



ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA

6th Sunday of Easter—Year A

21 May 2017

First Reading

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Second Reading

1 Pt 3:15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Gospel

Jn 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If you love me you will keep my commandments. I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you. In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me, because I live and you will live. On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you. Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.’

from the perspective

the disciples

The words of Jesus in this gospel passage were addressed to the disciples at the Last Supper. They had almost no inclination of what was about to befall them, nor the heart-wrenching loss that they would feel. Yet Jesus tried to prepare them and reassure them that they would not be abandoned by him. In the days after his death, the disciples struggled to remember these words and they were caught up by despair. Even once they had witnessed the Risen Lord, he told them that he would again be leaving them. They must have been so confused and afraid.

Living the gospel

Live in love

Throughout the gospel of John, we are reminded of the enduring relationship between Jesus and the Father. A number of times, Jesus announces that he and the Father are one. In today's passage, Jesus also says to the disciples that they can share in this relationship of love. When Jesus speaks about anyone who 'loves' him, he speaks about anyone who lives by his message and seeks to be like him. Anyone who does that will share in the love that exists between the Father and the Son. That invitation is open for each of us today as well.

gospel focus

Paraclete

The Greek word, *paraklētōs*, is translated into a number of different terms in English translations of the gospel. Its technical use was for a lawyer or attorney. However, its use in scripture is like the broader meaning of advocate that we use today: someone who stands up for another; someone who speaks up for another; someone who intercedes on behalf of another. An advocate is one who lends strength and support to someone who is disempowered. That is exactly what Jesus did for many people during his ministry and it is also what the Holy Spirit is sent to do.

Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141, Ph: 96447787 E: info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au, facebook: [stpeterstjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterstjoseph)

Parish Diary This Week!

REMINDER!

Confirmation
Saturday, 27 May
5.00pm
SPC Church

Monday	6.45am Mass
Tuesday	6.45am Mass
Wednesday	6.45am Mass—Mary Help of Christians Feast 9.15am Mass—Mary Help of Christians Feast 12.00pm Mass—Mary Help of Christians Feast (SJW)
Thursday	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass 7.00pm Psalmist Practice and 7.30pm Parish Choir Practice (8 Wallace St, Sefton) 7.30pm Rosary Novena (50 St Johns Road, Auburn)
Friday	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass 12.30pm Pastoral Care of Sick Meeting (St Joseph's House)
Saturday	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary 9.00am Novena Adoration Confession 5.00pm Sunday Vigil Mass—Confirmation
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth 10.00am Mass

Parish Priest

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

Priest in Residence

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

Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
 Tues to Fri 9am -3pm
 T (02) 9644 7787

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Tommy Francisco
 tommy.bolin.francisco@gmail.com

Pastoral Relations Officer

Mariana Tannous

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
 Karim Kassis (Vice Chair)
 T. 0402071849
 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, Arthur
 Doumit (SVDP) 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 (Finance Controller)

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

Mass Intentions

Deceased: Tom 'Baby' Palaganas, Joe Cicuto, Giovanni Cicuto, Amabile Cicuto, Albino Bertuzzi, Caterina Bertuzzi, Mary Gabrielle,

Anniversary: Josef Starc, Basilisa Yburan Alinson, Joseph Mai, Mary Mai, Alagudurai Allgiya,

Deceased members and friends of : Erwin & O'Dwyer Families, Ross & Mitchell Families, Duong Family

Centenary of Fatima

"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE & ROSARY PRAYER

On this 100th year of Fatima apparition you are invited to
Pray Rosary with the Bergstedt Family
and Fr Thomas on Thursday at 7.30 PM
at 50 St Johns Road, Auburn

Any other day of the week you are invited to pray with the
Bergstedt family at 7.30pm

To host the Pilgrim Statue and Rosary prayer please contact
Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.



Darlene was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally she spoke up, 'Grandpa, did God make you?' 'Yes, darling,' he answered, 'God made me a long time ago.' 'Oh,' Darlene paused, 'Grandpa, did God make me too?' 'Yes, indeed, poppet,' he said, 'God made you just a little while ago.' Feeling their respective faces again, Darlene observed, 'God's getting better at it, isn't he?'



