



SUNDAY, 17 MARCH 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 – 23/24 March 2024

Ss Peter and Paul, Kiama – Saturday 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 **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	19/3	5:00pm	<i>St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Wednesday	20/3	8:00am	
Thursday	21/3	8:00am	
Friday	22/3	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:

17 March: Group 2 – Irene Cook

24 March: Group 3 – Vonnie Gee

PROJECT COMPASSION REFLECTION

Written by Michael McGirr

The word 'heart' occurs almost a thousand times in the Bible, more than three times as often as the word 'soul.' Perhaps this is just another item of trivia but surely it gives us a clue about Christianity. It is a religion of the heart. It gets our blood pumping.

As we approach the climax of our Lenten journey, this week's readings ask questions about our hearts. The psalm begs 'a pure heart create for me, O God.' Those words invite the Lord to come right inside us, into the very core of our being. The prophet Jeremiah quotes the Lord as saying, 'deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts.' In other words, we won't find God's most intimate whisperings to us just in books or lectures. We will find it when we are genuinely in touch with our core, our most intimate space. God's love is inscribed on our hearts.

In his letter *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis speaks against 'a culture of walls.' He

asks us to treasure the hope found in every heart:

Hope 'speaks to us of something deeply rooted in every human heart, independently of our circumstances and historical conditioning. Hope speaks to us of a thirst, an aspiration, a longing for a life of fulfillment, a desire to achieve great things, things that fill our heart and lift our spirit to lofty realities like truth, goodness and beauty, justice and love... Hope is bold.'



The word 'caritas' means love. The work of Caritas Australia is a heartfelt response to the needs of the world, one that gives expression to our shared

hope. Caritas always works in partnership with others. During Lent, as we have listened to the experience of people we have helped through our support of Project Compassion, we will have noticed that life-giving partnerships with groups on the ground in many countries make this possible.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the grain of wheat that must die to create a rich harvest. Of course, he is referring to his own passion. But there is a message here for us all. 'Anyone who loves their life will lose it.' We are called to wear our hearts on our sleeves. To be led by love for others.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available at the back of each church, by calling 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion.

Please return your Project Compassion donations by Holy Thursday.

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:

Bishop Peter Ingham; Joe O'Neill; Bernard Wakim; Mary Newn; All sick parishioners and sick relatives and friends of parishioners.

Anniversaries:

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

Recently Deceased:

Lenore O'Leary; Consuelo Shaw; Kath Pollard; Colleen McAlister; Terry McGill; Val Mountford; John Thomas; Joe Manahan; Fr Nicolaos Bozikis; Sr Grace Cini FCJ; Sr Annette Brown OSC; 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

HOLY HOUR KIAMA

Every Saturday Morning

From 8:00am to 9:00am in Ss Peter and Paul Church, Kiama. The hour includes Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Perpetual Succour Novena, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet. Everyone is welcome!



ADORATION AT ST MARY'S

An invitation to all, to step into one hour of silent adoration in front of the Blessed Sacrament. Weekly Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament held at St Mary Star of the Sea, Gerringong on Mondays, 3:00pm – 4:00pm. All welcome.

PARISH PLAYGROUP

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

Term 1 2024

27 March; 10 April.

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.*

SILVER CIRCLE WINNERS

Week 6

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

1st – Sr Maureen (#38)

2nd – Michele Micallif (#35)

3rd – Jane Stokes (#40)

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.

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

Thank you very much for your support.

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**

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

Palm Sunday – 23/24 March

* **Kiama:** Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm;

Sunday: 8.00am & 6.00pm

* **Gerringong:** 9.30am

* **Jamberoo:** 9.30am

Holy Thursday – 28 March

Kiama: 7.00pm

Good Friday – 29 March

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

10.00am Kiama, Gerringong and Jamberoo (children's Stations)

PASSION:

Kiama: 3.00pm

Easter Vigil – 30 March

Kiama: 7.30pm

(please bring a torch or battery-operated candle, no wax candles please)

Easter Sunday – 31 March

Kiama: 7.30am & 9.30am

NO SUNDAY EVENING MASS

Gerringong: 9.30am

Jamberoo: 9.30am

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



PARISH COMMUNITY

We want to accompany these children and their families as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. May we show our support and pray for these children as they take another step in their faith journey. Amen.

PRAYER:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and you will renew the face of the earth. Amen.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Fridays during Lent at 5.30pm, Ss Peter and Paul Church.

