



SUNDAY, 1 MARCH 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 – 7/8 March 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	3/3	5.00pm
Wednesday	4/3	8:00am
Thursday	5/3	8:00am
Friday	6/3	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:

1 March: Group 2 – Ross Smith

8 March: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

PROJECT COMPASSION 2026



PROJECT COMPASSION

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



Sisilia is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania, who had to walk long distances to collect water every day. Thanks to Project Compassion,

Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water close by and she can spend more time studying so she can fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes or envelopes.

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

We all need a vision. Long ago, the Book of Proverbs told us that 'where there is no vision, the people perish.' When we look at the world around us, with so many wars, so much violence, such widespread hardship and numerous groups of people putting up walls against each other, we might wonder where the real leaders are to be found. On the world stage, Pope Leo XIV often seems like a lone voice for peace, justice and sanity. He points a direction based on his deep encounter with God.

Perhaps we find vision in the less well-known stories of ordinary people, some of whom we may know. This week, Project Compassion shares with us the story of young Sisilia who lives in a remote part of northern Tanzania. Her father died when she was young, and her family has faced enormous difficulty. 'Life is hard,' she says as an understatement. Your help has enabled her village to gain access to a reliable supply of safe water. What has this got to do with education? The time that Sisilia spent walking three times a day for water was having a major impact on her

schooling. She now has a vision for life, one she shares with her community.

In today's readings, we hear about vision. In the book of Genesis, Abram leaves his country, his family and his father's house. He may not know quite what will happen, but he puts his faith in a call that will lead to life and abundance. He does not have a map, but he does have a vision.

We hear in the Gospel that Jesus took his closest friends to the top of a high mountain. His face shone like the sun and became 'as white as the light.' A voice from heaven said, 'this is my beloved son; listen to him.' Peter said how wonderful it was to be there, and he wanted to build a tent so they could stay. But vision is always on the move and Jesus knew that he and his friends had a hard road ahead. The transfiguration may have only lasted a few minutes, but it was clear that Jesus' friends never forgot it. Every year, we hear this story near the start of Lent because we, too, need to be inspired.

During Lent, we are also called to transfigure the world, to make a difference by uniting 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:

Rosalie Fletcher; Albert Tory; Geoff Guska; Joy Raines; Denise Tierney (nee Farrugia); Andrew Mulroe; Paul Anderson; Margaret Di Salvo; Marg Snelling; John Nash; Jason Dorahy; Mel Condon; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

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

Recently Deceased:

Joy Fardy; Amalia Swords; Peter Nolan; Elaine Smith; Greg Steele; Christine Patton; Barbara Bennett; 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.

FUNERALS

* **Peter Nolan** – 11:00am, Friday, 6 March, **St Mary Star of the Sea, Gerringong** (NOT St Matthew's as previously published).

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 1 2026: 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 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** – Enrolment forms will be provided at the Parent Information Night. See notice below.

* **First Reconciliation** – Online enrolments close Friday, 24 July.

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

CONFIRMATION 2026



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 4:

1st – Mike O'Dwyer (#2);

2nd – Sheelagh Abela (#28);

3rd – Diane Sainsbury (#31)

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Fridays during Lent – 5:30pm., Ss Peter and Paul Church.

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.

* **Belles Lunch** – at The Fishermans Club, Gerroa at 12:00pm on 2 March, for the ladies of the Parish and friends.

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** during 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.

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

FUNDRAISING BOOKS FOR SALE

Boni Maywald from Wrapped with Love has donated copies of "Art in Illawarra Craft 2020-2025" for sale, with all proceeds going to Homestead of Hope. This is a beautifully produced book of

craft displays in Gerringong and Kiama libraries in June 2025 and is priced at \$20 per copy - this donation is a very generous gift. Copies are available at the Parish Office during Office hours.

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 this 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.

WHAT'S ON AROUND THE DIOCESE?

Check out upcoming Diocesan events and courses - too many to list in one place. Subscribe here and we will keep you in the loop dow.sh/stayingconnected about what's happening around our Diocese!

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Friday 13 March 2026 | 6:30am-8am

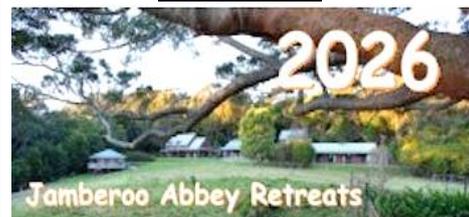
Guest Speaker and Topic: Tom Kadmon - *Reading Scripture is central to our relationship with Jesus*. Xavier Conference Room, 38 Harbour St Wollongong. Enjoy a breakfast buffet, prayer and inspiring guest speaker input. Be supported and inspired by other men, seeking to be authentic disciples on mission. Cost is just \$20. Book here dow.sh/MPB26 by Tuesday 10 March.

INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028

The Australian Church is setting out on the journey toward the International

Eucharistic Congress, Sydney 2028 (Eucharist28), a great time of renewal and transformation centred on encountering the Eucharistic Lord. In preparation, Australian Catholics will enter a Year of Prayer from 1 March 2026, focused on rediscovering Our Lord's love in the Blessed Sacrament. The theme, *This is My Body, Given for You*, calls us to deeper faith, generosity and mission. Learn more about the way ahead at eucharist28.org.

JAMBEROO ABBEY RETREAT PROGRAM



For a detailed list of the retreats being run at Jamberoo Abbey for 2026 visit <https://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retr/eats/abbey-retreat-programs/>

STEEL CITY STRINGS

Illawarra's Chamber Orchestra

Home marks a decade ten years of music-making rooted in community and shared experience.

Featuring Dvořák's *Nocturne in B minor*, Mendelssohn's *String Symphony No. 10*, Barry Conyngham's *Under the Escarpment*, and Adriel Sukumar's *Visions of Home*. The program also features music by Andrew Ford, celebrating Australia's unique wildlife, and Elena Kats-Chernin, whose music reminds us of the sense of home we find in those we love. *Home* is an invitation to listen and celebrate the ways music makes us feel that we belong.

* Saturday, 21 March – 7:30pm, Wollongong Art Gallery

* Sunday, 22 March - 2:00pm, Berry School of Arts

Booking <https://steelcitystrings.com.au/events-calendar/>

Tickets \$25 - \$65; Conc. \$50; Group of 5 or more \$180 (i.e. \$36 per person)

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Kairos Prison Ministry – Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and anoint the work of the Kairos Team, and that the hearts of the inmates will be touched by the love of God. To learn more about Kairos Prison Ministry and how to become involved, visit: www.kairos.org.au/learnmore

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

1 MARCH 2026

FIRST READING

Genesis 12:1-4

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him. The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22

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

1. 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.)**
2. 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.)**
3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:8-10

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only

been revealed by the appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light.

Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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READINGS – 8 MARCH

**3rd Sunday of Lent –
Year A/2**

1ST READING: Ex 17:3-7

PSALM: Ps 94:1-2, 6-9 (R.) *If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

2ND READING: Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

GOSPEL: Jn 4:5-42



SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

Gospel Parallels

The account of the Transfiguration appears in all three synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke). The word, synoptic, means 'seen together' and these three gospels can be seen together because they have so much material in common. It is now accepted that the gospel of Mark was the first written as so much of it appears in the other two, while the gospels of Matthew and Luke both seem to have also drawn on another source of Jesus material (known as the 'Q' source). Despite the parallels, each writer uses the same story to convey the particular message of that gospel.