



St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala

Streams of living water will flow from within. ~John 7:38

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

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 5.00am (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 on 9644 7787.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)—YR B 8 APRIL 2018

First Reading

Acts 4:32-35

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Second Reading

1 Jn 5:1-6

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.



Gospel

Jn 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book.

These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon 1 Pt 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.' Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **(R.)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and

recount his deeds. I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. **(R.)**

3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **(R.)**

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon Cf Jn 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 3:13-15. 17-19

1 Jn 2:1-5

Lk 24:35-48

Parish Priest

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

Priest in Residence

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

Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm
T. (02) 9644 7787

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Lisa Phoung
ym@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
Wed 9-11am, Thu 9-11am, Fri 9am-3pm

Catholic Inquiry—RCIA

Andrew Tham 0403 566 001

Pastoral Council

Karim Kassis (Chair)
T. 0408 404 130
Charlie Scully (Vice Chair, Project Manager)
T. 0402 071 849
Maureen Hynes (Secretary, Parish Choir)
Jennifer Rush (Asst Secretary, Safeguarding)
Anthony Kasule, Arthur Doumit (SVDP, Retreats), Brenda Wendt-Hussein (Catechists), Jenny Michael (Liturgy), Joji Salar, Micheline Botham (Sacramental Program), Paul Fuiava, Rani Sebastian, Renee Salar, Rhia Victorino, Vinita Nazareth (Pilgrimages), Lisa Phoung and Principals of the Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T. (02) 9644 8859
Micheline Botham (Secretary)
0422 939 342
Joe Moses, Ingrid Scharenguivel, Brendon Nazareth (Finance Controller)

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
T. (02) 9644 9083
Principal - Phil Townsend
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
T. (02) 9646 1434
Principal - Gai Melville
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

Alcohol & Drug Information Service:

(Confidential) 02 9361 8000
CatholicCare: Ph:13 18 19
Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - www.jamberoobbey.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

PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Mon 9/4	6.45am Mass
Tue 10/4	6.45am Mass 11.15am Mass (Trinity Students)
Wed 11/4	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass 12.30pm Legion of Mary (St Joseph's House)
Thu 12/4	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass 6.30pm Sacramental Team Meeting (Presbytery) 7.15pm Psalmist to come at 7.15 with General Choir following.
Fri 13/4	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass
Sat 14/4	8.00am Mass 8.30pm Rosary 9.00am Novena, Adoration, Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 15/4	8.00am Mass (SJW) 10.00am Mass (SPC)

"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE



FROM ST PETER CHANEL
at Flores Family
23 The Boulevard, Lidcombe
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
at the Kassis Home

To host the Rosary Statue from St Joseph the Worker contact Phil Lopez on 9646 1756.

15 APRIL 2018		3 rd SUNDAY OF EASTER	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY Dom PANGILINAN	William ANDREWS	Mario CAPRA Mert BOLONIA
MUSIC & SINGING	Renee SALAR & SCHOOL CHOIR		SAMOAN CHOIR
LECTOR/S	Joy SKERRITT	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Mai VU
	Noelene Donnellan	Maris MARSH	Maureen HYNES
COMMENTATOR	Lawrence LOPEZ	Karim KASSIS	Rhia VICTORINO
SP. MINISTER	Warren RYAN		Hilary NGUYEN
CHURCH SHOP	Margaret HEYS		Margaret THAM
GREETERS	Dante & Lynda AMORES	Loutoa OLIE	Alan THAM, Suly TAN, Gilbert KIM
HOSPITALITY		Maria Oszust	Anne MARIE
Hospital Visitation Sat : Amato Hehea & Bernadette Hawthorn		Altar & Sacristy: Group 6 Korina Kinda, Antoinette Boudaher	
Hospital Communion Sun: Bob Kensey & Christine Kensey			
Cleaners SPC: Rey & Brilla Quinoy		Children's liturgy: N/A	
Saturday 8AM		14 APRIL	
LECTOR FOR MASS		Christine KENSEY	

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Don Willoughby, Angelita Galapon, Anthony Gomes, Anne Nguyen

Recently Deceased: Hubertus Agus Susanto, Christine Barrett, Magda Segina, Clive Chan, Vincente Van Xuyen Duong, Nellie Lim, Ada Michael, Salvatore Capra, Engelbert Taoneyi

Deceased: Dorothy L Baz, Beinbenido Albarracin, Pastor Albarracin, Catalina Albarracin, Elena Badid Albarracin, George Younan, Terry Shanley, Mark Man-Wah Chiu, Giuseppe Cicuto, Giovanni & Amabile Cicuto, Albino & Caterina Bertuzzi, Alejandro Garcia, Venancio Sr, Eluseyo

