



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](https://www.facebook.com/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 5.00pm (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 on 9644 7787.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

2 DECEMBER 2018

First Reading

Jer 33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah:

‘In those days and at that time,

I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land.

In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence.

And this is the name the city will be called:

The Lord-our-integrity.’

Second Reading

1 Thes 3:12 – 4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are

already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Gospel

Lk 21:25-28. 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**
2. The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who

stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

3. His ways are faithfulness and love for those who keep his covenant and will. The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him; to them he reveals his covenant. **(R.)**

Gospel Acclamation Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon Ps 84:13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Next Week's Readings

Bar 5:1-9 | Phil 1:3-6. 8-11 | Lk 3:1-6



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

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, Joji Salar, Micheline Botham (Sacramental Program), Rani Sebastian, Renee Salar, Rhia Victorino, Vinita Nazareth (Pilgrimages), and Principals of the Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T. (02) 9644 8859
Joe Moses, Brendon Nazareth (Finance Controller)

Plenary 2020

Alicia Moore

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

CatholicCare. CCareline team provides caring advice and advocacy to help families navigate their way through the social service sector.
CCareline 13 18 19 | CatholicCare.org

Alcohol & Drug Information Service:

(Confidential) 02 9361 8000

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
www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 9699 8190

PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Mon 3/12	6.45am	Mass
Tue 4/12	6.45am 7.00pm	Mass Bible Prayer & Mass (SPC)
Wed 5/12	6.45am 9.15am 10.00am	Mass Mass Legion of Mary
Thu 6/12	6.45am 9.15am 7.30pm	Mass Mass Psalmists & Parish Choir Practice at 8 Wallace St Sefton
Fri 7/12	6.45am 9.15am 7.00pm	Mass Mass Plenary 2020 Meeting (St Joseph's House)
Sat 8/11	8.00am 8.30pm 9.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena, Adoration, Confession Vigil Mass
Sun 9/11	8.00am 10.00am 11.00am 4.30pm	Mass (SJW) Mass (SPC) First Reconciliation Class (Jubilee Hall) Carols Practice SPC Church



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE

FROM ST PETER CHANEL
at Botham Home
353 Cumberland Ave, Auburn

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 S J W Church
at the Skerritt Home

To host the Rosary Statue from SJW contact Phil Lopez on 9646 1756.

9 DECEMBER 2018

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	Mert BOLONIA
MUSIC & SINGING	Kate PARISH & PARISH CHOIR	Alannah KASSIS	ELMER'S GROUP
LECTOR/S	Christine KENSEY John Donnellan	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL Maris MARSH	Margarette NGUYEN Maureen HYNES
COMMENTATOR	Jann ROCKLIFF	Karim KASSIS	Rhia VICTORINO
SP. MINISTER	Kay Scully Sam DUCH	Jenny MICHAEL	Amanda GAHAN Susie MRVUNAC
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY		John SHANLEY
GREETERS	Dante & Lynda AMORES	Joe MOSES	Alan THAM, Suly TAN, Gilbert KIM
HOSPITALITY		Joe & Maria MOSES	Vinita NAZARETH

Hospital Visitation Sat: Christine Parish & Mert Bolonia | **Altar & Sacristy:** Group 3 Helen Le Mottee & Jann Rockliff

Hospital Communion Sun : Bob & Christine Kensey

Cleaners SPC: Marian Rosary Group

Children's liturgy: N/A

Saturday 8AM

8 DECEMBER

LECTOR FOR MASS

Christine KENSEY

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Marie Williams, Fr Graham Kings

Recently Deceased: Sr Margaret Conway

Deceased: Rafael Jr Amarille, Nemesio Tejero Sr, Serafina Tejero, Nemesio Tejero Sr

Deceased Members and Friends of: Ross & Mitchell Families, O'Dwyer & Erwin Families, Amores & Florendo Families.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on phone 02 9390 5812.

