

ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA



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f Berala Catholic Parish
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Baptism of the Lord

Year C

10 January 2016

Parish Priest

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam
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T (02) 9644 7787

Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Barbari
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
Maureen Hynes
(Secretary)
Joji Salar (Asst Secretary),
Micheline Botham (Social
Committee) Jenny Michael
(Liturgy Committee)
Pat Kavanagh (Social
Justice), Jann Rockliff,
(Hospital Visit) Sam Duch,
Joe Moses, Rhia Victorino,
Arthur Doumit and
Principals of
the Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

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

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel
Regents Park
Principal - Phil Townsend
T. 96449083

St Joseph the Worker
Auburn South
Principal - Gai Melville
T. 96461434

Baptism of the Lord

Isn't it enough to be good? Why do we need baptism and other rituals of the Church? Perhaps a reflection on the topic of the Baptism of the Lord can shed light on these questions.

John was calling for repentance and was baptising the penitents with water. His mission was so popular that he was mistaken for the expected saviour/Christ. Therefore John told them that he was not the messiah and he was only preparing the way for the real saviour/Christ whose baptism will be superior. Jesus did not need a baptism of conversion, since he did not have any sins. Yet he obliged to baptism. That was to express his solidarity with the seekers of the Kingdom of God. When Jesus was baptised, the Holy Spirit came upon him and he was declared as the favourite Son of God. Now, as the Son of God, Jesus can baptise not just with purifying water, but also with the empowering Holy Spirit who will make the baptised person a child of God.

To understand the significance of the empowering aspect of Jesus' baptism, we need to look at what happened at the Last Supper of the Lord. Jesus broke bread and blessed wine and shared them with his disciples saying, "This is my flesh" and this is my blood". Then he asked them to eat and drink of his flesh and blood. He also commanded them to do this in his memory. By eating and drinking of the flesh and blood of Jesus Christ, we become part of the body of Christ in a mystical way, like children bonded to parents in a family. Therefore we say, through baptism and Holy Communion of Eucharist we become children of God. Being children of god is more than being a good person. As children of God we will be able to bring 'good news to the poor, sight to the blind, liberty to captives, and to announce the year of mercy of the Lord'. Looking at Jesus' life we learn how to live out the empowered life of our baptism.

Mother Teresa of Kolkatta, Mary of the Cross Mackillop and such other heroic saints lived out the power of the Holy Spirit in them in a special way. Such saint's witnessing lives can be an inspiration for us to be more than just good, but true sons and daughters of God spreading the good news Christ brought to the world. Each time we dip our fingers into the Holy Water font in our Church and bless ourselves, let us be reminded of this empowering by the Holy Spirit and the obligations attached to it.



Blessing ourselves with Holy Water reminds us that we are empowered by the Holy Spirit

Archbishop Anthony Fisher is not well

Catholic Communication issued the following statement on 4th January.

Shortly before Christmas Archbishop Anthony Fisher contracted a gastrointestinal infection which was subsequently complicated by an immune-related pathology. This was later diagnosed as Guillain-Barre Syndrome.

Symptoms of this syndrome include varying degrees of muscle weakness, and while its onset is sudden and unexpected, the great majority of people make a full recovery.

Archbishop Anthony has responded extremely well to treatment at St Vincent's Hospital and expects to move shortly out of intensive care. He will then begin several weeks of rehabilitation and physiotherapy initially at the hospital. He is extremely grateful for the superb care he has received at St Vincent's.

The Archbishop warmly appreciates the generous and thoughtful prayers and messages of support he has received at this time. He is grateful for the understanding and patience of the priests and people of the Archdiocese as he focuses on the recovery process.

In this New Year of Grace and Mercy 2016, the Archbishop sends his prayers and best wishes to all for a Happy New Year. He asks for your continued prayers as he prays daily for the people of the Archdiocese.



Lenten Prayer Groups at Berala

It is time to start organising Lenten Prayer Groups. Lent Starts on Wednesday 10 February. Already 2 groups are scheduled.

Jenny Michael's group will meet at 7.30 PM on Tuesdays, starting on 9 February, the day before Ash Wednesday.

Fr Thomas will be leading a group on Thursdays at 7.30 PM starting on 11 February.

You are welcome to sign up for one of these groups or form your own. Let the parish office know how many are in your group so that we can organise the materials for you.