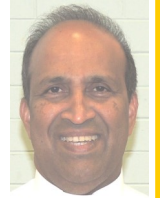
Anniversary: Barbara Saba, Richard Saba, Herminio A Figueras, Josip & Kata Vid Zivkovic, Cynthia de Souza, Cernon Alinson, Gloria Mari Eamiguel, Consuelo Ibardolaza

Deceased Members and Friends of: Ross & Mitchell Families, O'Dwyer & Erwin Families, Amores & Domingo Families, Marie Banham & Family

Other Intentions: Diane Lancaster, Peter Scully, May Scully, Claudette &



Do Not Doubt the Mercy of God



Should the priests break the seal of confession to inform police about paedophilia and other crimes? This is a hotly discussed topic in some circles now. Whilst we need to earnestly work to protect children and the vulnerable from any kind of abuse, we cannot discredit the importance and value of the Sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Penance/ Reconciliation. Archbishop Anthony Fisher said, “I believe the spiritual encounter between a penitent and God must remain inviolable and that Catholic priests and penitents should not be threatened with a criminal offence for practising their religion.”

Jesus told his Apostles, “‘As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.’ After saying this he breathed on them and said: ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.’” (Jn 20:21b-23) Following this ordination of the Apostles by Jesus Christ, priests deliver the Sacrament of Penance. Thus they bring the mercy of God real and near to the faithful. This Easter season is a special time to experience the mercy of God and forgiveness of sins.

The Gospel passage about Jesus appearing to the disciples first without and then with Thomas has been of much interest to many people. So much so now we have a general expression derived from it, “doubting Tom”. But to understand this Gospel passage, we need to read it in its context. In the last verses of chapter 20, John gives the reason why he has written about this appearance of Jesus. John says, “These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.” (Jn 20:31). John wrote for a community in Asia Minor (present day Turkey) and it was written towards the end of the first century AD, about 60 years after Jesus’ death and resurrection. These people to whom John wrote the Gospel, had not met Jesus personally. Like us, they had to rely on the testimonies of the apostles or their disciples to believe in Jesus. Therefore to them John says it does not matter that you have not seen Jesus personally. Because the Risen Christ told Thomas that “blessed are those who believe although they have not seen (him)”. All disciples, except Thomas, were terrified of the outside world till the resurrected Jesus appeared to them and made them believe in him. Thomas also waited till he met the resurrected Jesus to proclaim him as the “Lord and God”. To them Jesus says, “Blessed are those who believe although they have not seen.” Therefore, John tells his community that they should believe relying on the Word of God proclaimed to them. Similarly you too should be believing in Jesus as our Saviour and our Lord, based on the Word of God proclaimed to you by the Church and her ministers. You do not need to wait for any apparition of God to believe in Christ our Saviour. This weekend is also observed as ‘Mercy Sunday’. On this Mercy Sunday, let us believe in the resurrected Christ and actively seek the mercy of God.

REFLECTIONS ON JOHN 20:19-31

Historical Context: My Lord and My God

This extraordinarily clear statement of belief about the divinity of Jesus appears nowhere else in any of the four gospels. Why does the Gospel of John make this statement and not any other of the other gospels? It must be remembered that the Gospel of John was the last of the four gospels to be written - at least 20 years after the Gospel of Mark and some 60 to 70 years after the death of Jesus. The early Christians had been cast out of the Jewish tradition and were making sense of how their own beliefs could stand apart from Jewish tradition. With the break of Judaism, Christians felt able to express their developing belief that Jesus was God.

Scriptural Context. Not an ending?

The final two verses of this gospel passage (Jn 20:30-31) read like the conclusion to the whole gospel. They are a statement of finality about the purpose for writing the gospel and something of a blessing for those who read it. Yet, surprisingly, there is another whole chapter that follows this passage that deals with still more post-resurrection appearances. Most scripture scholars believe that the end of Chapter 20 was the original ending of the gospel and that Chapter 21 is a later addition - possibly added by the community for whom the gospel was originally written .

Have You Thought? Those who have not seen..

Jesus says to Thomas, ‘You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’ That’s us! Jesus’ words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we - Blessed are we - who have not seen and yet still believe!



Catholic Inquiry

If you know anyone interested in Catholic Church and Faith invite them to the Catholic Inquiry Night.

When: 7.00 pm – 8.30 PM, Wednesday 16 May 2018

Where: St Peter Chanel Church Berala

Contact: Andrew Tham 0403 566 001 or Fr Thomas 9644 7787

Email: info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

PARISH NEWS

Family Mass

Next Family Mass organised by the Family Educators and the parents will be the Vigil for the Feast of Pentecost. It will on Saturday 19 May.

