



# SUNDAY, 18 MAY 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 – 24/25 May 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**

**Parish Priest:** Father Chris Roberts    **Priest in Residence:** Father George Condookala  
**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  
**Ph:** (02) 4232 2442    **Fax:** (02) 4232 1064    **Email:** [info@ssppdow.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@ssppdow.catholic.edu.au)

#### **WEEKDAY MASSES - KIAMA**

Tuesday	20/5	5.00pm
Wednesday	21/5	8:00am
Thursday	22/5	8:00am
Friday	23/5	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 – 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:**

**18 May: Group 4 – Mike Doherty**

**25 May: Group 1 – Gavan Hctor**

## REFLECTION

### **ETERNAL GLORY**

If the life we live here and now is all we will ever have, then it makes sense to believe that death is our worst enemy. But as we know, this life is but a grain of sand in the ocean in comparison to eternity. For that reason, we must see death as our passing into the glories that await. The death of a loved one is difficult for sure. And when we face our own death, there are many temptations we might experience toward fear of the unknown. But if the Son of God chose to endure death itself, then we must work to see death differently.

Today's Gospel passage speaks of Jesus' coming death as His glorification. "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him." Jesus spoke these words right after Judas left the Last Supper to betray Him. From an earthly perspective, it is unlikely that anyone would consider their betrayal and brutal death as the moment when God is glorified. But from a heavenly and eternal perspective, Jesus' death was the greatest glorification He could offer to

the Father. This only makes sense when we put on the mind of God.

As we continue to celebrate our Easter Season, we look beyond the suffering of Christ to see the fruit of His suffering. We see that death was defeated and that Jesus will now forever live in His glorified and resurrected body in Heaven. He will forever carry the marks in His hands, feet and side, and those marks will forever glorify the Father. The Resurrection of Christ changes everything, including death. For that reason, we must continually work to put on the mind of God and see our human lives as He sees them.

What is it that you live for in this life? What are your goals and ambitions? If you find that you focus excessively upon immediate pleasures, material wealth, selfish objectives and passing ambitions, then it is time to ponder the lesson of Jesus' glorification. By facing His own death as an opportunity to glorify the Father, Jesus made it possible for us to do the same. And though there will always be a healthy sorrow associated with the passing of a loved one, the hope

of Heaven and eternal glory must become the lens through which we see all things in this life.

When you look at your life, it is essential to see the cross that God has given to you. That is because your cross is the gateway to this eternal glory. Each person's cross will be different. A cross is not simply our suffering; it's our call to live sacrificially. This is love. It's the calling we are given to lay our lives down for others. To serve others. To forgive every wrong, to love every sinner, to show mercy and compassion toward those in need. And to do all of this in response to God's perfect will. The crosses in our lives are opportunities for love in its purest form. This is how Jesus saw His Cross and this is how we must see ours.

Reflect, today, upon death, but try to look at it as a calling to give of yourself sacrificially out of love. The best way to prepare yourself for a glorious death is to live in the love of God here and now. To the extent that you can do that, God will be glorified as you share in the glory given to Christ.

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# 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:**

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

### **Anniversaries:**

*Tom Cullen; Daniel Wong; Dom McBride; Norma Raposas; Stevan Zadravac; Brian Tyrie; Pat Green; Peter Kells; the Holy Souls in Purgatory and all parishioners whose anniversaries occur at this time.*

### **Recently Deceased:**

*John Lizzo; Manfred Pfeiffer; Pope Francis; Fr Michael Fallon MSC; Dm Peter Presdee; Thomas "Lloyd" Downes; 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](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** - 3:00pm to 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.**

## 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 2 –**

**28 May; 11 & 25 June.**

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

## PLEASE HELP SUPPORT US THROUGH PARISH GIVING

You can help support our Parish through a one-off donation using the banking details below, by using the Donation Point Tap devices at the entry to Ss Peter and Paul and St Mary Star of the Sea, or via regular Planned Giving. Please visit <https://www.dow.org.au/giving2/> for information about online giving, including wills and bequests.

### **\* 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 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** – Enrolments closed.

**\* First Reconciliation** – Friday, 18 July

**\* First Holy Communion** – Friday, 12 September

## WHAT'S ON AROUND THE DIOCESE?

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!

