

ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA



Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141;
Tel: 96447787; info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
f Stpeter Stjoseph t Fr Thomas@TKurunthanam
Www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Second Sunday of
Advent - Year B
7 December 2014

Parish Priest

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

Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari
Cor Bishop
T (02)9738 1491
M 0418 459 431

Fr Mark Spora
Pastor Emeritus SJW
T (02) 9649 9089

Parish Secretary

Marisa Squadrito
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
T. 0402071849
Karim Kassis(Vice Chair)
T. 0408404130
Joji Salar (Secretary)
Pat Kavanagh(Asst
Secretary), Jenny Michael,
Joe Moses, Arthur Doumit,
Afiafi Alai, Micheline
Botham and Principals of the
Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T (02) 9644 8859
Micheline Botham
(Secretary) 0422939342,
Joe Moses & Ingrid
Scharenguivel.

Social Committee

Pat Kavanagh & Joji Salar

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel
Regents Park
Principal—Jo Fox
T. 96449083

St Joseph the Worker
Auburn South
Principal—John Kennedy
T. 96461434

Someone Missing in the Crib

Today I realise that there is someone missing in our Christmas Crib set. It is the figure of someone very important to Jesus and should have been very important to the Crib set. But he is missing from the crib. Jesus was introduced as Christ by this person. But nobody speaks of him during Christmas. It is John the Baptist.

While we are busy preparing for Christmas, John called to prepare yourself to receive Jesus Christ. His call for preparation was different to how we normally would think of preparing for Christmas. He called for repentance as a preparation to receive the promised Saviour of the World. We will be mad, not to listen to him. A mad person does the same thing again and again without any proper result. If we continue to do the same sins and mistakes again and again and complain that there is no inner peace or joy, we are no different to a mad person. We wish for peace and joy during Christmas. Let us trust in God and repent for our sins as John the Baptist demands. By doing so we can attain true fruits of Christmas. Let us make sure God gifts us with joy and peace.

Having received Christ into our lives, let us experience stronger marriage, trusted friendships, harmonious families, powerful spirituality, and clear purpose in life. Make sure over the next two weeks you work intensely on it.



Prayer for Peace

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. I beseech you to guide all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict, and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness, and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war. Lead us to find peace, respect, and freedom. Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease, and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony, and friendship as brothers and sisters created in your image, to your honour and praise. Amen.

Prayer and collection for Middle East

This Sunday will be a day of prayer for the persecuted Christians of the Middle East. A special collection will be taken this weekend after all masses so that financial assistance can be provided to Catholic communities in this area. A delegation of Australian Bishops will visit the Middle east to offer prayerful and financial support prior to Christmas

Christmas Star

The Star is a rich symbol of Christmas hope. Austrends are selling special red stars with light globes and attachments for \$30 out of which \$5 is given to the persecuted Christians in IRAQ. These stars will make good decorations for Christmas. You can view a sample in SPC piety Stall and order them with the parish office or piety stall.

Day of Solidarity with Christians of the Middle East

Sunday 7 December 2014 has been designated a Day of Solidarity with the Christians of the Middle East by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

The Australian Bishops received a letter of request from the Conference of Bishops and Representatives of the Middle Eastern Apostolic Churches in Australia and New Zealand seeking the support of the Australian Catholics.

The Conference unanimously supported the request that 7 December 2014 be a Day of Solidarity, involving prayer and a financial offering to help alleviate the suffering of Christians, especially the many Iraqi refugees.

The request comes as we approach the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas.

We are aware that the situation for Christians and other minorities in the Middle East is deteriorating by the day, especially as the northern winter will set in soon. Communities that have been present in the region since apostolic times are being driven out in the midst of unspeakable atrocities. The present tragedy in the Middle East not only impacts upon the communities of the area, but has far-reaching implications for the peace and security of the world.

Considering the widespread significance of the crisis, we are inviting all Catholic communities to join with us on 7 December 2014 as we ask for the mercy of God for our persecuted brothers and sisters in the Middle East.

President of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, Archbishop Denis Hart said, "We hear the plea of our brother bishops from the Eastern Churches and we join them in expressing our grave concerns about the suffering of the Christian communities, that trace their roots back to apostolic times, and the danger of their gradual disappearance from their ancient homelands".

