



# SUNDAY, 26 JANUARY 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 – 1/2 February 2025**

**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**

**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](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

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### **WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>28/1</b>	<b>5.00pm</b>	<i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>29/1</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>30/1</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	
<b>Friday</b>	<b>31/1</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<i>St John Bosco</i>



### **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:**

**26 January:** Group 4 – Mike Doherty

**2 February:** Group 1 – Gavan Hocter

## **REFLECTION BY FR MICHAEL TATE**

### **SOUTH LAND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Beatitudes we just heard are at the beginning of the 'Sermon on the Mount'. This sermon provides a picture of a society where the usual expectations of how people relate to each other are overturned.

Our Lord wants to create a new society where the old rules of engagement are superseded, especially in relation to enmity and violence. In fact, in the Sermon on the Mount all forms of resolving disputes, starting with families (spouses, brothers) are turned upside down.

And *we* are a 'Land Down Under'.

Australia is a place to which people have been attracted over the millennia to forge a new future. First, the original inhabitants coming down through Asia, and then the settlers, migrants and refugees of the last 236 years. (Of course, the convicts were a less voluntary part of the movement of peoples!)

Most were attracted by a vision of a different future, a future where human beings could relate to each other differently to the old order in Europe, and more recently in the Middle East or Africa or Asia or Central or South America.

People were and are prepared to take the risk of being dis-located, of re-locating because of that vision of a different future, particularly a future not determined by the violence of feudal warfare which had characterised their homelands for generations, centuries, and even millennia.

They come because they aspire to be someone different, to do something different, in ways not predetermined by centuries of custom and tradition in their home society.

Is this movement of people to Australia a 'chance event'? Is it just another phase of world history? No.

I recall walking down a corridor in the Vatican, the wall of which was painted with a map of the world. Where Australia is, there was just ocean blue. It was

painted before European explorers began to map our coastline!

Those mapping expeditions gave us our name 'Australia'. De Quiros, the great Portuguese explorer of the 16th Century, set out on a quest for '*Terra Australia del Spiritu Santo*', South Land of the Holy Spirit. Right from the start, the full title of our land was bound up with the Holy Spirit. I am confident that 'Australia' is a work of the Holy Spirit, no chance event in world history but a gathering of peoples for a Divine purpose.

One of the most distinctive works of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost was the breaking down of ethnic, tribal and language barriers between people. That is why Christianity spread like wild fire across the Roman Empire.

Australia is a place where that Pentecostal impulse is felt very strongly. People from every nation, tribe, ethnic and religious group on the face of the earth have relocated here and are creating a new sort of society.

**Continued on next page ---**

# 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:

All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

### Anniversaries:

Terry McGill; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.

### Recently Deceased:

Hannah Plowman; 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 [kiama@dow.org.au](mailto:kiama@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 starting from 3 February 2025** - 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. If anyone would like to have Adoration on 27 January, please phone Ann Barron on 0407 220 560.

*All are welcome to attend.*

## 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 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.*

## PARISH PLAYGROUP



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

**Term 1 – 5 & 19 February; 5 & 19 March, 2 April.**

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

## INSPIRATIONAL CDS

Check out our range of Inspirational CDs located in the white stand at the back of Ss Peter & Paul Church and be inspired! Only \$5 per CD.

## HOME COMMUNION VISITS

If you know someone who would like to receive Communion at home because of illness or frailty, please contact Sr Maureen **after 26 January** on 0427 941 855. Sr Maureen is away until 26 January.

## CATHOLICARE VIST

CatholicCare Weekend is coming up in early February. Staff from CatholicCare will be presenting at the following Masses and will also be available after Mass to answer any questions you might have:

- Saturday 8 February, 6:00pm Kiama
  - Sunday 9 February, 8:00am Kiama
  - Sunday 9 February, 9:30am Gerringong
- CatholicCare's services include: Counselling, Foster Care, Family Support Workshops, Age Care, Disability Programs and Support, Marriage and Relationship Education, Children's Contact and more.

## GERRINGONG QUARTERLY MEETING

St Marys Quarterly Meeting will be held after the 9:30am Mass on Sunday, 2 February. All welcome.

## REFLECTION CONTINUED ...

Human beings can relate to each other free from past structures of oppression and division in their old homeland societies.

They have come, in their millions, to escape the histories of societies where everyone 'knew their place', to a land where we relate to each other for our inherent worth. Hence the great Australian characteristic: 'egalitarianism'. This is simply the social recognition of the truth of the Genesis creation story: we all share a common humanness and a common humanity.

Have we responded to the Holy Spirit perfectly? No. Our treatment of the earliest inhabitants of this land was shameful, to say the least. Here in Tasmania, the use of armed force against the aboriginal people was authorised at the highest levels. Tasmanian historian, Nick Brodie, has written on this under the title *The Vandemonian War*. This nicely plays on the original name of Tasmania, i.e. *Van Diemen's Land*, and the sense of a demonic force utterly contrary to the Spirit of the Sermon on the Mount.

Our treatment of those genuinely fleeing persecution in their homelands on occasion falls short of what the Lord of the Sermon on the Mount desires.

But on the whole, we are creating a version of the Kingdom of God under the Southern Cross of which we can be proud.

So, Australians All, let us rejoice – for our land abounding in nature's gifts of beauty rich and rare, for our freedom to share life in our 'Common-Wealth', for the divine Spirit of Pentecost attracting us to follow Jesus in this *Australia del Espiritu Santo*, South Land of the Holy Spirit.

