



SUNDAY, 5 MAY 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 – 11/12 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	7/5	5:00pm
Wednesday	8/5	8:00am
Thursday	9/5	8:00am
Friday	10/5	9:30am



RECONCILIATION: Ss Peter and Paul Kiama
Every Saturday: 8:30am – 9:00am (except Easter Saturday)
Monthly: first Saturday, 5:00pm – 5:30pm.

WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS: by arrangement.

BAPTISMS: Kiama – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the month. Contact the Parish Office to book.

COUNTER'S ROSTER:

5 May: Group 4 – Mike Doherty

12 May: Group 5 – Gavan Hocter

REFLECTION BY RICHARD LEONARD SJ

The Italian film, *Life is Beautiful* vividly portrays the truth of today's Gospel. It shows a father convincing his five-year-old son that the concentration camp is an elaborate game that the Nazis had invented to test the Italians. Some members of the Jewish community criticised this film because they claimed it made light of the holocaust. Writer and director, Roberto Benigni, however, argued that the heart of the film lies in the fact that most parents will do anything to spare their children the reality of evil. Most parents who have seen and wept through the film know exactly what he's talking about.

And if parents could take such risks and go to such lengths for their children, how much more has God done for us in Christ Jesus. We are the only world religion to believe that our God took our form and died out of love for us so that we might understand the love God has for us, and the love we are called to have for each other.

It isn't, however, just any old love Christ calls us to practise. It's not about a

fleeting feeling or having a warm fuzzy inside. Jesus tells us today that the character of Christian love is the degree to which it's sacrificial. This is a challenging way of working out who we really love, isn't it? The people we love are those for whom we are prepared to sacrifice something of ourselves, maybe everything.

If that's the case we could decide to stop telling people we don't love that we love them. The goal of the Christian life is to love everyone, but until we achieve that, the more we lie about love the more we lower its currency. It's perfectly acceptable to like, enjoy, be fond of, respect, admire and be grateful to others, and not love them. There are a very few people for whom most of us would be prepared to lay down our lives. This criteria sorts out our intimates fairly quickly.

We could also decide to stop saying we love things, animals, ideas or organisations which cannot love us back. Human beings can only truly love people. Jesus did not die for an ideology or an

institution. He was put to death because of his uncompromising love for all humanity everywhere. If we find ourselves saying we love our pets, house, car, job, our ideology, even our Church more than we love other human beings, then we're in trouble.

That's what I like best about the model of loving Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Just when we might expect to find him using the analogy of a family, he talks about us being his friends. Sometimes we can hear people lament that they are 'stuck' with their families, and that they prefer their friends. It's an instructive moment, usually born out of a bitter and unloving history.



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:

Donna Truscott; Joy Raines; Mary Newn; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

Brian Tyrie; Philippa Hardy; Mark Anderson; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

Recently Deceased:

Bishop Peter Ingham; Bernard Gordon Snr; 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 - 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

* THANK YOU

CWL members thank you for your support of their fund-raising raffle, to support their Parish Ministry. The raffle will be drawn this weekend following the Sunday evening Mass at Ss Peter and Paul.

* CWL DIOCESAN RETREAT DAY

Wednesday, 22 May. Diocesan Retreat Day at St Mary's, Gerringong. Begins at 10:00am. Attendees bring own lunch. Tea & coffee available. Morning tea for travellers from 9:30am. Retreat will be led by CWL Chaplain Fr. Patrick Vaughan. Theme: St Hildegard of Bingen, Quiet time, Mass, Rosary, Benediction. Conclusion around 2:00pm.



CWL members extend to parishioners of Ss Peter and Paul Parish the following invitation.

**Australia's Biggest Morning Tea
and Op-Shop Fashion Parade
Monday, 20 May
10:30am**

**Kiama Presbyterian Church Hall
Gold coin donation for cancer
research.**

Please RSVP to Anne Hassett, so numbers can be passed on by 13 May. Landline 4232 2570 or 0418 207 860.

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Week 1

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

1st – Sheelagh Abela (#47);

2nd – Fran & Vince Allport (#38);

3rd – Margo Fitzgibbons (#18)

VIGIL AND FUNERAL DETAILS FOR BISHOP PETER INGHAM

The vigil and funeral details for Bishop Peter Ingham have been announced by Bishop Brian Mascord as follows:

* A SOLEMN RECEPTION of the body of Bishop Peter will take place at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, 36 Harbour Street, Wollongong on **Thursday, 9 May at 6:30pm** followed by Evening Prayer.

* A SOLEMN VIGIL LITURGY will follow at **7:30pm**.

* A SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL for Bishop Peter will be offered at St Francis Xavier Cathedral, Wollongong, on **Friday, 10 May, commencing at 10:30am**. Interment will take place in the cathedral grounds at the conclusion of Mass.

Relatives, friends, and the people of God are invited to attend the vigil and funeral. Please note, there will be street parking only for the public.

