



## The Nativity of the Lord

25 December 2016

The readings below are from  
Midnight Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord

### First Reading **Is 9:1-7**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*A son is given to us.*

The people that walked in darkness  
has seen a great light;  
on those who live in a land of deep shadow  
a light has shone.  
You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase;  
they rejoice in your presence  
as men rejoice at harvest time,  
as men are happy when they are dividing the  
spoils.  
For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
these you break as on the day of Midian.

For all the footgear of battle,  
every cloak rolled in blood,  
is burnt  
and consumed by fire.  
For there is a child born for us,  
a son given to us  
and dominion is laid on his shoulders;  
and this is the name they give him:  
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,  
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.  
Wide is his dominion  
in a peace that has no end,  
for the throne of David  
and for his royal power,  
which he establishes and makes secure  
in justice and integrity.  
From this time onwards and for ever,  
the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

### Second Reading **Ti 2:11-14**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

*God's grace has been revealed to all people.*

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

### Gospel **Lk 2:1-14**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Today a saviour has been born for you.*

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census – the first – took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

# Parish Diary This Week!

**DON'T FORGET!**

Monday	10.30am Mass
Tuesday	6.45am Mass 9.00am Mass
Wednesday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass
Thursday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass 6.00pm Legion of Mary (SJW Hall)
Friday	6.45am Mass & 9.15am Mass
Saturday	5.00pm Mass - New Years Eve
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth New Years Day 10.00am Mass - New Years Day

## Parish Priest

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam  
pp@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au  
T (02) 9644 7787

## Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari, Cor Bishop  
T (02)8723 9192  
M 0418 459 431

Fr Mark Spora  
Pastor Emeritus SJW

## Parish Secretary

Marisa Squadrito  
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm  
T (02) 9644 7787

## Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)  
T. 0402071849  
Karim Kassis (Vice Chair)  
T. 0408404130  
Maureen Hynes (Secretary)  
Joji Salar (Asst Secretary),  
Micheline Botham (Social Committee)  
Jenny Michael (Liturgy Committee)  
Pat Kavanagh (Social Justice),  
Jann Rockliff (Hospital Visit),  
Joe Moses, Rhia Victorino, Danny Pavicic, Arthur Doumit and Principals of the Parish Schools.

## Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)  
T (02) 9644 8859  
Micheline Botham (Secretary)  
0422939342,  
Joe Moses, Ingrid Scharenguivel & Brendon Nazareth

## Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park  
T. 96449083  
Principal - Phil Townsend  
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South  
T. 96461434  
Principal - Gai Melville  
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

## Please Note

There will be no Mass at 6.45am on Monday and there will be no Mass at 8.00am next Saturday (New Years eve) and no Novena, Adoration and Confession.

## Mass Intentions

**Recently Deceased:** Raymond "Bong" Amores, Matta Nhuong Thi Duong

**Deceased:** Ted Duffy, Gary Williams

**Deceased members and friends of :** Ross & Mitchell Families, Erwin & O'Dwyer Families, Amores & Domingo Families, Eisenhuth & Williams Families

## "Family that pray together stay together"

### PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel

at the Torkamani home,  
14 Pine Rd, Auburn

Please join them any evening at 7.00pm  
for the Rosary

To host the Pilgrim Statue from St Peter Chanel  
contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

### ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker

To host the Rosary Statue from St Joseph the Worker  
contact the Legion of Mary.



Imagine, just before Christmas, an honest politician, a generous lawyer and Santa Claus were riding in the elevator of a very posh hotel. Just before the doors opened they all noticed a \$20 bill lying on the floor.

Which one picked it up?

Santa of course, because the other two don't exist!



## Christmas lunch thank you

This is the 4th year our parish has been holding a Christmas Day luncheon. This event brings joy to many who attend and are involved and truly captures the spirit of the season. Many thanks to Arthur Doumit and team and all those who helped plan, advertise and set up and decorate the hall. We also thank all those who generously donated food and drinks for this event. The Christmas luncheon relies on many volunteers for whom we are extremely grateful.

**Alcohol and Drug Information Service:** (Confidential) 02 9361 8000

**Spiritual Retreats:** Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - [www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats](http://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats)

Carmelites Varroville - [www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au)

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby - [www.divineretreatcentre.org.au](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org.au)

**Sara's place:** For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit [www.sarasplace.org.au](http://www.sarasplace.org.au) Ph: 96998190

# Happy Christmas!

## Emmanuel, Our God Is With Us

Generosity is the mark of Christmas. The generous donations of so many parishioners and other volunteers, of their time as well as various items makes our annual Christmas Luncheon possible. Many of our parishioners have been volunteers in war torn South Sudan, Myanmar and such other demanding places doing works of charity. These volunteers are not seeking any approval from others other than the grace of God. Though not all of these charities are done during the Christmas season, they all reflect the Christmas Spirit; because God has been generous with us that he gave his only son to live with us. No amount of gifts can match with God's self-giving for us. Therefore I rejoice as much as you do that our God is with us – Emmanuel.