LENT CONFESSION TIMES

Fr Chris will hear confessions for a short time straight after the Saturday and Sunday evening Masses in Kiama, and after each weekday Mass up until Wednesday of Holy Week. Saturday confession times are as normal.

HOURLY PRAYER FOR LENT

The Thursday Hour of Prayer for Lent sessions concluded last Thursday. Sincere thanks to all who attended. Your presence and prayerful participation was much appreciated. Lenten Blessings to All!

HOMESTEAD OF HOPE FUNDRAISING LUNCH

Grab your husband, wife, partner, friends and neighbours and join us for a fun-filled lunchtime get-together with games and prizes. Bag a bargain from our 2nd hand table. Jewellery, plants, clothing, books, bags, knitted items, baked goods

and lots of other bric-a-brac for sale. Raffle tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5, drawn on the day. All profits go to the valuable work Of Kiama Homestead of Hope in supporting the poor, marginalised, lonely and homeless in our community.

When: Friday, 22 March, from 11:30am.

Where: Kiama Bowling Club, Shoalhaven Street,

Cost: \$25 per person – includes entry and lunch.

Tickets can be purchased from Angie Micallef, 0404 856 379. Lunch is an alternate drop of chicken or fish, so please contact Angie before 22 March if you have special dietary requirements.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR LEADING THE ROSARY AT BLUE HAVEN AGED CARE FACILITY



If you are interested in leading the Rosary for Residents at Blue Haven Aged Care Facility on **Mondays at 1:00pm**, please ring Maria on 0421 227 534. *The current Rosary Group was established in October 2017 and it has supported over 32 Catholic Residents during this time. It is a very special and rewarding Ministry for the Catholic Elderly.*

SAVE THE DATE

Jamberoo Lay Carmelites invite you to join them for a day of reflection on Saturday, 13 April, from 9:30am to 3:00pm. More details next week

LAUDATO SI CIRCLE BY THE OCEAN

You are invited to join with us for our next meeting to be held at **4:30 - 5:15pm on Thursday, 21 March in the Parish Meeting Room**. Pope Francis reminds us that young generations have a right to receive a beautiful and habitable world from us. This invests us with grave responsibilities towards creation which we received from God's generous hands. In response to extreme weather events and catastrophes throughout 2023 he wrote the Apostolic Exhortation *Laudate Deum*, an update to his Encyclical *Laudato Si*. These catastrophic events continue globally and in Australia in 2024. We will reflect,

pray and seek ways to actively respond to *Laudate Deum* and Francis' plea to accompany him "on a **pilgrimage of reconciliation with the world that is our home** and to help make it more beautiful, because that commitment has to do with our personal dignity and highest values" (LD69).

Denis Quinn, mobile: 0429 064 496

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT

Over the past six months the work of the PPC has been guided by four key documents:

- The *Parish Pastoral Plan* which aims to provide welcome and support for parishioners and parish groups, to continue preparations for our parish 175th anniversary and to prayerfully discern our approach to Bishop Brian's invitation to embark on a journey of parish renewal through the resources provided by the Diocese.
- Ongoing updating of the *Parish Ministry Manual*.
- Preparing and uploading to the website our practical Parish response to *Laudato Si*.
- Examining aspects of the *Handbook for Parish Councils* at each meeting and seeking a deepening understanding of the role of the PPC and ways of ensuring parishioners can express their views, hopes and feedback.

The Council meets on the second Tuesday of each month, 7:00 – 9:00pm, in the Parish Meeting Room in Kiama. There is a set agenda and supportive, respectful discussions, with a deep understanding that membership should be life-giving rather than burdensome.

The Council is in need of new members as the terms of some continuing members are nearing their conclusion.

If you would like to nominate yourself or another parishioner, or require any information, please leave your details with Louise in the office and a Council member will contact you to answer any questions you may have.

We will have a short information session at the beginning of our next meeting on Tuesday, 9 April. This will run for half an hour from 7:00 – 7:30pm. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

17 MARCH 2024



FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.

and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**

2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**

3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. **(R.)**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:7-9

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.

Now my soul is troubled.

What shall I say:

Father, save me from this hour?

But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.

Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world;

now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

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 – 24 MARCH

Palm Sunday – Year B/2

ENTRANCE: Mk 11:1-10

1ST READING: Is 50:4-7

PSALM: Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24 (R.) *My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?*

2ND READING: Phil 2:6-11

GOSPEL: Mk 14:1 – 15:47

