



ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Year A
16 July 2017



First Reading

Is 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Second Reading

Rom 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

Gospel

Mt 13:1-9

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Historical CONTEXT

Matthew's community

The gospel of Matthew is written at a time and particular context in which the community audience were feeling the effects of having been ostracised from the Jewish community. They were confounded by the fact that other Jews could not accept the reality of the Jesus message as they had. This parable, and the accompanying conversation with the disciples in which they are blessed for their understanding, would have been a comfort for the Matthew community. Although they were frustrated, they were being told through this story that not everyone is ready to hear the message that they had heard and accepted.

Living the GOSPEL

Scatter that seed!

The teaching of the parable of the sower is as true for us today as it was in its original context. The word of the Kingdom continues to fall on people who are at various stages of readiness to receive it. What Jesus suggests to his disciples – and to us – is that the 'good soil' can't always be predicted. Jesus doesn't tell his disciples to only sow the word in people who are receptive. Rather, he wants them – and us – to scatter the word everywhere and to rejoice when it does find good soil and yields a rich harvest.

Scriptural CONTEXT

A Parable Chapter

The gospel of Matthew is nothing if not a well-crafted and highly structured piece of writing. Throughout the gospel there are five major 'discourses' or teachings. Chapter 13, which consists entirely of a collection of parables, is the central discourse of the five. It is the pivotal point of the entire gospel. The nature of the parables indicates that the message of Jesus has not been universally accepted and the parables present metaphors about the consequences for those who do and do not accept the message of Jesus about the reign of God.

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

Parish Diary This Week!

Parish Priest

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Priest in Residence

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Parish Secretary

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Pastoral Co-ordinator

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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

Monday	6.45am Mass
Tuesday	6.45am Mass
Wednesday	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass
Thursday	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass 7.00pm Psalmist & 7.30pm Parish Choir Practice (8 Wallace St, Sefton)
Friday	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass—Grandparents' Day 2.00pm Sacrament Meeting
Saturday	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary 9.00am Novena Adoration Confession 5.00pm Sunday Vigil Mass
Sunday	8.00am Mass (SJW) 10.00am Mass

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased: Maria Camua Martin, Kenneth Fleeton, Marinko Buterin, June Smith

Deceased: Daniel Latorre, Joseph Portelli, Sylvia Portelli, Girgis Aboumelhem, Enmaza Aboumelhem, Peter Michael, Karime Michael, Joan Buefari, Josie Bittar

Anniversary: Glenn Ford, Paul Ford, Perseveranda Q Mappatao, Marie-Lise Edwards, Vengela D., Peter Oh

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

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE

FROM ST PETER CHANEL

at the Hazboune Home
6 Larcombe Street, Berala

Please join them any evening at 7.30pm for the Rosary.

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

FROM ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

will be at the Kavanagh Home.

To join or host the Rosary Statue from St Joseph the Worker contact the Legion of Mary on 9646 1756.

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 **Healing After Abortion:** 0400 092 555

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

Do Not Hold Back Exuberance

Coming together as a community to celebrate the Parish Day is something you and I cherish very much. This is the fourth year we are celebrating Parish Day. Like a good family, we have been working on being a good parish where there is mutual respect and acceptance. As a parish we strive to improve our Christian living. The more we invest in the parish life, the more will be our expectation of the return. As a parish we put in much time and money into improving our ministries. In spite of our Catholic Schools, Catholic Mission, Project Compassion, wonderful Liturgical Music and singing, Bible Study programs, and so much on the Social Media and Parish Bulletin, there is a certain amount of frustration that the returns are not up to the expectation.



The early Christians also were wondering ‘why not all Jews are prepared to accept the teaching of Jesus about the Kingdom of God. To them our Lord told the parable of the sower. Jesus said, though all seeds are of same quality and sown in the same season, not all of them produce the same kind of harvest. The harvest varies according the fertility and circumstance of the soil in which it had fallen. But rejoice that they all have produced harvest according to their capacity, thirty fold, sixty fold, or hundred fold. Our job is only to sow the seed, and we should do it without demanding hundred fold harvest all the time. Therefore you who are missionaries of the Kingdom and are able to appreciate the Word of God should never be tired of spreading the seeds of the Kingdom of God.

St Peter Chanel, our parish patron, understood this challenge too well. He preached the Good News of the Kingdom of God and Jesus Christ to Futuna Islanders for about 3 years without much apparent gain. But it did not discourage him from spreading the seed of the Kingdom there. His relentless mission work in the pacific continued until he was clubbed to death. But the blood of the proto martyr of the pacific, St Peter Chanel, was not shed in vain. The Lord turned the mission field of Futuna one of the hundred fold harvest Gospel mission.

My dear friends the Gospel words and the example of our patron saint are urging us not to waste any opportunity to spread the Word of God and the Good News of the Kingdom. Therefore let us never be shy of celebrating our faith in public and spreading the good news of the Kingdom of God. Let more and more people witness the joy we find in our faith life. Let us not hold back our exuberance as a parish in the Lord and his Gospel.