Alcohol & Drug Information Service: (Confidential) 02 9361 8000 **CatholicCare:** Ph:13 18 19

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats Ph: 4236 0533

Carmelites Varroville - www.carmeliteretreats.com.au Ph: 8795 3400

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby - www.divineretreatcentre.org.au Ph: 4372 1598

Sara's Place: For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 9699 8190

Be Filled with Holy Spirit



On Saturday, 27 May, 20 young people will be Confirmed and Anointed with Chrism by Bishop Tony Randazzo at St Peter Chanel Church. That means these 20 young people will be completing their initiation in the Body of Christ which was started at their baptism. The tradition of bishop laying hands on the baptised people invoking Holy Spirit is a tradition that goes back to the Apostolic times. In the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 8:14-17) we read, “When the Apostles heard that Samaria had accepted the Word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for they as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. They laid hands on them, and they received Holy Spirit.”.

What happens when the baptised people are filled with Holy Spirit through the Laying of Hands by the bishop? The Acts of the Apostles tells us what happened in the early church when the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. Christians on whom the apostles laid their hands got courage to preach the Good News of Christ’s resurrection even in the face of adversities. Their preaching was so powerful that miracles were happening in the early communities. Such miracles still happen, and you may have stories of the power of the Holy Spirit.

We too can work miracles these days if we, as people filled with Holy Spirit through Confirmation, take up our baptismal call to various ministries seriously. We need to be more than passive attendees of the Holy Mass. Every parishioner should think seriously how their God given talents and time could be utilised in the ministry and mission of the Church. Come along to the Pastoral Planning meeting and help each other to be more effective in our Christian ministry. In gratitude to God, let us use our God given gifts of time and talent find its way into the mission and ministry of the parish.

Corbishop Michael Berbari



Monsignor Michael Berbari has been a priest for 50 years. At the age of 27 years he was ordained a priest in Syrian Catholic Rite by bishop Peter Habra on 26 March 1967, in his hometown Cairo, Egypt. Later in 1984 he was ordained Corbishop by bishop Davood Moosa. The following year he was appointed as the Patriarchal Vicar for Syrian Catholics in Australia and New Zealand. Thus he came to Australia in July 1985 and was offered residence in Berala parish, which he continues to cherish as his home till today.

Though there were some resistance initially from the part of the parishioners to accept a migrant priest, soon he proved himself very amicable. The parish has been profiting from his presence and ministry for last 32 years.

In addition to his own community, Syrian Catholics, he was also pastor for Coptic Catholics until they got their own pastor. With his knowledge of Italian and French he used to provide Mass for various language groups. Berala Parish has special relevance to Mgr Michael, and Syrian Catholic Community. Until Mgr Michael collected enough fund and built church for the community at Burwood in 1994, St Peter Chanel Church was shared with the Community for their Mass.

Though born and brought up as Maronite Catholic, he did his seminary formation in Coptic Catholic Seminary in Egypt and ordained a priest for Syrian Catholic Church and has been doing daily Mass at the Latin Catholic parish of Berala, his priesthood is not just a 50 year old experience, but rich with various traditions.

We pray the best of God’s blessings on Corbishop Michael Berbari on this occasion of his sacerdotal golden jubilee.

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 NoEmail

Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

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

Our Lady Help of Christians



Wednesday, 24 May is the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. It is a solemn feast. There will be 3 Masses in our parish – 6.45 AM, 9.15 AM and 12 noon. The noon Mass will be at St Joseph the Worker Church.

The feast day to Mary Help of Christians has been celebrated in Australia since 1844 but the history to this day dates back to the start of the 1800's. Napoleon Bonaparte had jailed Pius VI who died in jail. When Pope Pius VII was elected he too was jailed by Bonaparte, who kept him prisoner at Fontainbleau. The Holy Father vowed to God that if he were restored to the Roman See, he would institute a special feast in honour of Mary. The military eventually forced Bonaparte to release the Pope and on 24 May 1814, Pius VII returned in triumph to Rome.