STAND ERECT



Asia Bibi case made headlines in the media recently. Aasiya Noreen is a 47 years old Pakistani woman known as Asia Bibi. In June 2009, she was accused of blasphemy after an argument with co-workers while harvesting berries and was arrested and imprisoned. In 2010, a judge sentenced her to death by hanging which was upheld by the High Court. She did not receive much sympathy from her neighbours or Islamic religious leaders, some of whom adamantly called for her to be executed. Minorities minister Shahbaz Bhatti and Punjab Governor Salmaan Taseer were both assassinated for advocating on her behalf and opposing the blasphemy laws. Muslim cleric Maulana Yousaf Qureshi announced a huge bounty to anyone who would kill her. Asia Bibi could avoid all this persecution if she changed her religion to Islam. But she did not do it. In spite of these persecutions, she held her head high as a Catholic. People from all over the world pleaded with Pakistani Government and prayed for her release. On 31 October 2018, the Supreme Court of Pakistan acquitted Asia citing "material contradictions and inconsistent statements of the witnesses" which "cast a shadow of doubt on the prosecution's version of facts." There are many parts of the world where Christians endure persecutions, though the nature of persecution may differ. Last Tuesday Catholic News Agency reported that Irish nurses and midwives felt compelled to call on their government to protect their freedom of conscience following the legislation of abortion in the Republic of Ireland.

We too have our own challenges to keep our heads high as Christians. Last Wednesday Archbishop of Hobart, Julian Portius warned against the litigations that could menace Christians with the amendment of Marriage Act in Tasmania. In the face of such challenging situations what are we to do. Are we to cringe or despair that the Church has lost its relevance or conclude that there is no God on our side. But Bible provides hope and joy.

Speaking with his disciples about the troubled times, Jesus asks them not to lose heart, not to be discouraged when adverse situations encircle them. "they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand." (Lk 21:28) Our God has not abandoned us. He will never abandon us. He will come in glory.

Are you able to stand erect in troubled times of your personal life, holding head high. Do you see God coming into your life? Are you able to help someone you love and care for, showing them God coming into their darkest moments?

REFLECTIONS ON LUKE 21:25-28. 34-36

Have You Thought? Waiting, waiting, waiting....

I'm not a big fan of waiting! Anticipation is pretty good; getting prepared and getting ready are OK, too. But when it comes down to being all dressed up and ready to go, I'm just hopeless at waiting. If Advent is a time of pointless waiting for Christmas then we've somehow missed the message. Rather than just waiting, Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation. But it's not just about anticipating Christmas. That's part of it, sure. However, Advent is about reminding ourselves that we have a job to do: preparing for the reign of God - in our lives and in our world.

Scriptural Context.

This week's gospel passage comes from a lengthy passage in the gospel of Luke in which Jesus speaks extensively about the future. It is a very different style of writing from the usual narrative, teaching and parable forms that make up most of the gospel. The style is an echo of the prophetic writings of the Old Testament. Compare this passage with this week's first reading of other passages from the writings of the prophets. The style is always rich in metaphor and symbol. There is a grandness about the style. We know, just from the use of language, that great things are afoot!

Different View. We're doomed!

Fundamentalists love readings like this week's apocalyptic gospel passage. Full of portent and urgency, it inspires the sort of thinking that says, 'Repent now, because you could be dead tomorrow!' It is easy to look at a passage like this and apply it to the conditions of the world today: everything's going to rack and ruin; it's just as the Bible foretold; the end of the world is just around the corner. But we have to remember that this was written nearly 2,000 years ago! Yes, there is still urgency! Yes, there is still need for change! But we still have time to get it right.

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)

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Monday, 3 December - St Francis Xavier (Memorial)



Born in 1506 in Navarre (Spain). Died on this day in 1552 off the coast of China. Met Saint Ignatius of Loyola (31 July) while studying in Paris,

became one of the first Jesuits, and went to Goa (India) as a missionary. Travelled extensively through southeast Asia to Japan, winning many converts and leaving behind organised Christian communities. Remembered for the witness of his poverty and for his tireless efforts as a missionary.