## READINGS – 2 FEBRUARY

**The Presentation of the Lord – Year C/1**

**1<sup>ST</sup> READING:** Mal 3:1-4

**PSALM:** Ps 23:7-10 (R.) *Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!*

**2<sup>ND</sup> READING:** Heb 2:14-18

**GOSPEL:** Lk 2:22-40

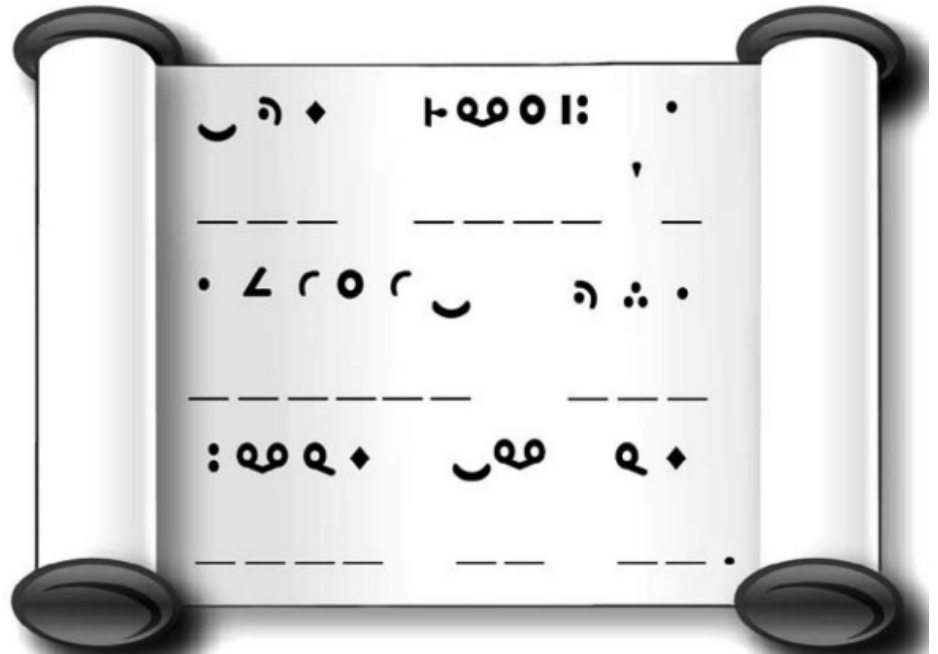


**S**t John Bosco was the youngest son of a peasant farmer in the town of Turin, Northern Italy. Soon after his ordination in 1841 he began his life's work of educating poor and orphaned children. He had an extraordinary gift for handling difficult youths without punishment, but with gentle and effective firmness. Inspired by St Francis de Sales, Don Bosco called his helpers "Salesians", who were formally recognised by the church in 1874.

## DECODE THE PROPHECY

Use the code below to decipher the prophet's message

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
∴	∴	:	∥	◆	∞	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩	∩



## Wordsearch

Try to find these words:



- announce
- chosen
- freedom
- good
- Isaiah
- news
- poor
- Sabbath
- Scriptures
- spread
- suffers
- true

O	D	U	W	P	V	Y	O	U	Y	D	O	L	Y	L	C	E
P	F	U	H	X	Y	H	F	Y	M	Q	J	P	B	C	Q	S
M	Q	N	I	Y	B	J	K	I	O	S	H	M	Y	S	A	G
X	Z	O	Z	A	D	U	B	S	D	F	V	S	T	B	T	Y
D	Y	V	L	Z	N	A	C	N	E	V	L	Z	B	M	R	L
S	L	O	L	P	P	N	E	Q	E	C	O	A	W	D	U	L
E	W	V	I	P	F	H	O	Z	R	X	T	A	N	U	E	A
R	C	E	C	F	D	P	S	U	F	H	B	E	N	E	V	C
U	R	H	F	A	W	E	N	I	N	D	A	E	R	P	S	F
T	F	W	O	H	J	E	D	O	P	C	W	B	M	X	N	N
P	M	G	A	S	N	J	H	Y	H	S	E	T	K	M	S	T
I	U	C	B	R	E	S	P	Z	S	U	F	F	E	R	S	P
R	G	Y	Q	V	B	N	I	B	D	C	U	M	R	P	S	B
C	F	O	L	O	A	J	B	Y	C	S	Q	C	T	O	B	O
S	U	H	O	E	I	U	F	Y	I	S	A	I	A	H	O	I
M	V	Z	X	D	I	J	O	K	Z	D	X	H	F	B	D	P

# **AUSTRALIA DAY - YEAR C**

## **26 JANUARY 2025**

### **FIRST READING**

Nehemiah 8:2-6. 8-10

*They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.*

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people – since he stood higher than all the people – Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered Amen! Amen!; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah – His Excellency – and Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep'. For the people were all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord.

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 18:8-10. 15. R. See Jn 6:63

**(R.) Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple. **(R.)**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes. **(R.)**
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just. **(R.)**

4. May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock! **(R.)**

### **SECOND READING**

1 Corinthians 12:12-30

*Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.*

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many parts. If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped being part of the body? If the ear were to say, 'I am not an eye, and so I do not belong to the body', would that mean that it is not a part of the body? If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything?

Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you,' nor can the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.'

What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones; and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special honour, all parts enjoy it.

Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it. In the Church, God has given the first place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages. Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of them teachers? Do they all have the

gift of miracles, or all have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages, and all interpret them?

The word of the Lord.

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

See Luke 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor  
and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL**

Luke 1:1-4. 4:14-21

*The scriptures were fulfilled on this day.*

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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