

Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

***Lord, may we the parishioners of Sacred Heart
strive to be people of the Gospel and prayer.***

Imprint in our hearts a deep desire for your Word and a love of the Eucharist.

Motivate us to be an engaging, welcoming, and supportive community.

Help us to be a people of compassion and justice for all.

MASS TIMES

Weekdays 9:15am Tues -Sat

Weekend Mass Times

6:00pm Saturday Vigil

9:30am Sunday

Confessions

Saturday: 9:00am & 9:45am
& 5:45pm

Sunday: 9:15am

Eucharistic Adoration

Saturdays 9:45am

Baptisms

Last Sunday of the month.
Please contact our office.

Other Sacraments

Please contact the parish
office or see our website
<https://shkew.org.au>

**PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN
HOME WITH YOU**



**Make an online
donation**

Parish music licence no. A-739406

NOTE

Congratulations!

**Saturday 28 June is 11th Anniversary of the
Priestly Ordination of Fr Michael Kong!**

The roof of our church will be fixed on July 7 and July 8.
Once again, thank you for your generous contributions to
our Parish!

Peter's Pence Appeal

Support Pope Leo's mission through the Peter's Pence
appeal, the Vatican fundraiser that started in Medieval
times and continues today. This Sunday 29 June, the Feast
of Saints Peter and Paul, Catholics around Australia are
being encouraged to give to the appeal, which supports a
range of charities undertaking projects in 76 countries.

To donate, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va

We are excited to share with you that we will have
a brand new format for our weekly Parish Bulletin
starting July!

We Welcome Newly Baptised Children

- Lila Rose Alexander

- Jessica Anne Alexander

1st Collection: To maintain parish house & support Fr Michael

BSB: 083 347 Account #: 663 832 561 Reference: Full name

2nd Collection: For the running of and upkeep of the Church

BSB: 083 347 Account #: 682 606 383 Reference: Full name

We extend our heartfelt thanks for your generous contributions to
our parish. For The Most Holy Trinity, we received **\$2,290.62** in
donations. As we move towards meeting our everyday running
costs of approximately \$4,000 per week, please help us keep this
beautiful church and parish up and running. Thank you for your
generous support.

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish, Kew

Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles - Year C, 29th of June 2025



Parish Administrator: Fr Michael Kong

Parish Secretary: Niccolo Alvendia

**Parish Office, 116 Cotham Road, Kew
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Challenges come to us in myriads of ways and often leave us incapacitated, with little possibility of success. Instinctively, under such circumstances, we seek the help of family members, relatives, friends, the community, or anyone we believe has the capacity and means to offer the support and the presence we need.

In the face of some challenges, we seek divine support through prayer, knowing God to be a sure source of strength and hope. Trusting in God comes from a deep feeling of confidence that the challenges of life cannot defeat or broken you, but rather that you will emerge from them victorious. The lives of Peter and Paul revealed that trusting in God, especially in times of adversity, brings victory and glory, even if not on the world's terms.

Peter was deeply dedicated to fishing as an occupation. After toiling all night without success, he still obeys Jesus' command to lower his net into the deep, revealing by his humility and openness to the new possibilities. Peter's exemplary dedication is in full display in the reading from John, when he responds to Jesus' query "do you love me more than these things?" with fidelity. In the context of Jesus' questions, "these things" includes Peter's occupation as a fisherman.

Peter delivered an eloquent Pentecost sermon on the fulfillment of God's plan in the world through Jesus Christ, defending his belief in Jesus Christ's role in God's plan before the religious and political leaders. For this reason, he became the target of persecution and imprisonment, as we read in Acts today. The stories of Peter's persecution and imprisonment, however, reveal the presence and providential care of God in the lives of God's children. After his miraculous escape from Herod's murderous intention, St. Peter attests to the handiwork of God, saying: "now I know for certain that the Lord sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod."

Similarly, Paul's experience on the road to Damascus changed his life, filling him with conviction about God's presence in the world through Jesus. Thereafter, he dedicated his life to preaching about the reconciling presence of God in the world through the death of Christ. He traversed the Roman empire drawing men and women, rich and poor, slave and free, Jew and Greek into the experience of God's gratuitous gift of divine grace through Christ (Gal 3:28).

He recounts his experiences of persecution, imprisonment, and threats from both Greeks and Jews, speaking of his life as a sacrifice, in an apparent comparison with the sacrificial life of Christ. But unlike Christ, he speaks about competing well in the race to the finished lane, which buttresses his understanding of salvation as a reward. He also identifies his reward as a crown of glory because he has been justly judged by the Lord. Like Peter, Paul experienced the presence and providential care of God in moments of persecution. He recounts his miraculous escape from the "lion's mouth" (a veiled allusion to the Roman imperial leadership) and from every evil threat to his ministry. Confidently, amid adversity, Paul consoles himself with the hope of sharing in the kingdom of God.