Due to the large number of invited bishops, clergy, relatives, dignitaries, and close friends attending the funeral, there will be very limited seating inside the cathedral. Therefore, a large marquee containing overflow seating with television screens will be erected in the carpark adjacent to the cathedral. Bishop Peter's casket will process past the marquee at the conclusion of the funeral Mass.

Livestream Provisions - Noting limited capacity for attendees at the Cathedral, the funeral will be livestreamed at <https://dow.sh/livestream>. A number of parishes intend to make provision for the faithful to view this livestream locally. Three regional hubs have been organised, enabling the faithful to easily and prayerfully gather for a livestream of the funeral mass, with Holy Communion being distributed at these venues:

* St John the Evangelist Catholic High School Nowra

* All Saints Catholic Parish Shellharbour

* Campbelltown Catholic Club

If you wish to attend one of the three locations above and to assist in organisation, please register your attendance for these 3 hubs to enable organisation of adequate seating by visiting our website: <https://dow.sh/EOI-livestream>

MASS ON FRIDAY, 10 MAY

Due to Fr Chris attending Bishop Ingham's funeral on Friday, 10 May, Fr John Crothers will celebrate the 9:30am Mass in Kiama.

ST MARY'S QUARTERLY MEETING

The Gerringong Quarterly Meeting will be held in St Mary's Meeting Room this Sunday, following the 9:30am Mass. All welcome.



FOR LEADING THE ROSARY AT BLUE HAVEN AGED CARE FACILITY

We are seeking volunteers that are available for ONE Monday a month at 1:00pm, to help lead the Rosary for Catholic Residents at the Blue Haven Aged Care Facility in Kiama. We hope to have 4 volunteers, so the commitment can be flexible and shared. If you are interested, please phone Maria on 0421 227 534.

SPECIAL ROSARY



St Vincent de Paul Kiama Conference will be offering a special rosary for all the victims of violence and their families. This will take place on Monday, 13 May at 9:00am in Ss Peter and Paul Church Kiama. Everyone is welcome to join us in prayer.

MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS WALK FOR LIFE

Friday 24 May & Saturday 25 May

We walk to raise PRAYERS 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. You are warmly welcome to join us on any or both days. B.Y.O 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). Return home.

Start - 9:30am Mass at Ss Peter and Paul Kiama

Finish - 3:30pm St Mary's Gerringong: *Benediction, confession available*

* **DAY 2** - Gerringong to Shoalhaven Heads (16km).

Start - 8:00am Mass at St Mary's Gerringong

Finish - 3:00pm Shoalhaven Heads (*final blessing*)

For information contact Sue Hill, 0435 336 195, Gabriella De Battista, 0414 205 404

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.

CARMELITE RETREAT

PRESENTER: Fr. Paul Maunder, OCD & Cristina Leontini, translator of *Life and thoughts of Mariam Baouardy, 'the little nothing'* Illiterate, child-like, naive, poor, a 'the little nothing', this Teresian Carmelite nun founded the Carmel of the Holy Child Jesus in Bethlehem. She bore the wounds of the "Ecce Homo" in her body and offered her sufferings in loving union with her Lord for mercy upon sinners. Fr Paul and Cristina Leontini will present her life and comment on her way of the cross in the context of today's sufferings, especially in the Holy Land.

WHEN: 10-12 May, 6:00pm (Fri) - 12:30pm (Sunday)

WHERE: Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, 247 St Andrews Road, Varroville, NSW

COST: \$330

Please register at the following link:

www.mtcarmel.com.au/carmelite-retreat-program

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

5 MAY 2024



FIRST READING

Acts of the Apostles
10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said, 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said, 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2

(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **(R.)**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

1 John 4:7-10

God is love.

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love.

God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son

so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean:

not our love for God,

but God's love for us when he sent his Son

to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 15:9-17

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you, I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I

have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS - 12 MAY

The Ascension of the Lord - Year B/2

1ST READING: Acts 1:1-11

PSALM: Ps 46:2-3, 6-9 (R.) *God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

2ND READING: Eph 1:17-23

GOSPEL: Mk 16:15-20

Reflection continued....

We choose our friends, and the strength of any particular friendship is usually found in how we know their history and story, and they know ours, in the way we give them time, attention and affection. A true friendship is mutual. Jesus loves us, his friends, enough to know us, be available to us, challenge and forgive us. And his love is mutual. The only thing stopping us from having a deeper relationship with Christ is our desire for it.

But Jesus also shows how friends are prepared to give their lives for one another. That's what we celebrate here each Sunday, that Jesus the Lord showed the quality and care of his love for us so that we might be empowered to go out and enable others to know and experience his love in the joyful way we sacrifice ourselves for them.

No one promised us that the Christian life would be easy. All we have is our brother Jesus and all our friends, our family in faith, to support us in every loving sacrifice we make.