Parish Day

The anniversary of the reconstitution of our parish as St Peter Chanel and St Joseph is on 13 July. We have been celebrating the Sunday nearest to this Anniversary as Parish Day. This year the Parish Day will be on Sunday 15 July. Should you have any suggestions for the celebration of this day, please contact one of the Pastoral Council Members or Fr Thomas.

ANZAC Day

There will be a special Mass on ANZAC Day, Wednesday, 25 April, at 8 AM. You are welcome to bring slices, cakes, and biscuits for morning tea after the Mass.

Trinity Mass

The first Mass for 2018 with the Trinity Catholic College Regents Park Campus will be celebrated at SPC on

Tuesday 10 April at 11.15 AM. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

ANCOP, Answering the Cry of the Poor

ANCOP will be observing as an awareness Weekend in the parish on 14 & 15 April. For more information contact Helen Festejo on 0401 671 665 or email helen.festejo@gmail.com

Mini Vinnies & Junior Joys

St Peter Chanel Primary School invite the students to partake in the Mission of the Church by joining Mini Vinnies and Junior Joys. A number of children take up this challenge. This year they will be commissioned at a Mass at 9.15 on Wednesday, 11 April at SPC Church. Parishioners are welcome to join this joyous occasion.

Music Planning Meeting

The next meeting of the music planning of the Parish Choir will be during on Tuesday 17th April at 10.30am to give those working or studying a chance to attend. Please contact Maureen on 0407 268 180 to register your interest or for more information. ~Maureen Hynes

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Monday - The Annunciation of the Lord



It is a feast of the Lord, commemorating the announcement to the Virgin Mary of the Word made flesh, Mary's acceptance of God's will, and the conception of Christ nine months before Christmas. Its occurrence close to Easter links the incarnation with the whole mystery of human redemption in Christ.

Wednesday - St Stanislaus



Born at Szczepanow (Poland) about 1030. Died on this day in 1079 at Cracow, murdered on the orders of the king for his outspoken condemnation of corruption. He had become bishop of Cracow in 1072. Remembered for his reforms, his preaching, and his pastoral concern.

OTHER NOTICES

EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & RETREATS

NAPPA (NSW Association of Pastors, Pastoral Associates and Parish Workers) - "Forming Missionary Disciples" Renewing our Baptismal call. Enabling our gifts in parish and school life.

Tue, 1 May at 9.30am - 4.30pm (Optional Mass and Dinner), Dooleys Catholic Club, Lidcombe, \$65 excludes dinner. Enquiries & Dietary Requests: Tanya Quinn 02 8838 3441 | tanya.quinn@parracatholic.org.

One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies. The 2018 One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies global prayer event is scheduled for 4, 5 and 6 May. Persons participating will pray at least one Rosary for the protection of unborn babies. For details: <http://www.saintmichaelthearchangelorganization.org/>

Healing after Abortion : Sat 12 May, 10am - 3.30pm, Good Samaritan Centre, 2 Avenue Rd. Glebe. Free - Limited numbers, RSVP essential for catering, Details: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au, Phone: 0400 092 555 or Email: info@rachelsvineyard.org.au.

Get Fired Up – A Pre-Pentecost Gathering - Speaker: Rev Fr Isuru Dinesh Weliwatte MGL. 12 May 2018, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, St Joseph's Parish Hall, Walz Street, Rockdale. Coffee, tea and biscuits provided, BYO Lunch Enquiries: Ida Krisnadi Mob:

0416 464 221 Helen Aldana Mob: 0433 455114
Email: jlowcommunity@gmail.com www.jlowcom.org

SUPPORT & SERVICES

CatholicCare. Do you have time to help people in your community? We need volunteers to provide much needed companionship to elderly people who feel lonely and isolated in South West and Inner West Sydney. If you have time to spend with someone who would truly appreciate it, please call us on 13 18 19 and become a volunteer today. Visit us on the web at www.catholiccare.org.

PILGRIMAGES & TRAVEL

Join Pope Francis in Panama Sydney Catholic Youth are inviting you on the a pilgrimage to Panama, celebrate Mass with Pope Francis and millions of young Catholics from around the world. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP leading the Sydney pilgrimage **15 January 2019**. Info: www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/wyd

Cathedral Choir Celebrates Bicentenary in Rome 15-22 May 2018. Join the Dean of St Mary's Cathedral Fr Don Richardson on a special pilgrimage to Rome. For full details including itinerary, price and inclusions phone 1800 753 959 or email pilgrimage@sydneycatholic.org.

Underage

A little child in church for the first time watched as the ushers passed the offering plates. When they neared the pew where he sat, the youngster piped up so that everyone could hear: "Don't pay for me Daddy, I'm under five."

