everything that is on around our Diocese!

## **STATE ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUM**

**Kiama Electorate**

Members of all Christian Churches are invited to hear from the major candidates for the Kiama by-election, a specific opportunity to ask questions that matter to Christians and hear where the candidates stand on issues such as education, religious freedom and sanctity of life. Monday, 8 September, 7:00pm, Calderwood Christian School, 234 Calderwood Rd, Calderwood.

## **INTERDIOCESAN TRIBUNAL**

In 2015, Pope Francis wrote that "charity and mercy demand that the Church, like a good mother, be near her children who feel themselves estranged from her." The Interdiocesan Tribunal of Sydney, which has an Office in the Diocese of Wollongong, is a service of the Church to assist with the pastoral care of Catholics and non-Catholics who are civilly divorced, and who are seeking to remarry or who want clarification of their standing in the Church. **The Tribunal also assists remarried persons seeking to have their current marriage recognised in the Church, and remarried persons wishing to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church.** Any divorced person, or a divorced and remarried person is welcome to contact the Wollongong Office of the Tribunal to obtain further information, or to have their status within the Church clarified. Brochures are available from the church foyer or notice board area. The Wollongong Office of the Tribunal is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You are welcome to contact the Tribunal on 4222 2409 or [tribunal@dow.org.au](mailto:tribunal@dow.org.au) or visit [www.tribunal.dow.org.au](http://www.tribunal.dow.org.au)



# 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

31 AUGUST 2025

## FIRST READING

Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29

*Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.*

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.

The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble.

There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him.

The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 67:4-7. 10-11. R. v.11

**(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.**

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God,  
they shall exult and dance for joy.  
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name;  
rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **(R.)**
2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow,  
such is God in his holy place.  
God gives the lonely a home to live in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **(R.)**
3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain:  
when your people were starved you gave them new life.  
It was there that your people found a home,  
prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

*You have to come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.*

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Take my yoke upon you;  
learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Luke 14:1. 7-14

*All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.*

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who

invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

## READINGS – 7 SEPTEMBER

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
– Year C/1

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Wis 9:13-18

**PSALM:** Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17 (R.) *In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.*

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING:** Philemon 9-10, 12-17

**GOSPEL:** Lk 14:25-33

