



No. 481 8/9/26

Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of **Five Islands Christian Ministries** links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa to facilitate church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of the newsletter may be downloaded from www.5icm.org.au/resources.html.

Distribution of this edition: **4,057**

Church of the Week (for Prayer Support)

St John the Evangelist Catholic Church at 24 Jerematta St, Dapto. The Parish Priest is Fr Francis Tran. Sunday Mass times are 7.30am, 9.30am and 6.00pm. The church works alongside the St John's Catholic Primary School to build a thriving community.

Church of the Week (next week)

Congregational Church Wollongong at 33 Market St meets on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. The senior minister is Rev. John Reed. The church has a **Chinese Ministry** that meets Sundays 4:00 pm-5:30 pm and sharing in dinner afterwards. Other ministries include English classes, a community morning tea, and the church is open most weekdays between 11am and 1pm.

News.

1. This week is the **Global Week of Prayer**. The Australian website for **24-7 Prayer** is [here](#). Kiama Anglican Church has set up a prayer room which will continue after the Global Week of Prayer. If your church is not hosting a prayer room for the occasion, please select a time you will be praying in the **5icm Illawarra Christians** virtual prayer room at <https://pray.24-7prayer.com/signup/48f2ab>
2. **Ps Grant Wilson** and his family have been farewelled from **Kiama Baptist Church**. Grant served as a pastor at the church for 19 years.
3. **The Men's Well** meetings at Wollongong Tennis Club will no longer be held due to the lease with Wollongong City Council not being extended. The Men's Well meeting at Northern Illawarra Uniting Church will continue meeting fortnightly on 8 & 22/9/26 at 7pm.
4. Thanksgiving and Farewell Service for **Bishop Peter & Julie Hayward** at Figtree Anglican Church, 4-10 Gibsons Rd Figtree at 2pm Saturday 26th September. [RSVP by 21/9/26](#).

5icm News

1. **Fr George Condookala**, the assistant priest at **Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Kiama**, invited me to attend a healing retreat he is holding at his church (see details below). Fr George was previously the Catholic Chaplain at Wollongong Private and Public Hospitals. I was a member of his team that prayed for the sick.
2. The next edition of **Clearing the Way for Jesus** newsletter will be sent on **Tuesday 22nd September 2026**. If you have any church news items or events to share with Christians of the Illawarra, just email me, advertising is free. To subscribe to this newsletter, or if your email address is changing, please [email me](#) or message me on Facebook.

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc., a registered charity.

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See the [5icm Events page](#) for **Coming** and **Regular Events**.

Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Illawarra Seniors Band rehearsals are on the first Tuesday of each month from 10.30 am at Shellharbour Salvation Army Corps, Cnr Ulster & Leawarra Ave, Barrack Heights.
Next Concert: 10:30 a.m. 15th Sept IRT Marco Polo, 66-70 Waples Rd, Unanderra.

Friday 11th September, Healing Retreat Day

Fr George Condookala of Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Kiama is holding a day of anointing and prayer ministry for the sick. All welcome.

Details: morning session starts at 8:30 am with a Mass and healing anointing in the church at 92 Manning St, Kiama. At 1:30 p.m. Derek Thompson will teach the 5-step Healing Model followed by Fr Patrick Vaughan. BYO lunch in the hall.

Saturday 12th September, Port Kembla Baptist Market Day

Crafts, cakes, clothes shop, Devonshire tea, white Elephant stall and a bbq

Details: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 81 Illawarra St, Port Kembla.

Saturday 12th September, Welcome Spring Concert

Featuring Lamplighters Male Choir. [Download flyer](#).

Details: 2pm Bulli Anglican Church 66 Park Road, Bulli

Cost: \$10 at the door (includes afternoon tea)

Saturday 12th September, Coffee & Dessert Night

Dapto School Scripture fundraiser and information night.

Details: 7pm Dapto Anglican Church

Cost: \$15 per person.

Saturday 19th September, Embracing Neurodiversity

Hosted by Rayne Orange of Southern Women. Other speakers: Natalia Gray, Helen Purdy, Samantha White and Andrea Ellis. [Download flyer](#)

Details: 2pm-4pm Albion Park Uniting Church, cnr Terry & Russell St, Albion Park.

Cost: \$10 (afternoon tea)

Saturday 19th September, Northern Illawarra Scripture Trivia Night

Trivia plus a silent auction to raise funds for scripture teaching.

Details: 6:30 for 7:00 p.m. start at Anchorpoint Church, Level 1, 345 Lawrence Hargrave Dr, cnr Railway Pde, Thirroul.

Cost: \$20 per person, pay at the door. Tables of 8.

Sunday 4th October, St Petka's Fashion Parade

Details: 1pm St Petka Monastery Kembla Grange

Cost: \$70 per person (food and soft drinks included)

Contacts: Meri 0413 892 557, Mica 0490 770 617, Mara 0416 148 243

Friday 9th October, Kiama & District Bible Society Coffee Event

Speaker: Amy Cruickshanks from Bible Society on Bible Translations & Australian Languages. Some riders from *Bike for Bibles Albury Ride* 18-24/4/27.

Details: 10:00 a.m. at Kiama Baptist Church, 1/3 Brown St, Kiama. There will be a collection for Bible Society.

Contact: Barbara Mathie 0411 212 874

Monday 12th October, 5icm AGM

Illawarra Christians interested in supporting church unity are welcome to attend.

Details: 7:00 p.m. 1 O'Gorman St, Albion Park

RSVP: [Derek Thompson](#)

See the [5icm Events page](#) for **more events** and the **Regular Events** list.