## GERRINGONG QUARTERLY MEETING

The Quarterly meeting will be held this Sunday, 18 May, straight after the 9:30am Mass.

## FEEDBACK ON BISHOP BRIAN'S VISION AND PARISH LIFE

Bishop Brian invites all parishioners across the Diocese to take the time to prayerfully reflect on his vision for renewed parishes, *'In the Parish I see'*, by completing an online activity at [dow.sh/csgmactivity](http://dow.sh/csgmactivity). The activity takes approximately 30–45 minutes to complete and will help you both engage with Bishop's Vision and share your valuable perspectives on parish life. **We need around 40 to 80 people to complete this online form, so if you are able to find some time, please go online over the next few weeks and have your say.**

If you would like to complete the form but don't have the internet, please phone the Parish Office to arrange a time to come in and complete the form.

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Invites you on Wednesday, 21 May, to a Diocesan Retreat Day at St Mary Star of the Sea Gerringong. 9:30am– Welcome &

Cuppa. 10:00am - 1<sup>st</sup> Conference. 10:30am - Quiet Time, silence, in Church or garden. 11:00am - Mass followed by Angelus at 12:00. Bring your own lunch. Afternoon 1:00pm - Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Rosary and Benediction. 2:00pm - 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference. 2:30 - Blessing & farewell.

## **CLAIM THE DATE! KBECET BOOK FUNDRAISER**

KBECET will be holding a preloved book sale fundraiser here in Ss Peter and Paul Parish Hall from 29-31 August to raise funds to support the Christian Education Teacher at Kiama High School. All donations of books and small bric a brac items gratefully accepted and can be left at the Parish office during Parish Office hours, or for other arrangements call Gai on 0401 468 209.



## **INVITATION – JAMBEROO LAY CARMELITES**

Jamberoo Lay Carmelites invite you to join them for a Day of Reflection on Saturday, 24 May in St Matthew's Hall, Jamberoo, 9:30am – 3:00pm.

**Topic:** "Scripture is all about Relationships" **Speaker:** Laurie Woods, recently retired from the school of Theology, ACU Strathfield.

**Donation:** \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Please bring a plate to share for lunch, with morning tea provided.

**RSVP:** Mary Clarke on 4232 2970 or email: [pandmclarke@gmail.com](mailto:pandmclarke@gmail.com)

## **LAUDATO SI WEEK**

24-31 MAY



Ten years ago, Pope Francis wrote Laudato Si', outlining a bold vision for our common home. As we celebrate a decade of prayer and action, we anticipate an even brighter future. The next chapter of Laudato Si' starts with us. **\* SAVE THE DATE – MOVIE AND PIZZA NIGHT - Friday, 30 May, 5:00pm, Ss Peter and Paul Parish Hall.** Join us! Ss Peter & Paul Parish Laudato Si Circle by the Ocean Group invites you to celebrate Laudato Si week (24 – 31 May) for a screening of the film "The Letter". Pizzas will be provided!

For more details on Ss Peter & Paul Parish Laudato Si Circle by the Ocean Group and our Laudato Si Week events,

please contact Denis Quinn (0429 064 496), Claire Smith (0414 791 179) or email the Parish Office.

## **JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE WALK FOR LIFE**

Join pilgrims from around the Diocese from Friday, 23 May – Saturday, 24 May for all or part of the walk for life along the stunning South Coast from Kiama to Culburra. Pope Francis has urged us in this Jubilee Year to build a culture of life, where every human life is cherished and protected. **This is a free event, but registration is essential.**

**Day 1:** From Kiama to Gerringong, followed by dinner with Bishop Mascord and overnight adoration.

**Day 2:** Gerringong to Culburra, finishing with Mass and dinner.

For more information or to register go to [dow.sh/WFL](http://dow.sh/WFL). Friday overnight adoration signup go here: <https://dow.sh/ado2025> or contact [jude.hennessy@dow.org.au](mailto:jude.hennessy@dow.org.au) on 4222 2407.

## **JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE WALK FOR LIFE - ADORATION**

Can't walk with us but want to come to pray? Join us for overnight Adoration from 8:30 pm Friday 23 May to 7:30 am Saturday 24 May at St Mary Star of the Sea Church, Gerringong, signup here <https://dow.sh/ado2025>.