On 14 December 2014, a delegation of Australian Catholic Bishops will visit refugees in Kurdistan, Iraq and Lebanon to offer spiritual support and humanitarian aid. The delegation will comprise Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn Christopher Prowse, the Archbishop of Hobart Julian Porteous, the Melkite Archbishop Robert Rabbat, the Chaldean Archbishop Jibrael Kassab and the Maronite Archbishop Antoine -Charbel Tarabay. Archbishop Kassab said, "All the Christians of Iraq desperately need our prayers and support. These, our wounded brothers and sisters, were brutally forced to leave their hometowns and all their belongings in order to remain faithful to Jesus Christ".

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference urges Australian Catholics to join their Christian brothers and sisters of the Middle East in showing the world that while "some trust in chariots and horses, we trust in the Lord, our God" (Psalm 20:7)



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith
Tylanni Ann Raso & Zen Nicholas Raso
May they always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand
throughout their lives

Birthday Morning Tea

We cordially invite all parishioners and friends to a birthday morning tea today with Fr Mark Spora after the 8.00am Sunday mass at St Joseph the Worker Church. Fr Mark has also agreed to celebrate with an informal, reasonably priced lunch from 12.30pm at the Bistro in the Auburn Tennis Club at Chisholm Rd.

Break Open the Word

All Ministers of Word (Readers) should have a copy of BREAK OPEN WORD to help them prepare their proclamation of the Word at Mass. A copy of Break Open Word is now available for all Readers to pick up from the Sacristy.

Christmas Luncheon Donations

The Parish is organising a Christmas Lunch on Christmas Day and donations are needed to ensure it is a success. We require donations of salads, desserts, meat, hot food and drinks. If you can help please fill in the Christmas Lunch Donation Sheet located at the rear of the church. Together we can bring some joy to many who might otherwise have a very lonely and cheerless Christmas. For more details contact Arthur Doumit on 0417 270 923

Christmas Giving Tree

The Christmas Giving Tree has been erected on the side altar and gifts of food and toys will be most welcome. These gifts will assist the St Vincent de Paul Society in their charitable work with the poor and lonely. Food must be non-perishable and it would be of great help if wrapped toys were labelled with age and gender. Thank you



Mass Boxing Day

On 26 December 2014 it is the 30th anniversary of Fr Thomas' ordination. All are invited to a very special Mass which will be celebrated at 10.00am on Friday 26 December - Congratulations Fr Thomas!

Christmas Vigil Mass

We are still looking for 2 teenage children to play the parts of Mary and Joseph at the Christmas Vigil Mass, 7.00pm on Christmas Eve. If you are interested please contact Jenny Michael on 0413 679 931 or the parish office.

Christmas Luncheon Christmas Day

Our Parish is hosting a Christmas Luncheon in the Jubilee Hall on 25 December from 11.00am - 3.00pm. You parishioners may have a celebration at home but you are welcome to extend an invitation to other people who may like to join in our Christmas lunch. Please take a flier from the rear of the church.

The Catholic Parish of St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala

Invite all who wish
to share the joy of Christmas with
others
to a Christmas Lunch

Food and drink provided

Date: 25 December 2014

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

Time: 11am to 3pm

**RSVP for lunch and transport: Please phone Anne or
Christine no later than Friday 12 December on
96437794**

Other Notices

Youth Summer Schools of Evangelisation 2015 – A Great Summer Retreat! A week long retreat for young people wanting to grow in faith and share the Christian challenge with others. Theme: “Let Your Light Shine” 1 Peter 3:18. Includes lectures and seminars, prayer, music, loads of fun and new friends. Two locations in NSW – Bathurst and Paterson (11-18 January 2015). Run by the Disciples of Jesus Community for over 25 years. For ages 16-35. For more information see www.summerschool.org.au.

Christmas Carol Service – Friday, 19 December 7.30pm. The Cathedral's spectacular service of readings and Christmas Carols with the renowned St Mary's Cathedral Choir, in the presence of Archbishop Fisher. The evening will consist of a rich selection of traditional Christmas carols, readings and choral music sung by the Cathedral Choir

The Mustard seed Bookshop Sale - 13 December 2014. The bookshop will be opened for extended trading hours Sat 13 December 2014 from 9.00am – 5.00pm for a 1 Day Only in store sale. Discount of 15% stock storewide, 20% on 2015 Calendars & 30% on all Christmas accessories.

iWitness 2014 :As the year draws to close, hundreds of young Catholics come to together for a weekend of fun, relaxation and enrichment – all while soaking up by the sun by the beautiful Collaroy beach! There will be a range of outdoor activities and hundreds of joyful, exuberant young adults. Be inspired. Be challenged. Go to www.lifetothefull.com.au for more details and to register! Dec 11th – 14th !

