Death of former student - Bishop Peter Ingham.

The College was greatly saddened to learn that Peter William Ingham, the fourth bishop of Wollongong, died peacefully in the late evening of 26 April 2024. He was 83 years of age and almost 60 years a priest.

Born in Crows Nest, Sydney, Peter was educated first at St Leonard's Primary School, Naremburn, and attended St Pius X College, from Years 4 to the Intermediate (Year 9) before leaving in 1955 to study for the priesthood at St Columba's Seminary, Springwood, and at St Patrick's Seminary, Manly. He was ordained by the late Cardinal Sir Norman Gilroy in St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, in 1964. Following various parish appointments in the Archdiocese of Sydney, Peter was appointed private secretary to Cardinal James Freeman, and then as the secretary of the Archdiocese of Sydney. He was nominated as a monsignor by Pope John Paul II in 1986, and in July 1993 he was consecrated auxiliary bishop of Sydney. On 25 July 2001, Peter was installed as the fourth bishop of Wollongong serving the diocese for 16 years, retiring in November 2017. Many other appointments and missions followed.

In 2022, Bishop Peter was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia by the late Queen Elizabeth II for "significant service to the Catholic Church in Australia". Bishop Peter remembered his time at St Pius X College very fondly.

He was a valued member of the Old Boy community and visited the College to celebrate Mass on a number of occasions. He was a very personable and humble man – very likeable, with a profound Faith and wisdom. Bishop Peter was truly "a man of God—a man for the people. May his noble soul rest in peace."

Tony Cunneen