Friday, 7 December - St Ambrose (Memorial)



Born in Trier (Germany) about 340. Ordained bishop on this day in 374 and died at Milan (Italy) on Holy Saturday 397. A lawyer who

became governor in Milan and who was still a catechumen when elected bishop by popular acclaim. Upheld orthodoxy against the Arians and won many Christian converts. Encouraged monasticism and defended the independence of the Church against secular authority. Remembered as an outstanding pastor through his writings on the sacraments and Christian ethics and through his homilies, instructions, and hymns.

Saturday, 8 December - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)



This feast had its origin in the East as the "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne". It spread through the West during the Middle Ages as the

"Immaculate Conception" and was extended to the entire Western Church in the eighteenth century. The feast celebrates Mary, preserved from sin from the moment of conception; she is the first fruits of her Son's redemption and a prophetic model of what the Church is called to be.

PARISH NEWS

Sr Margaret Conway Passes Away

Sr Margaret Conway, PBVM died on Wednesday, 28 November. She used to attend the vigil mass at SPC Church until she moved to Nagle Apartments in Sutherlands. Her funeral will be held on Monday, 3 December at 2.00pm in Mary Mother of Mercy Chapel Rookwood. ~Sr Susan Miller

Big Change of Schedule

The date of the Dedication of the Church and installation of the Relic is brought a fortnight earlier. We had the Archbishop booked for Sunday 17th February. The Chancery contacted our parish office last Thursday and informed that the Archbishop is not available on the day we have booked him for, due to some other commitment. But he will be available on 3rd February, two weeks earlier. So we will have the dedication ceremony and the Relic ceremony on Sunday 3rd February. This also means we will have to hurry with all the preparation. Now we will have to have all volunteers identified before Christmas. Therefore please let the parish office or one of the pastoral council members know if you could volunteer to be an usher, to carry the canopy for the Relic, to help with hospitality, or some liturgical ministry. ~Fr Thomas

Migration of 8AM Mass

Christmas morning 8AM Mass will be the last parish Mass at St Joseph the Worker Church. Thereafter, Sunday 30 December 2018 onwards all parish Masses, including Sunday 8AM, will be at St Peter Chanel Church, Berala. Consolidating all Masses into the parish church will enhance the mission of the parish. You may like to share this information through Facebook and other social media so that the news will reach all interested people. ~Fr Thomas

Practice Times for Carols

Sunday 9 Dec and Sunday 16 Dec at 4.30pm at SPC Church. All welcome to come and be part of this beautiful celebration ~Maureen Hynes

Christmas Masses Roster

The Liturgy Roster for all Christmas Masses is now being organised. There are 4 Masses over Christmas - The Vigil Mass, Midnight Mass, 8AM at St Joseph the Worker Church and 10AM at St Peter Chanel Church. Please let the parish office know if you are available to read, do the offertory, be a Special Minister, open the Church Shop or be a Greeter at any of these Masses.

The twofold coming of Christ

St Cyril of Jerusalem

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of a divine kingdom.

In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels.

We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

The Saviour will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom he was judged. At his own judgement he was silent; then he will address those who committed the outrages against him when they crucified him and will remind them: You did these things, and I was silent.

His first coming was to fulfil his plan of love, to teach men by gentle persuasion. This time, whether men like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom by necessity.

The prophet Malachi speaks of the two comings. And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to his temple: that is one coming.

Again he says of another coming: Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of his entry, or who will stand in his sight? Because he comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and he will sit refining and cleansing.

These two comings are also referred to by Paul in writing to Titus: The grace of God the Saviour has appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await.

That is why the faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

Our Lord Jesus Christ will therefore come from heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, at the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new.