Fund Raising for Fr George

Fr George Kallumkal supplied for us Masses and Pastoral Care during my Annual Leave the last two years. He has been telling us of the challenges he has in keeping the roof of his parish school in the face of natural disasters. It needs rebuilding to make it safe. There will be a fundraising dinner and raffle to help him. The Fundraising Dinner will be held on Saturday 7 October 2017. Arthur Doumit, Charlie Scully, Evelyn Safadi, Tony Draybi, Jenny Michael, and Ivica Kovac are coordinating the fundraising activities. The dinner tickets are \$150 per head and you can make up table a table of 8 with your friends. One

hundred bricks are also being sold at hundred dollars per brick. A certificate of appreciation will be issued to the donors of brick and their names will be inscribed on plaque and displayed permanently at St Xavier’s School. There will also be raffle tickets with attractive prices made available soon. You are welcome to contact one of coordinators or me to discuss how you could also help with this overseas mission as thanksgiving to God for his goodness to us. ~Fr Thomas

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)

Faith is Personal, But Not Private

At last week's homily, I said, faith is personal, but not private. Since then there have been requests to explain my statement. I will be holding a couple of sessions on 'Why our faith, though personal, is not private'. Biblical foundation for this statement will be exposed. The program will be in October and will be held during weeknights. Let me know if you are interested in attending the talks, by contacting the parish office. ~Fr Thomas

Survey Results

Results of the survey done by Parish 2020 is now collated according to deaneries. To read the collated results of our Deanery (Central Deanery) go <http://www.sydneycatholic.org/parishes/parish2020/survey-2017/> and select Deanery 3 (Central Deanery). A detailed analysis of the data pertaining to our parish will be announced as soon as it is ready.

Attention Ex-Students of St Peter Chanel, Berala - Class of 1977 (YR 10)

You are cordially invited to attend the 40th Anniversary of the Class of '77 from St Peter Chanel, Berala, which will be celebrated on Saturday, 12 August, 2017 at the Balmain Town Hall Hotel in Balmain at 6pm. See Facebook page: 1977 St Peter Chanel Berala Reunion; or phone: Kathy Samuels (Raven) on 0418667379 for further information.

Cardinal George Pell Fund

A number of people are wanting to know where they can contribute to assist Cardinal George Pell with his defence costs. The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney has not established nor is it managing a fund to assist Cardinal Pell. However, there is a fund where people may contribute if they so wish. Funds can be deposited into: Ferdinand Zito and Associates Law Practice Trust Account, Bendigo Bank, BSB: 633-000, Acct No: 1359-51192, Ref Code: LFGP. If you would like to request acknowledgement of the receipt of funds please email fzLFGP@fzlegal.com.au

Playgroup

St Peter Chanel School, Berala runs a fun playgroup session every Thursday from 9.00am to 11.00am in the school Library (during school term). Children's ages range from 12 months to 5 years. Singing, dancing, story-time and craft are some of the activities offered. A great place for mum/carers to catch up with other adults too. Please let friends who do not speak English know about the playgroup.



St Joseph the Worker, Auburn - Come join us with your little ones for some music, singing, storytime, craft and painting. Just bring a piece of fruit to share. All welcome. Cost: Free! Playgroup resumes Thursday 20th July. When: Thursday mornings 9-11am (during school term), Where: St Joseph the Worker, Auburn in the Fr Mark Spora Room.

Planned Giving Envelopes and Receipts

Taxation Receipts for Planned giving and other appeals are now available at the entrance to the church. There are still some Planned Giving Envelopes also awaiting collection. If you wish to join our Planned Giving Program, please fill out the form on the back of the bulletin and place it in the collection plate or call the parish office on 9644 7787.

Feasts & Memorials of the Week



St Apollinaris of Ravenna

St Apollinaris was believed to be born in Antioch, in the Roman province of Syria. Tradition has it that he was the first bishop of Ravenna and was appointed by St Peter himself, after which, he faced constant persecution by Roman authorities. He was eventually arrested, tortured and put to death by the sword, although there is no reliable written information about his life and martyrdom. Apollinaris is a patron saint against epilepsy and gout.



St Mary Magdalene

St Mary of Magdala was a disciple of Christ who was healed by him when he cast out seven devils. She stood at the foot of the cross as Jesus died, and went to the tomb to anoint his body on the morning of Easter Sunday. She was the first witness to Jesus' resurrection when she found his tomb empty. In St Mark's Gospel, it is Mary Magdalene to whom the risen Jesus first appears and further to this, in St John's account, Jesus gives her a message to pass on to his brethren.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** is a *Marriage Enrichment* experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!

Weekend date: 18th to 20th August at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Bookings online at www.wwme.org.au or

Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com

Other Notices

Fundraising Volunteers Needed: The Archdiocese of Sydney values the contribution that the volunteers make but more are needed to assist us from time to time. Please phone Amanda on 1800 753 959 or email fundraising@sydneycatholic.org for more information.

Australia Needs Fatima – Special Fatima 100th Anniversary: Rosary beads and rosary booklet - \$5 (incl postage & handling). To order call 02 9715 2324 or email us at info@fatima.org.au.

