

## 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

Third Sunday of  
Advent - Year B  
14 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,  
Afiayi 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

## Christ is our Gift



Johnny told his Mum that some of the toys she bought are girls' toys and how come she bought them for him. Mum told him, "Dear they are not for you. We are going to gift wrap them and place them under the Christmas tree in the Church." Johnny asked, "Why?" Mummy explained to him that there are children out there who are too poor to get toys and gifts this Christmas. Therefore the Society of St Vincent de Paul of the parish is collecting these gifts through the church and making hampers to distribute to the poor families. His mother also told her child the importance of sharing and the need to look after the welfare of others. Making others happy is our happiness. Surely this mother was training her child not to be selfish in his life but to be other-centred in his life.

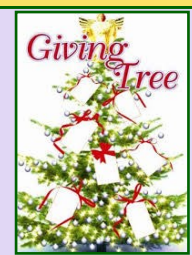
The most destructive sin is selfishness and self-centeredness. Self-centredness is the seed of greed and violence. It also can generate unhealthy pride and arrogance. Turning away from this sin is very important to receive God's gifts. John the Baptist baptised people who confessed their sins and prayed for forgiveness. John, who came to make a path straight for the Lord, was focussed on repentance and renewal in life. Australians as a rule like to help people in need. Most people in our country are prepared to make sacrifices in their lives to help others. We are living in a humanitarian society. As we participate in many charity activities, we are doing what John the Baptist is asking for, turning away from self-centeredness to other-centeredness. So far so good.

John the Baptist does not stop there. He told them that his baptism is only a preparation for something more profound. There is someone greater than him coming after him. That is Jesus Christ. John, through his call for repentance, was preparing the way for Jesus Christ to come. John the Baptist asked his followers to turn to Jesus and follow him, because Jesus is the Saviour.

So if we are content with our works of charity and humanitarian concerns, and do not want to look for any spirituality beyond being good and useful to others, then we are not doing what John the Baptist is calling us to do. We as Christians should do more than be good people. We need to follow Jesus Christ. Let us acknowledge Christ as our Saviour and connect with him by praying with the Bible and participating in the Eucharist. See your works of charity and self-sacrifices as preparation to receive Christ. Thus we shall become Christ bearers. It will also enable us to present Christ to others. The ultimate Gift we can receive as well as give for this Christmas and always is Christ.

## 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. Food must be non-perishable and please label wrapped toys with age and gender. Thank you



## 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**

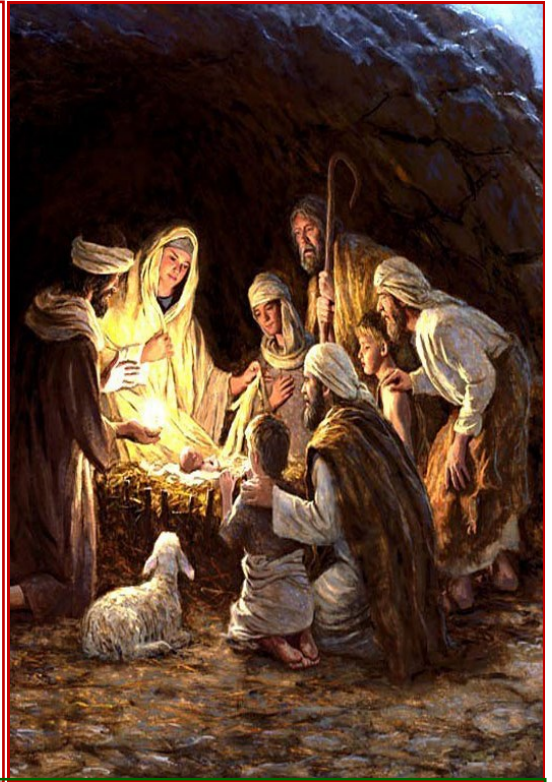
10 AM Mass at SPC Berala

**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.



## New Maronite Parish

Maronite Bishop Tarabay has declared a new parish St Raymond, incorporating Auburn, Lidcombe, Berala, Regents Park, Sefton, Chester Hill, and Bass Hill with Fr Sam Wehbe as the Parish Priest. This new Maronite Parish is allowed to use St Joseph the Worker church of our parish for their Sunday Mass for the time being. I am aware that Bishop Tarabay is actively working on establishing a permanent church for the Maronite Community of this new parish. I wish them all the best and God's blessings on Fr Sam and the new parish. I also want to assure parishioners that the status of St Joseph the Church is not affected by the establishment of the parish of St Raymond. St Joseph the Worker church and school retain their names and continue to be part of St Peter Chanel and St Joseph Parish Berala.