The St John of God Institute of Counselling Life Skills Course: Designed to develop skills in personal growth, communication, parenting and general counselling principles. Participants can learn new skills in dealing with daily personal challenges and the issues that arise within families, the school environment and in the workplace. It is conducted on Tuesday evenings within the school term between 7.30pm – 9.45pm at Holy Cross College, Victoria Road, Ryde commencing on Tuesday 3 February 2015. The cost for the course is \$450.00 for the year. Early bird offer of \$400.00 if paid by the end of February 2015. Enquires contact: Carol Harding: 9639 0096 or 0408 705 848 or Email: counseling1969@gmail.com

St Mary's Cathedral—Lights of Christmas 2014 The unique and spectacular Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral will this year be launched on Tuesday 9 December and run through to and including Christmas Day night. The projections begin at 8.30pm and go to midnight. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Sydney the presenting partner this year is PAYCE and the theme is service – giving what we can to our family, friends and the community.

Alcohol and Drug Information Service: (Confidential) (02) 9361 8000

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo T/F: (02) 4236 0533 E cottageretreats@bigpond.com ; Carmelites Varroville E retreats@carmelite.com; Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby E clary.anta@gmail.com

Christmas Schedule 2014

Wednesday, 24 Dec

7 PM Mass at SPC Berala with children and families. Children are invited to dress up as shepherds, Magi (kings), angels.

Wednesday, 24 Dec

11 PM-11.45 PM Carols by candle light at SPC Berala

Thursday, 25 Dec

0 hours Solemn Midnight Mass at SPC Berala

Thursday, 25 Dec

8 AM Mass at SJW Auburn South

Thursday, 25 Dec

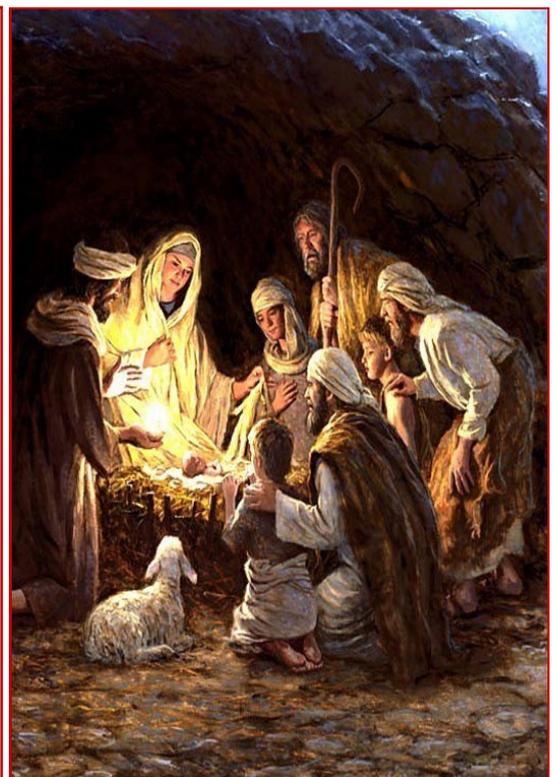
10 AM Mass at SPC Berala

Thursday, 25 Dec

11 AM – 3 PM Christmas Lunch at Jubilee Hall

Boxing Day, Friday, 26 Dec

10 AM Mass celebrating 30 anniversary of Fr Thomas' Ordination.



Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45 AM Mass.	
Tuesday	6.45 AM Mass 7.00 PM	9.00 AM Mass
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass 7.00 PM Group 2 Singing at Maureen's house	
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass	9.00 AM - 10.00AM Playgroup in the Mark Spora Room.
Friday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass	
Saturday	8.00AM Mass 9 -10 AM Adoration & Novena & Reconciliation 5.00 PM Mass Third Sunday Advent	
Sunday	10.00 AM Third Sunday Advent 5.00 PM Practice for Christmas singing—All welcome!	8.00 AM Third Sunday Advent

Mass Intentions - May they Rest in Peace

Recently Deceased: Fatima Bolonia, John Brown, Eileen Barton

Deceased: Ernesto Salar, Consuelo Ibardolaza, Gloria & Astrid Bolonia

Deceased members and friends of the following families: Ross & Mitchell Families,



Feasts of the Week.