The 13th National BBI–ACBC eConference Gospel Leadership in Times of Chaos: The Hope of Pope Francis will be held over the internet on **10 August 2017** - FREE! Supported by the ACBC, BBI – The Australia Institute of Theological Education will host prominent and well respected, international and national speakers to reflect upon the unique leadership Pope Francis is offering communities around the world at a time of momentous socio-political change and uncertainty. Watch this conference live, online, for free. For more information, please visit <http://www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/short-courses/eConference-2017>.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival: This 3-Day festival will be held in Sydney 7-9 December 2017. The event will attract 15,000 young people and is for young people aged Year 9 to 30 years. It's a Catholic Festival a bit like World Youth Day! We look forward to the whole Parish Community being involved. For more information, see our website www.acyf.org.au.

Upcoming Events at Mt Schoenstatt

Retreat for Men of all Ages - Come and be Refreshed.

Theme: Where do you go to be refreshed? How important is this for you? Where is God in this? When: **Friday 4th to Sunday 6th August**, Where: Home of Light, Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, Cost: Just \$150 which includes the retreat, accommodation and all meals. Register: Jim Jankiewicz
mail: mensbranch@schoenstatt.org.au or phone: 0432 487 927

Inviting Young Women (aged 17-30) to a Grace & Silence retreat day.

Aimed to help prepare your heart for your vocation to Marriage and Family, Single Life or Consecrated Life. Theme: Love is Faithful, My "Faithful" Yes, When: **Saturday 5th August and 7th October**, Where: Joseph Kantenich House, Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, Cost: \$30 includes morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and materials. Registration Essential a week prior to each date via email to juliebrcar@gmail.com

Time for Us to prepare our Hearts for Marriage - This retreat could be the best investment for your marriage!

Aim: to complement pre-marriage courses to allow engaged couples to prepare their hearts so that they may give a total, free and faithful "YES" to their future spouses and contribute towards a fruitful marriage. The inputs and times of prayer and silent reflection will foster the preparation of your heart so that you may be a gift to your spouse and receive your spouse as a gift. **When: Friday 6th to Sunday 8th October**, Where: Joseph Kantenich House, Mount Schoenstatt, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa, Investment: \$200/person (includes accommodation, all meals, linen and materials. Register: Sr Julie Brcar - juliebrcar@gmail.com. or 0408 738 334

CatholicCare provides training and support for those interested in a career helping older people remain independent in their own homes. To find out more call 13 18 19 or email connect@catholiccare.org or visit website at www.catholiccare.org. CatholicCare Sydney: Helping families live and thrive.

God Will Provide

A young woman brought her fiancé home to meet her parents. After dinner her mother told her father to find out about the young man. The father invited the fiancé to his study for a talk. 'So what are your plans?' the father asked the young man. 'I am a biblical scholar,' he replied. 'A Biblical scholar. Hmmm,' the father said. 'Admirable, but what will you do to provide a nice house for my daughter to live in?' 'I will study,' the young man replied, 'and God will provide for us.' 'And how will you buy her a beautiful engagement ring, such as she deserves?' asked the father. 'I will concentrate on my studies,' the young man replied, 'God will provide for us.' 'And children?' asked the father. 'How will you support children?' 'Don't worry, sir, God will provide,' replied the fiancé. The conversation proceeded like this, and each time the father questioned, the young idealist insisted that God would provide. Later, the mother asked, 'How did it go, Honey?' The father answered, 'He has no job and no plans, and he thinks I'm God!'



Antiphons & Readings

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

1. You care for the earth, give it water, you fill it with riches. Your river in heaven brims over to provide its grain. **(R.)**
2. And thus you provide for the earth; you drench its furrows, you level it, soften it with showers, you bless its growth. **(R.)**
3. You crown the year with your goodness. Abundance flows in your steps, in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. **(R.)**
4. The hills are girded with joy, the meadows covered with flocks, the valleys are decked with wheat. They shout for joy, yes, they sing. **(R.)**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

Next Week's Readings:

Wis 12:13.16-19

Rom 8:26-27

Mt 13:24-43



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

23 JULY 2017		16 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Robert JAKSIC
ORGAN	Kate PARISH		SAMOAN
CANTOR	S EAMIGUEL & PARISH CHOIR	Joe MOSES	YOUTH
LECTOR/S	Roshan Sebastian	Michael Chow	Carmel MARTIN
	Sharon Sebastian	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Sharon IACONO
COMMENTATOR	Katrina YIP		Rhia VICTORINO
GIFTS	Carol MABON Family		VICTORINO Family
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Hilary NGUYEN
SP. MINISTER	Kay SCULLY		Micheline BOTHAM
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY		Margaret THAM
GREETERS	J ROCKLIFF & J ZHANG	Joe MOSES	A FACER & P KAVANAGH
HOSPITALITY		Anka BUTERIN	Alex BALDORIA
Hospital Visitation Sat: J Le Mottee & D Gooch		Altar: Group 5 M Heys; C Mabon; M Wood	
Hospital Communion Sun: B & C Kensey			
Cleaners SPC: N & G Sitchon		Children's liturgy: Vinita Nazareth	
Saturday			22 JULY
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://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/> and click on the link under "Liturgy Today".