St. Peter Chanel & St. Joseph Berala

*invite all who wish
to share the joy of Christmas with others
to a Christmas Day Lunch.
Food, drink and entertainment provided!*

Date: 25 December 2018

Place: Jubilee Hall, 64 Kingsland Rd Berala (next to church)

Time: 11am to 3pm

RSVP for transport: Please phone Barbara or Georgette 02 9643 7794 by Tuesday 18 December 2018

For further details please contact Evelene on 0416 140 378

Christmas Lunch

We are appealing for food and drink donations. Please let the parish office know the kind of food you are bringing. That will help us plan. You could also make money contribution towards buying food.

The luncheon also requires plenty of volunteers to help with setting up and serving lunch. If you can spare some time let us know.

You are also welcome to join the Lunch as a family, which will be a good experience for the children.

There is a sheet at the back of the church for you to write your name and nominate what you are volunteering for. Evelene is coordinating the Luncheon and she can be contacted on 0416 140 378.

Christmas & Holidays

Christmas is just around the corner and Holidays are to follow. It is also time of hectic activities. There are some things we need to plan.

Christmas Schedule 2018

Wednesday, 19 December

7.00pm Second Rite Reconciliation at SPC Berala

Friday 21 December

7.00pm Carols Festival at SPC Berala

Saturday 22 December

9.00am Second Rite Reconciliation at SPC Berala

Monday 24 December

7.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass at SPC Berala

12.00am Solemn Midnight Mass at SPC Berala

Tuesday 25 December

8.00am Christmas Mass at SJW Auburn South

10.00am Christmas Mass at SPC Berala

11.00am - 3.00pm Christmas Lunch in the Jubilee Hall



Family Festival, Carols in Guilfoyle Park

As usual, Heartbeat Church (Baptist) is organising Carols in Guilfoyle Park on Sunday 16 December 4PM – 9PM. They are inviting other churches to join them in the celebration. We usually help with BBQ on the day. Anyone available to help with BBQ may contact, either the parish office, Karim on 0408 404 130 or Charlie on 0402 071 849.

Parish Christmas Carols by Candle Light & Sausage Sizzle

At the Parish Pastoral Council on last Wednesday night it was decided that the Carols will be held in St Peter Chanel School grounds. It will be on Friday 21 December.

Christmas is about celebrating God’s love for humanity. SVDP Berala conference is putting on a Sausage Sizzle before Carols. It will commence at 6 pm in the school grounds. The proceeds of this this function will go assist the less advantaged brothers and sisters of us.

Maureen Hynes is training the Parish Choir for the night. SPC School Choir, SJW School Choir, Chanel Schola, and Ugandan Choir also will be singing Carols on the night. Electronic Candles will be made available on the evening for \$2.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the evening with singing or otherwise may contact the parish office or the Pastoral Council member.



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS!

The Church Store has been stocked with beautiful Nativity scenes, Christmas cards, Columbian calendars, Daily devotionals, Bibles, coloured glass Rosary beads and a host of other gift ideas.

Drop by, have a browse and give someone you love a gift with meaning this Christmas. After all, JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON!





Berala Parish Kids Camp
St. Peter Chanel and St. Joseph Parish
17-19 January 2019 (Thursday-Saturday 10am-4pm)

**The School Holidays are coming! Are you wondering what you will be doing?
Why not sign up your child/children for our Kids Camp in January?**

To be held over three amazing days in the Summer holidays, this will be a day camp held in St Peter Chanel Parish Hall for all **6-12 year olds**. Filled with fun activities and teaching based on our Catholic faith. We are also looking for Year 6 students starting High School next year to be leaders during the Camp which is a wonderful experience for them too.

It is an event not to be missed!

Cost is \$25 per child (concessions for siblings \$35 for two children and \$40 for three children.) Fully catered food and drinks. No need to pack a lunch! Great value!!

Please complete the form below and return to school with money included. If you have difficulty with the costs please email either Angela or Barbara (address below).

