



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

Adoration & Novena: Saturday 9.00am

Lord's Day Mass Berala: Saturday 5.00pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.00am & Sunday 10.00am

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.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD YEAR C

13 JANUARY 2019

First Reading

Is 40:1-5. 9-11

'Console my people, console them' says your God. 'Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.' A voice cries, 'Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God.' Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

Second Reading

Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing

which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

Gospel

Lk 3:15-16. 21-22

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.'

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Mt 3:16-17

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

1. O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his

name. Adore the Lord in his holy court. **(R.)**

2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. **(R.)**
3. The God of glory thunders. In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!' The Lord sat enthroned over the flood: the Lord sits as king for ever. **(R.)**

Gospel Acclamation Lk 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia!

John said: He who is to come is mightier than I; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon Jn 1:32,34

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Next Week's Readings

Is 62:1-5 | 1 Cor 12:4-11 | Jn 2:1-11

Parish Priest

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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, 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.jamberoobbbey.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 14/1	6.45am	Mass
Tue 15/1	6.45am	Mass
Wed 16/1	6.45am 9.15am 10.00am	Mass Mass Legion of Mary
Thu 17/1	6.45am 9.15am 10.00am	Mass Mass Kids Camp
Fri 18/1	6.45am 9.15am 10.00am	Mass Mass Kids Camp
Sat 19/1	8.00am 8.30pm 9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena, Adoration, Confession Kids Camp Vigil Mass
Sun 20/1	8.00am 10.00am	Mass (SPC) Mass (SPC)



"Family that pray together stay together"
PILGRIM STATUE

FROM ST PETER CHANEL
at Javier Family
39 Fifth Avenue, 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 S J W Church
at the Kavanagh Home

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

20 JANUARY 2019

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
MUSIC & SINGING	Kate PARISH & PARISH CHOIR		Sergio EAMIGUEL
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ken HARTMAN	Margarette NGUYEN
	Mai NGUYEN	Joe MOSES	Latisha ILBOUDO
COMMENTATOR	Jann ROCKLIFF	Maris MARSH	Rhia VICTORINO
SP. MINISTER	Joy SKERRITT		Angela TANG Hoa NGUYEN
CHURCH SHOP			Margaret THAM
GREETERS	Dante AMORES & Lynda AMORES	Maria OSZUST	

Hospital Visitation Sat: Amato Hehea & Bernadette Hawthorn
Altar & Sacristy: Group 3 Helen Le Mottee & Jann ROCKLIFF

Hospital Communion Sun : Ken Hartman & Jenny Michael

Cleaners SPC: Roland & Aida Javier
Children's liturgy: N/A

Saturday 8AM	19 JANUARY
LECTOR FOR MASS	Christine KENSEY

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Marie Williams, Tony Draybi & Frances Abraham, Fadile Afleck, Gary Williams, Carmen Portelli, Charlie Portelli, Bert Portelli, Carmen Spiteri, Anthony Spiteri, George Spiteri

Recently Deceased: Pedro Durango Tejero Sr, Frank Debrincat, George Guanzon

Anniversary: Ivan Buterin, Bruce Anthony McManus, Aidan Lynch, William Coyne, Siobhan Morris, : Maria Cabotaje - Amores, Edith C Amores I, Herminio Z Florendo

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

Florendo Families, Eisenhuth Family, Williams Family, Amarille and Tejero Families



Deceased: Joseph Nguyen Loi, Fatima & Astrid Bolonia, Kong Kok Wah, Latife & Moussa El Bahri, Peter

Bereavement Support Reflections Mornings. 3rd Wednesday of Every Month 10.00am – 1.00pm. For family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. Morning tea provided. For more info: Bereavement Support: (02) 9646 6908 / bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au

Baptism of Fire

The other day someone rang to tell me that they are starting a charity program to help the needy. They are joined by their friends to pool money from their own pockets. "God has been good to me and my family. Now I want to do something to acknowledge God's goodness". This was their reasoning. This is not an isolated case. I am aware of a number of other groups, who pray together and raise funds to help the needy. These people are not affiliated with any established charity associations. They just do something in their capacity because they see it as part of their Christian living. I would say they are baptised with Holy Spirit.



When John the Baptist baptised with water, it was an invitation to repent for their wrong doings and to cleanse themselves for a purer life. Most times, we too, think of religious life as just being washed clean of sins. The Gospel tells us that Jesus demanded more than cleansing of sins from his disciples. In the narrative about Jesus' baptism there is a pattern for a more meaningful discipleship of Jesus Christ. In Jordan River, when Jesus stood before John the Baptist, the heavens opened and there was a message from the Father in heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you". Through our baptism in the Holy Spirit, we too are called to be beloved sons and daughters of God. Just as Jesus spread the goodness of God in all that he said and did, we too are to spread the goodness of God by the way we live. It is not enough to be clean of sins. We need to carry the fire of love. Let the chaff of your lives be burned. Let your life be full of God's goodness in all what you do and say.

The Gospel story of Jesus' baptism tells us once again who Jesus is. It also defines who we are meant to be as disciples of Christ.

REFLECTIONS ON LUKE 3:15-16. 21-22

Historical Context. Baptism.

John makes clear to the people that the baptism he performs is with water but the baptism by Jesus is with the Holy Spirit. John preached a baptism of repentance. In keeping with his Jewish tradition, John called upon the people to make a public declaration of their wrong-doing and commitment to be washed clean of this sinfulness and desire to live in right relationship with God and others. The baptism to which he refers is the complete change of heart and mind that comes through the Holy Spirit and results from a person accepting the message of Jesus.