Twelve months later the Pope decreed that the feast of Mary Help of Christians be kept on 24 May. The infant church in Australia had a special reason for turning to Mary. No priests were sent to the colony in its early days and Mass was not allowed except for one brief year until 1820. It was largely the Rosary in those early days that kept the faith alive.

Catholic Australia remained faithful to Mary and was the first nation to choose her under the title Help of Christians, as principal Patroness.

St Mary's Cathedral was dedicated in her honour by the Irish pioneer priest, Fr John Therry, who arrived in Sydney in 1820 and assumed responsibility for the planning and initial construction of the Cathedral. When Australia became the first country to have Mary Help of Christians as Patroness, it became the first country to have a mother-cathedral under the same title.

The statue of Mary, Help of Christians, stands in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart in the Cathedral.

The Church has traditionally focussed on two aspects of Our Lady's help on this feast day.

Firstly, upon the role of Our Lady's intercession in the fight against sin the life of a believer.

Secondly, Our Lady is one who assists Christians as a community, through her intercession, in fighting against anti-Christian forces.

In the Opening Prayer for Our Lady Help of Christians, the Church prays that through Our Lady's intercession God will "grant wisdom to our leaders and integrity to our citizens", so that "under her protection Australia may be granted harmony, justice and peace".



Singing Practice for Confirmation 2017 (27 May 5pm Mass)

4pm to 6pm on Sunday 21 May in St Peter Chanel Church. We would love you to join us in song and add to the joy of the occasion!

Last Confirmation Rehearsal - Today (Sunday 21st) at 11am in St Peter Chanel Church. Please be on time so that we can begin quickly and make sure everyone is ready and knows what to do.

Monday—St Rita of Cascia



Augustiniannun, also called Margarita. She was born in Roccaporena, near Spoleto, Italy, in 1381, and expressed from an early age the desire to become a nun. Her elderly parents insisted that she be married at the age of twelve to a man described in accounts of her life as cruel and harsh. She spent eighteen extremely unhappy years, had

two sons, and was finally widowed when her husband was killed in a brawl. Both sons also died, and Rita, still anxious to become a nun, tried unsuccessfully to enter the Augustinians in their convent at Cascia. She was refused because she was a widow and because of the requirement that all sisters should be virgins. Finally, in 1413, the order gave her entry, and she earned fame for her austerity, devotion to prayer, and charity. In the midst of chronic illnesses, she received visions and wounds on her forehead which resembled the crown of thorns. She died on May 22 at Cascia, and many miracles were reported instantly. Canonized in 1900, she is honored in Spain as La Santa de los Impossibles and elsewhere as a patron saint of hopeless causes.

Feasts & Memorials of the Week

Friday—St Philip Neri

St Philip Neri was born in Florence in 1515. His mother died when he was young and he was educated at a Dominican convent. In 1533 he went to Rome and lived as a hermit for two years, then spent a further three years studying theology and philosophy. He gave up his studies and sold his books and encouraged his friends to join him in working for the sick and visiting the churches of Rome. St Philip was ordained a



priest in 1551 and he spent many long hours hearing people's confessions. He founded the Congregation of the Oratory, which gave its name to the musical form 'Oratorio', which developed from their services. St Philip was known as a happy man, who enjoyed playing the occasional practical joke, but was also regarded as a living saint by those who knew him.

CFW Pastoral Appeal

We are now on our third week of CFW Pastoral Appeal and would like to thank everyone in our parish who have supported the past couple of weekend's appeal!

We are still a long way from reaching our quota of \$5,100 and our Parish relies on your generosity to get closer to accomplishing the goal.

The CFW Appeal will continue to be collected this weekend. **Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.**

There is no third collection for CFW. You may use CFW envelopes to make your donation and place it in either first or second collection plate.

Confirmation Retreat



Bishop Anthony Randazzo with the CONFIRMATION candidates during their all day retreat at St. Peter Chanel in preparation for their sacrament next week.

Bishop Tony explained the symbolism of his crozier, being a shepherd, the call beyond the empowerment of the chrism they will receive and their role as young adults in the faith community.

Please include them in your prayers.