## New Church Shop

The piety stall at St Peter Chanel Church is now relocated to its original place, the room in front of the church. The newly refurbished stall will be called the CHURCH SHOP. It has plenty of rosary beads, wall hangings, Christmas Cards, Religious Calendars, Daily reflection books, various religious publications, CDs, small statues, and gift ideas. Hereafter Catholic Weekly will also be sold from the CHURCH SHOP.

## 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

Further details contact Arthur Doumit on 0417 270 923

## Christmas Lunch Donations

Donations are needed for our luncheon on Christmas day 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

# 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 Year 6 Graduation Mass
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass 7.00 PM Group 2 Practice at Maureen's house (8 Wallace St Sefton)	
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass	
Friday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass	
Saturday	8.00AM Mass 9 -10 AM Adoration & Novena & Reconciliation 5.00 PM Mass Fourth Sunday Advent	
Sunday	10.00 AM Fourth Sunday Advent 5.00 PM Practice for Christmas singing—All welcome!	8.00 AM Fourth Sunday Advent

## Mass Intentions - May they Rest in Peace

**Anniversaries:** Alexander Moline

**Deceased:** Carmen Portelli, Charlie Portelli, Bert Portelli, Anthony Spiteri, Carmen Spiteri, Pasquale Taglini, Fernando Domingo

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

### Rite of Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Rite) will be offered from 7.00pm to 8.30pm on Tuesday 23 December at SPC Berala.

## Other Notices

**9 Days Dawn Masses:** The 9-Days novena Masses are actually a novena in honour of the Blessed Virgin who welcomed Jesus into the world and took the consequences of it. Join us at St Joachim's Lidcombe 5:30AM for 9 days of DAWN masses starting 16 December till the 24, praying and singing Christmas hymns/songs, and sharing a hearty breakfast in the hall (or Dooley's Catholic Club).

**Fertility Educators Needed.** Natural Fertility Services is looking for applicants in the Greater Sydney area to train as Fertility Educators. Thorough, training over 12-months is provided to successful applicants. Some prior experience of Natural Family Planning is desirable but not essential. Sessional work is available to those who complete the training and become accredited educators. Training will commence in Feb 2015. For more information please contact:-NFS (02) 9390 5156. Closing date: 31 Dec 2014.

### 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 No .....Email 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:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

### Responsorial Psalm:

(R.) My soul rejoices in my God.

1. My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her nothingness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. (R.)

2. The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him. (R.)

3. He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.  
He protects Israel, his servant,  
remembering his mercy. (R.)

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

**Alleluia!**

### Communion Antiphon:

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

### Today's Readings

Is 61:1-2, 10-11

1 Thess 5:16-24

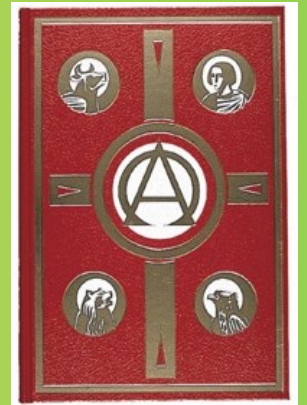
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

### Next Sunday's Readings

2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:256-38



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

21 DECEMBER 2014		4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	Joseph MARMAN	Mario CAPRA
ORGANIST		SJW YOUTH	SAMOAN
CANTOR	YOUTH CHOIR	CHOIR	CHOIR
LECTOR/S	William ANDREWS	Karim KASSIS	Hoa NGUYEN
	Christine KENSEY	Michael CHOW	Margarette NGUYEN
COMMENTATOR	Joy SKERRITT	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Hilary NGUYEN
GIFTS	Graham TOBY Family		Leo PORTELLI Family
PIETY STALL	Adele MELER		Anna FACER
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Micheline BOTHAM
SP. MINISTER	Joy SKERRITT		Mai VU
<b>HOSPITAL:</b> Charlie & Kay Scully		<b>ALTAR:</b> Group 5 M Heys; C Mabon; M Wood	
<b>SPC CLEANERS:</b> Roland & Aida Javier		<b>COUNTERS:</b> Group 3 K Hartman; A Tham; R Cheema	
<b>SJW CLEANERS:</b> Maronite Group		<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY:</b> None during school holidays	
<b>HOSPITALITY:</b> This week Anne Marie will be hosting morning tea after 10.00am Mass. Next week Rani Sebastian will be hosting. Thank you to our hospitality team for providing this very important ministry			

**PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel** at the Jaksic home, 2 Dempster Cr, Berala

Please join them any evening at **7.00pm** 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.