## **IGNATIAN SPIRITUAL EXERCISES RETREAT**

As a fellow parishioner, I am inviting all who are seeking to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus to participate in a Spiritual Exercises retreat in Daily Life. This retreat is given on an individual basis through weekly meetings of 30-45 minutes duration over six to nine months. Divided into 4 phases, the retreat moves you through the events of salvation history - from Jesus' Incarnation to his Resurrection. During our meetings I will journey with you as you share your prayer experiences of the preceding week. Starting dates are negotiable and the pace of each phase is tailored to your own spiritual journey. As an intern giver of these Exercises, I will be receiving professional supervision throughout the retreat with your confidentiality assured. A retreat payment of \$40 (in total) is requested please. This retreat is suitable for all persons seeking to experience a deepening in their love for

Our Lord through a structured program put together by Ignatius of Loyola in the 1500's but made relevant today through their adaption by me. The Exercises retreat provides a wonderful opportunity to live life with greater richness and purpose through ordered decisions founded upon your love of Christ Our Lord. If this invitation speaks to your heart, please contact me for further information and I will arrange to meet with you to discuss this on 0411 845 118 (any afternoon) or email me at [meriden168@gmail.com](mailto:meriden168@gmail.com). Thank you.

## **AGEING WITH CONFIDENCE**

**A CatholicCare initiative**

**Friday, 13 June,**

**10:00am – 1:00pm**

**The Fraternity Club Fairy Meadow.**

Join Robert Fitzgerald AM, Age Discrimination Commissioner, as he explores the critical issues facing older Australians today - including elder abuse and ageism - while offering practical insights and strategies for ageing with dignity, purpose and positivity.

To register for this free community event including morning tea, please visit:

<https://www.catholiccare.dow.org.au/get-involved/events-calendar/ageing-with-confidence-2025-wollongong/>

For any other information, please contact Jane Hollier on 0417 018 152 or [janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au](mailto:janeh@catholiccare.dow.org.au)

## **THE JOURNEY**

**Your Diocesan Weekly Podcast**

The Journey is the weekly podcast for parishioners in the Diocese of Wollongong. Each week it brings you great music, formation in faith, with an array of fantastic presenters from our Diocese and around Australia. Just go to [www.jcr.org.au](http://www.jcr.org.au) and we will send it to you each week.

## **INVITATION TO YOUNG ADULTS**

The Wollongong Vocations Promotions Team is excited to invite all young adults (over 18) from across the diocese to our *June VOCARIS* with the theme of Jubilee, followed by a Trivia Night! Saturday, 14 June (5:30pm to 9:30pm). 20 Broughton Street, Wilton (25 minutes from Campbelltown and Wollongong). For more information and to register visit <https://app.tickets.org.au/DOW/JuneVocaris>



# FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C

18 MAY 2025

## FIRST READING

Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27

*They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.*

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v.1

**(R.) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**
2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,  
and your friends shall repeat their blessing.  
They shall speak of the glory of your reign  
and declare your might, O God,  
to make known to men your mighty deeds

and the glorious splendour of your reign. **(R.)**

3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom;  
your rule lasts from age to age. **(R.)**

## SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-5

*He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.*

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city? Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:  
love one another as I have loved you.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

John 13:31-35

*I give you a new commandment: love one another.*

When Judas had gone Jesus said: 'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified. If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon. My little children, I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:  
love one another;  
just as I have loved you,  
you also must love one another.  
By this love you have for one another,  
everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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## READINGS – 25 MAY

Sixth Sunday of Easter –  
Year C/1

1<sup>ST</sup> READING: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

PSALM: Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8 (R.) *O God, let all the nations praise you!*

2<sup>ND</sup> READING: Rev 21:10-14, 22-23

GOSPEL: Jn 14:23-29

## GOSPEL FOCUS

### God's Love

*What does it mean to love as Jesus loved? The love Jesus poured out to all was an expression of God's love that has been poured out to all creation since the very beginning and continues to be poured out today. God's love doesn't keep score. When humankind turned its back on God, God' love continued to call them back to faithful relationship. God's love is not conditional – whatever we do, God continues to love us. There is no barrier that we can construct that God's love cannot get around. It is this sort of love that the new commandment demands of us.*