The lives of Peter and Paul reveal the truth that the reward of a crown is greater than the trials of the cross, because God is by our side. Hence the saying: if God is for us, nothing can be against us. These stories remind us that the children of God are victors, they are conquerors; they triumph over uncertainties because God's grace reigns in their lives.

First Reading**Acts 12:1-11**

King Herod started persecuting certain members of the Church. He beheaded James the brother of John, and when he saw that this pleased the Jews he decided to arrest Peter as well. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread, and he put Peter in prison, assigning four squads of four soldiers each to guard him in turns. Herod meant to try Peter in public after the end of Passover week. All the time Peter was under guard the Church prayed to God for him unremittently.

On the night before Herod was to try him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, fastened with double chains, while guards kept watch at the main entrance to the prison. Then suddenly the angel of the Lord stood there, and the cell was filled with light. He tapped Peter on the side and woke him. 'Get up!' he said 'Hurry!' – and the chains fell from his hands. The angel then said, 'Put on your belt and sandals.' After he had done this, the angel next said, 'Wrap your cloak round you and follow me.' Peter followed him, but had no idea that what the angel did was all happening in reality; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed through two guard posts one after the other, and reached the iron gate leading to the city. This opened of its own accord; they went through it and had walked the whole length of one street when suddenly the angel left him. It was only then that Peter came to himself. 'Now I know it is all true' he said. 'The Lord really did send his angel and has saved me from Herod and from all that the Jewish people were so certain would happen to me.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 33:2-9**

R. The Lord set me free from all my fears.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
His praise always on my lips;
In the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
From all my terrors he set me free. **R.**

Look towards him and be radiant;
Let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
And rescued him from all his distress. **R.**

The angel of the Lord is encamped
Around those who revere him, to rescue them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **R.**

Second Reading**Tim 4:6-8,17-18**

My life is already being poured away as a libation, and the time has come for me to be gone. I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that Day; and not only to me but to all those who have longed for his Appearing.

The Lord stood by me and gave me power, so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church;
The gates of hell will not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-19

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

Parish Social Media Channels

We are pleased to announce the launch of our parish social media channels under the name **Qthatfaith**.

You can now stay updated with parish news and events through **Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok**. While we continue to provide information through our parish bulletin and website, these social media platforms are designed not only for you, our parishioners, but especially for those living in our local area who may not yet attend church, or who have not yet encountered Jesus. We hope this initiative will become a meaningful step forward in our mission of evangelisation within the wider community.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Please Remember in Prayer

Unwell: Michael Tymms, Anna Tomada, Albert Leung, Elizabeth Rossiter, Sam Siragusa, Sureiya Highman, Didi Paguio and Rosa Cimino

Recently Deceased: Alida Cairo, Rae June Callinan, Joy Curtis, Iolanda Vomero, Timothy Walsh, Sally Lau and Ceasar Paranete Edillor

Anniversaries: Eileen Ginnane, Donald McKinnon, Mary Anne and Angelo Xue-Reb, Daniel Lam, James Pirrie

Mass Intentions:

If you would like to offer Mass for anyone, please let us know in advance.

Upcoming Feasts & Solemnities:

3rd (Thurs) St Thomas

Updates from the School Principal regarding the Sacred Heart Hall:

Late 2024, Sacred Heart School Kew, in consultation with Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) and our Architect (Baldasso Cortese) appointed a Builder (Bowden Corp) to complete our School Hall Building Refurbishment. This was a considerable achievement, as this process began back in early 2020.

Construction began in February this year and it is anticipated the practical completion of works will be (approximately mid-late September 2025).

The following items are included as part of this refurbishment:

- All 6 (GPC) General Purpose Classrooms refurbished
- In between sliding doors and sliding entry doors (of above)
- 2 new internal ramps (ground floor) addressing floor height differences
- 1 new external accessible ramp (south end) and removal of disused external stairwell
- New level 1 external balcony and walkway
- New internal lift (north end)
- New internal stairs (north end)

We remain hopeful that we can have this beautiful building painted (externally), along with some other necessary external touches (within our Heritage Overlay).

Once this project is completed (after we receive the Building Clearance), our Year 3 - 6 children (classes) will move back into this building, hopefully, early Term 4 this year (TBC). Once this move has taken place and as has occurred in the past, the Parish community is most welcome to make use of the School Hall space for their functions/events, as is the Fijian community. It is our hope that our end of year activities and events might be able to take place, allowing everyone to enjoy the new School Hall building space before 2026 comes around!