The joy is always contagious. The song of joy the angels sang to the shepherds in and around Bethlehem could not be contained to the anonymity of the valley of whispers – the valley of shepherds. The good news of Our God coming down to live with human beings reached the wise men from the East and eventually the whole world. Now the whole world celebrates the birth of Jesus, Christmas. Now we celebrate the birth of God in our own lives. In our hopes, dreams as well as our downs and disasters we find strength and reason to celebrate spreading joy to the world because we know our God is with us. I wish you all the peace of and joy of Our God being with us, Emmanuel.



Marisa Squadrito

### Marisa Moving on

Marisa has been our parish secretary since June 2014. She has been an efficient Secretary. Now she has been appointed Family Educator at All Hallows Five Dock, starting in January. Therefore she will be leaving Berala in January. In addition to being Parish Secretary, she has been coordinating the Sacramental team and making sure there has been a smooth transition of the Program from School based to Parish based. The parish and I particularly will miss her. I wish her best wishes with her new appointment.



Lea Baldoria

Lea Baldoria will take over the position of Secretary in January. Lea comes with great experience and expertise in secretarial positions. The parish welcomes her and wishes her all the best.

Fr Thomas



### Happy Birthday Lina!

Lina Jarczewski has been part of the St Peter Chanel and St Joseph parish family since 1960. She has been an active member in various roles including being part of the God's Housekeepers team.

Lina will celebrate her 90th birthday on Thursday 29 December. We congratulate her and wish her an abundance of God's blessings on her special day.

**The Catholic Parish of  
St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala**

Invite all who wish  
to share the joy of Christmas  
with others  
to a Christmas Lunch  
Food and drink provided  
Date: 25 December 2016  
Place: Jubilee Hall, 64 Kingsland Rd Berala  
Time: 11am to 3pm

### Parish Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 26th of December and will reopen on Tuesday, 3rd of January.

## Parish Carols

The first outdoor carols of Berala Parish was received enthusiastically by the parishioners. It was amazing to see the lawns beside SPC Church full of smiling faces and joyous singing. Our Parish Choir with Maureen as their leader has been practicing for many weeks and it did pay off. The Samoan Choir with musician Paul Fuiava as their leader presented wonderful carol singing. Sound Engineering was done by Robert Weaver, Jenny Michael did the Liturgical Planning and the role of MC. Maria Simeone, Karim Kassis, and Micheline Botham proclaimed the Word of God announcing the Christmas joy. There were a lot of other people helping with setting up the chairs and other arrangements, decorations, and sale of Reflection Books and candles. To all, I wish to say 'thank you for a job very well done.' Let us consider this as a start of a tradition of carols in our parish.

*Fr Thomas*



## Envelope Contributions

Due to recent NSW State Government legislative changes that take effect from 1 January 2017 **it will not be possible to provide tax deductibility on Planned Giving donations made after 31 December 2016.** A tax deductible receipt will however be provided **at the end of the current financial year** for any contributions made for the period 1 July to 31 December 2016.

The Parish Finance Committee will be writing to each parishioner who is currently contributing to the Parish Planned Giving and who is seeking tax deductibility to provide them with further information. Tax deductibility will still be available for contributions to the Charitable Works Fund and Priests Retirement Fund appeals.

## Watch Found

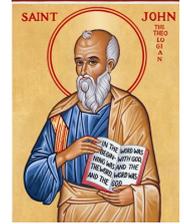
A lost watch is found in the church grounds. Contact Fr Thomas to claim it back.

## Feasts of the Week



**26 December - St Stephen** Died in Jerusalem about 35. The feast of Stephen has been celebrated on this day since the fourth century. A Greek-speaking Jew, one of seven appointed by the apostles for special service (diakonia). Died confessing Christ and seeking divine mercy for those who were stoning him. Named in the Roman Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I). Remembered for preaching with wisdom and the Spirit (Acts 6:10), as one "full of grace and power" who "did great wonders and signs among the people" (Acts 6:8).

**27 December - St John** First-century Galilean fisherman, son of Zebedee, who, with his brother James, left their nets to follow Jesus. With Peter, these "sons of thunder" form an inner group among the twelve. Probably the "disciple whom Jesus loved" of the Fourth Gospel and, according to ancient tradition, the author of this Gospel and also of three letters and the book of Revelation. Remembered for his contemplative reflection on the life and death of Jesus and for his emphasis on Christian love.



**28 December - Holy Innocents** In an attempt to kill the child Jesus, Herod ordered the massacre of all male children, two years old and under, in and around Bethlehem. The Holy Innocents have been honoured as martyrs for Christ since the fourth century and their feast has been celebrated on this day since the sixth century. In remembering them, the Church laments the suffering and death of children everywhere and honours all who die in innocence.