Have You Thought? Trinity.

The baptism event in the gospels is a moment of revelation of the Trinitarian nature of God. The Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus in the form of a dove whilst the voice of God is heard to declare of Jesus, 'You are my Son.' It is a unique moment in the scriptures where the three persons of God are individually and collectively revealed. Although the scriptures do not explicitly name God as Trinity, by the time of Paul's early writings, blessings in the name of Jesus, God and the Holy Spirit are frequent. Despite this, Trinity continues to be a difficult concept for many Christians.

Gospel Focus. My Son, the Beloved.

'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.' This declaration by the voice from Heaven - the voice of God - is an amalgamation of two earlier pieces of scripture: 'You are my son; today I have begotten you' (Ps 2:7) and 'Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights' (Is 42:1). The fact that it is uttered before Jesus has begun his ministry is a sign to all of us that God delights in us for who we are, not for what we have achieved in our lives.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK



Thursday 17 January—St Anthony, abbot (Memorial)

Born in 251 in upper Egypt. Died in 356. At an early age he gave away his possessions and sought the austere life and solitude in the desert. Yet he remained involved in the theological controversies of his day, defending the divinity of Christ. He attracted disciples who formed communities of hermits. The account of his life by Saint Athanasius (2 May) was extremely influential in the development and spread of monasticism. Remembered as the father of monasticism.

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.



The Baptism of Christ

A sermon by St Gregory Nazianzen (Archbishop of Constantinople, born 329AD, died 390 AD)

The loving providence of God determined that in the last days he would aid the world, set on its course to destruction. He decreed that all nations should be saved in Christ.

A promise had been made to the holy patriarch Abraham in regard to these nations. He was to have a countless progeny, born not from his body but from the seed of faith. His descendants are therefore compared with the array of the stars. The father of all nations was to hope not in an earthly progeny but in a progeny from above.

Let the full number of the nations now take their place in the family of the patriarchs. Let the children of the promise now receive the blessing in the seed of Abraham, the blessing renounced by the children of his flesh. In the persons of the Magi let all people adore the Creator of the universe; let God be known, not in Judaea only, but in the whole world, so that his name may be great in all Israel.

Dear friends, now that we have received instruction in this revelation of God's grace, let us celebrate with spiritual joy the day of our first harvesting, of the first calling of the Gentiles. Let us give thanks to the merciful God, who has made us worthy, in the words of the Apostle, to share the position of the saints in light, who has rescued us from the power of darkness, and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved Son. As Isaiah prophesied: the people of the Gentiles, who sat in darkness, have seen a great light, and for those who dwelt in the region of the shadow of death a light has dawned. He spoke of them to the Lord: The Gentiles, who do not know you, will invoke you, and the peoples, who knew you not, will take refuge in you.

This is the day that Abraham saw, and rejoiced to see, when he knew that the sons born of his faith would be blessed in his seed, that is, in Christ. Believing that he would be the father of the nations, he looked into the future, giving glory to God, in full awareness that God is able to do what he has promised.

This is the day that David prophesied in the psalms, when he said: All the nations that you have brought into being will come and fall down in adoration in your presence, Lord, and glorify your name. Again, the

Lord has made known his salvation; in the sight of the nations he has revealed his justice.

This came to be fulfilled, as we know, from the time when the star beckoned the three wise men out of their distant country and led them to recognise and adore the King of heaven and earth. The obedience of the star calls us to imitate its humble service: to be servants, as best we can, of the grace that invites all men to find Christ.

Dear friends, you must have the same zeal to be of help to one another; then, in the kingdom of God, to which faith and good works are the way, you will shine as children of the light: through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with God the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

PARISH NEWS

VOLUNTEERS GATHERING 2019

Volunteers are the life of the Parish. Our annual Thanksgiving Dinner for Volunteers 2019 will be on Friday 22 February. All volunteers of the parish will receive a personal invitation in early February. But I want you to claim the date in your diary.

BIBLE STUDY 2019

Fr Thomas will be leading a Bible Study program at St Peter Chanel Church starting on Tuesday 5 February 2019. Each week a Bible passage will be taken, mostly from Luke, for study and reflection. Literary style, historical setting, other Bible references and theological and spiritual implications will be explored in the one hour gathering. Participants will be given a handout with study notes, thoughts for the day, and Prayers based on the Biblical Passage. This opportunity will be provided every Tuesday starting in February, 7 PM – 8 PM. After the Bible study there will be Mass for those wish to attend. To enrol, email info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au or phone the parish office on 96447787.

OTHER NOTICES

VACANT POSITION

Events & Marketing Coordinator, Fairfield Parish. The primary purpose of this position is to assist the Parish to engage in outreach, faith-renewal, and build up the Parish's faith-community. Salary negotiable. Contact Priscilla, Parish Operations Manager: 9724 5997 or 0490 099 551 or priscilla@olrfairfield.org.au Applications are to be submitted in writing, including a CV and cover letter, and close on 20 January 2019.

MISCELLANEOUS

Volunteering with CatholicCare. Interested in volunteering to help seniors? Based at our Liverpool office, we need callers to phone people waiting for government funded home care to check on their wellbeing. Interested in volunteering to help children? Based at our Lewisham office, we need people to help at playgroups for young, vulnerable mothers and their babies. Call CCareline on 13 18 19 to find out more.



A pastor says to a man about to be baptized: "Baptism is a serious step. Are you prepared for it?"

The man replies: "Yes. My wife made sandwiches and a cake."

The pastor says: "I am talking about the condition of your spirit."

The man says: "Oh, that. I have two bottles of vodka and some scotch."