For more information contact Angela Finnane at angela.finnane@syd.catholic.edu.au or Barbara Mucha at barbara.mucha@syd.catholic.edu.au or the Berala Parish office on 9644 7787.

Please complete and return back to school before Tuesday 18 December 2017.

Berala Parishes: St. Peter Chanel Berala and St. Joseph Kids Camp

Yes, I would like to register my child for the Berala Parish Kids Camp.

Name: _____

Child's name(s): _____ Class(es): _____

Parent name: _____ Mobile contact: _____

Email: _____

I have enclosed money \$ _____

Special Dietary requirements / allergies _____

PARISH NEWS



New Anthem for Parish

I had commissioned Fr Kevin Bates to write an Anthem for our parish, before I went on holidays. This is to be used on the occasion of the Dedication of the Church on 17 February. Last Thursday, along with Maureen Hynes, Leader of the Parish Choir, Chris Hynes, Jenny Michael of Liturgy Committee and I went to Hunters Hill to receive the words and music for the new anthem. It is titled FROM MANY STRANDS. The anthem reflects what our parish is. It is also a beautiful prayer.

It was a delightful experience to hear Fr Kevin play the music and sing it for us. Fr Kevin is one of the leading Hymn writers of Australia and we have been using a number of his hymns in our liturgy. After learning how to sing, there will be a launching of this Hymn in our parish to which we will be inviting the author also. Not many parishes got their own anthem. Therefore we can feel special having our own Anthem. It will also add solemnity to the celebration on day of Dedication and Installation of the Relic of St Peter Chanel.

You may also notice that the depository for the Relic is now ready in the shrine of Our Lady in the Church. Similarly at the Baptismal Font there is a new depository for the Holy Oils. The monstrance for the Relic and the candle holders for Dedication Candles are sponsored by benevolent parishioners. Should anyone wishes to share the cost of Depositories for Relic and the Oils, I will be happy to speak with them.

~Fr Thomas

Bible Study

I am offering a Bible study and prayer session on Tuesdays of Advent at 7 pm – 8pm. It is followed by Mass at 8 pm. The venue of the Bible Study will be our Church. You may share this news on social media like Facebook.

~Fr Thomas

OTHER NOTICES

EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & RETREATS

Lights of Christmas 5th December. Come and celebrate with Bishop Richard Umbers and Gary Pinto the end of the Year of Youth and the Launch of the Lights of Christmas. Join us on the **5th of December** for: 5:30PM Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers | 6:30PM Concert on the Cathedral steps featuring Gary Pinto | 7:30PM Lights of Christmas celebration followed by official opening with Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP and NSW premier Gladys Berejiklian.

Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria – Twilight Carols

Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria warmly invites you and your family to join them at the annual Twilight Carols. Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel, Rookwood Catholic Cemetery | **Thursday 13th December** | Commencing at 6:30pm. Fireworks at 9pm.

A Choral Christmas Celebration Concert. Friday 14 December, St Mary's Cathedral will celebrate with carols and an overwhelming feeling of Christmas joy for the annual, and much anticipated A Choral Christmas Celebration concert. There will be two performances at

11am & 7pm with tickets starting from \$20. Visit www.cathedralchoir.sydney/accc for more information.

Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria – Christmas

Remembrance Service. Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria warmly invites you and your family to join them at the annual Christmas Remembrance Service 2018, presided by Bishop Terence Brady. St Mary's Cathedral Collect St Sydney | **Sunday 16th December** | Commencing at 7:30pm

MISCELLANEOUS

An Advent App for Christmas! – Meet Me in the Silence.

Walk the journey to Advent on your mobile device. Each day delivers a new video, podcast or written feature to assist you prepare for Christmas and meet Jesus in the silence, despite the busyness of the Christmas season. The Advent Calendar App is free and available on your iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Search for "Xt3 Advent" in the Google Play store or the App store, or visit www.sydneycatholic.org/xt3advent