8 December - The Immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is the subject of a lot of misconceptions. Perhaps the most common one, held even by many Catholics, is that it celebrates the conception of Christ in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That the feast occurs only 17 days before Christmas should make the error obvious! We celebrate another feast—the Annunciation of the Lord—on March 25, exactly nine months before Christmas. It was at the Annunciation, when the Blessed Virgin Mary humbly accepted the honour bestowed on her by God and announced by the angel Gabriel, that the conception of Christ took place.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, in its oldest form, goes back to the 7th century, when churches in the East began celebrating the Feast of the Conception of Saint Anne, the mother of Mary. In other words, this feast celebrates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of Saint Anne; and nine months later, on September 8, we celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

8 December - St Lucy Died at Syracuse in Sicily, probably in the persecution of the emperor Diocletian in 304. Widely venerated from the earliest times, her memorial has long been kept on this day. Probably because her name is suggestive of light, her intercession has been sought for eyesight problems. Named in Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon) and remembered as a youth, radiant with Christian faith and courage.



Planned Giving Program Request Form

Your contribution to the Planned Giving Program of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the Financial Year you will receive a Receipt for your contributions which will enable you to claim Tax deduction. 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 ID

Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

YES/NO Tax deduction

Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions.
(A credit card authority form will be sent to you for completion)

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart..

Responsorial Psalm:

R Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation. .

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.. **R**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **R**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Today's Readings

Is 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Pet 3:8-14

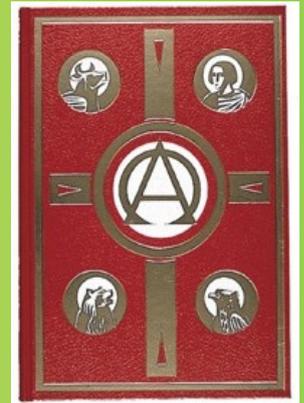
Mk 1:1-8

Next Sunday's Readings

Is 61:1-2, 10-11

1 Thess 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



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

14 DECEMBER 2014		3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Joseph MARMAN	William ANDREWS	Robert JAKSIC
ORGANIST	Kate PARISH		Elmer
CANTOR	Joji SALAR		Elmer
LECTOR/S	Phirum DUCH	Ken HARTMAN	Carmel MARTIN
	Patricia DUFFY	Jenny MICHAEL	Mai VU
COMMENTATOR	Jann ROCKLIFF	Joe MOSES	Monica SMITH
GIFTS	D BOYD & EFITZPATRICK		CHILDRENS LITURGY
PIETY STALL	Maureen HEYS		Margaret THAM
SP. MINISTER	Warren RYAN		Micheline BOTHAM
SP. MINISTER	Janet RYAN		Margarette NGUYEN
HOSPITAL: Joyce MacDonald & Anna Manganaro		ALTAR: Group 4 A Yip; M Botham; A Tumapon	
SPC CLEANERS: Rey & Brilla Quinoy		COUNTERS: Group 2 Christine Kensey; Julie Toby	
SJW CLEANERS: Maris & John Marsh & Joe Moses.		CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Pam Snell & Maria Jurcic	
HOSPITALITY: This week Vinita Nazareth will be hosting morning tea after 10.00am Mass. Next week Anne Marie will be hosting .Thank you to our hospitality team for providing this very important ministry			

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Tham home, 6 Kibo Rd, Berala

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

To host the Pilgrim Statue contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker To host the Rosary Statue contact the Legion of Mary.



Holy Mass at Berala: Monday-Friday:6.45AM. Wednesday - Friday 9.15 AM

Saturday 8 AM, 9 AM Adoration & Novena. **Lord's Day Mass:** Saturday 5 PM (Vigil), Sunday 10 AM.

Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tuesday 9 AM (school term only); **Lord's Day Mass:** Sunday 8 AM.

Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.00 AM - 10 AM.