Other Notices

CatholicCare: Supporting the people of Sydney for 75 years - Interested in training to care for clients needing support in their own home? Government support is available for eligible applicants. Please call us to find out more on **13 18 19** CatholicCare Sydney, email connect@catholiccare.org or visit www.catholiccare.org.

St John's Regional Girls High School Reunion (Staff & Students) - 12th August from 6pm-12am at the Westella Renaissance, 3 New East Street, Lidcombe, Cost \$50, **RSVP Before 30th June 2017**. Contact Maria 0452 552457, Maria 0414 656900 or Joanne 0433 203433 for RSVP or more information.

Faith Formation at St Joseph Catholic Parish Hall, Rockdale - (Entrance on the right side of the gate of the church) Walz St, Rockdale NSW. Speakers are RON MALDIGRI a well known Lay Evangelist with powerful gift of Prophecy. BRIAN WELSH a Lay Evangelist with powerful gift of Preaching. Saturday, 27 May 2017 from 9.00am-5.00pm Morning and afternoon tea and lunch SERVED FREE. Booking is essential for catering purposes Please contact for booking: Helen Aldana: 02 8964 7034/0433 455 114 or Ida Krisnadi 0416 464 221. Sponsored by Jesus Light of the World Communities Rockdale NSW. E: jlowpcom@gmail.com or www.jlowcom.org.

St Scholastica's College, Glebe Point is holding its annual re-union at the College on **Sunday, 28 May 2017** commencing with Mass in the Chapel at 12 noon followed by a light lunch. All ex-students are warmly invited to attend. For further information please contact Karen Debenham (Gillespie) on **(02) 9460 4462** or **0419 999 084** or email karendebenham@optusnet.com.au.

Healing After Abortion: Rachel's Vineyard ministries offers support through a retreat for all who suffer grief and loss after an abortion. Next retreat is 25 – 27 August. Call: **0400 092 555** or email: info@rachelsvineyard.org.au or visit: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au

Christianity across the Ages - A Journey of Faith through the Evolution of Christian liturgy and its Music. A presentation of amazingly unique slides combined with related story-telling by Marie Therese Levey rsj - music teacher, author, specialist in medieval plainchant, collector of digital copies of manuscripts from across the centuries. Where: St Joseph's Regional Centre 5 Alexandra Ave, Croydon 2132. When: 9am-12midday **Friday June 2**. Entry by voluntary donation. Bookings essential: RSVP by May 26 Email marie.levy@sosj.org.au

Antiphons & Readings

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **(R)**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!' Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men. **(R)**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod. Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever by his might. **(R)**

4. Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul: Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me. **(R)**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 1:1-11
Eph 1:17-23
Mt 28:16-20



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
(during 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 the parish office for any other time.

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

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

28 MAY 2017		THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
ORGANIST	Kate PARISH		SAMOAN
CANTOR	S EAMIGUEL & PARISH CHOIR		YOUTH
LECTOR/S	CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES	Karim KASSIS	Sharon IACONO
		Michael Chow	Maureen HYNES
COMMENTATOR		Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Monica SMITH
GIFTS	Helen Le MOTTEE		CHILDREN'S LITURGY
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Mai VU
SP. MINISTER	Sam DUCH		
CHURCH SHOP	Adele MELER		
GREETERS	Jann ROCKLIFF & Joyce ZHANG & SPC Children	Loutoa OLIE	R & M VICTORINO
HOSPITALITY		Monica Nazareth	Christina ESCOBAR
Hospital Visitation Sat: J Le Motte & D Gooch		Altar: Group 4 A Yip; M Botham	
Hospital Communion Sun: C & K Scully			
Cleaners SPC: Lawrence & Phil Lopez		Children's liturgy: Vinita Nazareth	
Saturday		27 MAY	
LECTOR FOR MASS		Christine KENSEY	

Daily Prayers and Scripture on the Parish Web

Our Parish Website now includes a new section called "Liturgy Today" on our home page. This is a great resource to explore the liturgy of the day including Readings of the Mass of the day, morning, noon and evening prayers, and Office of Readings. Please visit <http://http://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/> and click on the link under "Liturgy Today".