**30 December - The Holy Family of Jesus Mary & Joseph** This feast was established as part of the Christmas season in 1921 following promotion of the cult in the nineteenth century; it was linked to the octave of Christmas in 1969. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, itself subject to the difficulties and social pressures of its time, is offered as a model for Christian family life today



**1 January - Mary the Holy Mother of God** Venerated as Mother of God from ancient times, the Virgin Mary was acclaimed Theotokos (God-bearer) in 431 by the Council of Ephesus, and commemorated on this day in Rome in the seventh century. Soon eclipsed by other feasts of Mary. Restored to the liturgical calendar in 1931, and to this day in 1969. Celebrates Mary's role in the mystery of the incarnation, enriches the octave of Christmas with a Marian perspective, and provides a solemn beginning to the New Year.



## St Peter Chanel & St Joseph the Worker Rosters - Next Week

1 JANUARY 2017		MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD		
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)	
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER	
ORGANIST	Maureen HYNES		SAMOAN	
CANTOR	C HYNES & PARISH CHOIR		CHOIR	
LECTOR/S	<b>NEW YEARS EVE</b> <b>Volunteers needed for</b> <b>all ministries</b> <b>Please contact the parish</b> <b>office if you are available</b>	Ken HARTMAN	Micheline BOTHAM	
COMMENTATOR		Joe MOSES	Pam SNELL	
GIFTS		Maris MARSH	Monica SMITH	
SP. MINISTER			Robert JAKSIC Family	
SP. MINISTER			Karen NGUYEN	
CHURCH SHOP			Anna MANGANARO	
GREETERS			Jenny MICHAEL	
HOSPITALITY			Joe MOSES	A FACER, P KAVANAGH
				A BOUDAHER
<b>HOSPITAL VISITATION SAT</b> :A Hehea & B Hawthorn		<b>ALTAR:</b> Group 3 Helen Le Mottee; Jann Rockliff		
<b>HOSPITAL COMMUNION SUN:</b> B & C Kensey		<b>COUNTERS:</b> Group 1 John Le Mottee; John Shanley		
<b>CLEANERS - SPC:</b> N & G Sitchon <b>SJW:</b> Maronite Group		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY:</b> School Holidays		

### Planned Giving Request Form

Your financial contribution to the Planned Giving of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the financial year you will receive a receipt for your contributions. To join the Planned Giving Program fill this form, tear this part off and place it in the Sunday Collection plate

Your Name: .....

Telephone No .....Email .....

Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent for completion)

## Antiphons & Readings Christmas Vigil Mass

### Entrance Antiphon:

Today you will know that the Lord will come, and he will save us,  
and in the morning you will see his glory.

### Responsorial Psalm:

**R.** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord  
'I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
I will establish your dynasty for ever  
and set up your throne through all ages.' **R.**  
Happy the people who acclaim such a king,  
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,  
who find their joy every day in your name,  
who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R.**

'He will say to me: "You are my father,  
my God, the rock who saves me."  
I will keep my love for him always;  
for him my covenant shall endure.' **R.**

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
Tomorrow the wickedness of the earth will be  
destroyed:  
the Saviour of the world will be our king  
**Alleluia!**

### Communion Antiphon:

The glory of the Lord will be revealed,  
and all flesh will see the salvation of our God

### Today's Readings

Is 62:1-5 ; Acts 13:16-17. 22-25; Mt 1:1-25

## Antiphons & Readings Christmas Midnight Mass

### Entrance Antiphon:

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.  
It is I who have begotten you this day

### Responsorial Psalm:

**R** Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.  
O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name **R.**  
Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**  
Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,

all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
at the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
he comes to rule the earth **R.**

With justice he will rule the world,  
he will judge the peoples with his truth. **R.**

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
Good News and great joy to all the world:  
today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord  
**Alleluia!**

### Communion Antiphon:

The Word became flesh, and we have seen his glory

### Today's Readings

Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

## Antiphons & Readings Christmas Day Mass

### Entrance Antiphon:

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us;  
his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,  
and his name will be called Messenger of great  
counsel

### Responsorial Psalm:

**R** All the ends of the earth have seen the saving  
power of God .  
Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation **R.**  
The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel. **R.**  
All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.

Shout to the Lord all the earth,  
ring out your joy **R.**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp,  
with the sound of music.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
acclaim the King, the Lord. **R.**

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
A holy day has dawned upon us.  
Come you nations and adore the Lord.  
Today a great light has come upon the earth  
**Alleluia!**

### Communion Antiphon:

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of  
our God

### Today's Readings

Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

### Holy Mass at Berala

Monday to Friday 6.45am

Wednesday to Friday 9.15am

Saturday 8.00am

Saturday 9.00am Adoration Novena.

### Holy Mass at Auburn South

Tuesday 9.00am (school term only)

### Lord's Day Mass Berala

Saturday 5.00PM (Vigil)

Sunday 10.00AM

### Lord's Day Mass Auburn South

Sunday 8.00AM

### Reconciliation at Berala

Saturday 9.00AM - 10.00AM.

Or contact Parish Office for any other  
time.

For Baptisms, Weddings, Bible Study  
and Catholic Enquiry, please contact  
Fr Thomas or the parish office