GEM: Change of date

Last Thursday there was meeting of volunteer team for GEM and it was decided to change the date of the first gathering of GEM to Saturday 20th February. If your Birthday is in January or February, the GEM group of the parish invite you to celebrate it on Saturday 20th February, 2016 at 6.30pm. You are also welcome to invite people who may not normally celebrate such occasions. And if your birthday is not in January or February, GEM invites you to come and help celebrate with others. Please let the parish office know if you are coming. Any volunteers wishing to be part of GEM Group can contact Pat Kavanagh on 96464283 or ozzie@bigpond.net.au

New Liturgy and Ministry Rosters

The next Liturgy and Ministry Roster begins on the 7 February. If your availabilities have changed, or you wish to be included in the roster, please contact the parish office.



SPC - SJW KIDS CAMP 14-16 JANUARY 2016

We are proud to present our parish's very first kids camp -

GOD IS LOVE: CELEBRATING WITH FRIENDSHIP, FAITH AND FUN!

To be held over three amazing days over the summer holidays, this will be a day camp (no sleepover required!) on the grounds of St Peter Chanel for all 7-12 year olds.

Filled with fun activity and teaching based on our Catholic faith, it is an event not to be missed.

Cost is \$15 per child (with concessions for siblings - \$25 for two children and \$30 for 3 children)

Please register your interest now as places are limited.

Please contact Rhia Victorino (SPC) on 0420 966 463 or Karim/Gloria Kassis (SJW) on 0408 404 130/0414 493 154.

Sacramental Team Meeting

The program of preparation for the sacraments of Confirmation, First Communion, and Reconciliation will be different to previous years.

Registration for the programs will be accepted in February. To plan the details of the renewed program, the team will be meeting on Tuesday, 12 January at 7 PM at the presbytery



Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45 AM Mass	
Tuesday	6.45 AM Mass 7.00 PM Sacramental Team Meeting	7.45 PM Legion of Mary (SJW Hall)
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass	
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass 10.00 AM - 4.00 PM Kids Camp	
Friday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass 10.00 AM - 4.00 PM Kids Camp	
Saturday	8.00 AM Mass 9.00 - 10.00 AM Adoration, Novena, Reconciliation 11.00 AM - 5.00 PM Kids Camp 5.00 PM Mass	
Sunday	10.00 AM Mass	8.00 AM Mass

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased: Evangelina Camacho Elitong, Esma Mary Ingram

Anniversaries: Aidan Lynch

Deceased: Fatima Bolonia

Deceased members and friends of : Ross & Mitchell Family, Irwin & O'Dwyer Families,

May their Souls Rest in Peace

Other Notices



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration at St. Joachim's Church, John Street, Lidcombe. Perpetual Adoration is a Eucharistic devotion whereby parishioners unite in taking hours of adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Church will provide access to allow parishioners and visitors to spend one hour each week in Adoration. This will be available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. Let us help you schedule your own personal hour to be with Jesus. If you would like to commit to one hour on a full time basis please contact the Parish Office on 9649 7030 or Trevor Brewty on 0429777518. Casual visitation is also welcome.

Life and Family Conference: presented by Family Life International and Population Research Institute. From 21 - 24 January at Lake Hume Resort in Albury. Guest speaker's include Archbishop Julian Porteous, Bishop Cesare Bonivento, Steve Mosher and many more. Topics covered; Faith & Family, Abortion & Euthanasia, the Synod on the Family and much more. For information contact, FLI Office 02 9519 9111 www.fli.org.au mail@fli.org.au

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries offers a confidential voicemail number: 0400 092 555. There are healing retreats regularly in the Sydney area that offer women and me a spiritual way through grief and loss. Contact them for a non judgemental listening ear through one on one support or a referral to a trained counsellor or a trained, compassionate priest. Visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.au

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.antao@gmail.com

Sara's place: For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 96998190

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

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.

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.**

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.**

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:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

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

Today's Readings

Is 42:1-4

Acts 10:34-38

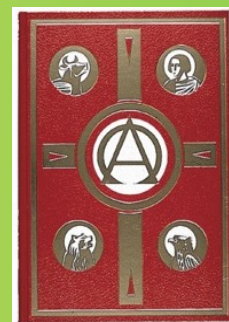
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Next Sunday Readings

Is 62:1-5

1 Cor 12:4-11

Jn 2:1-11



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

17 JANUARY 2016		2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Mario CAPRA
ORGANIST	YOUTH	SJW	SAMOAN
CANTOR	GROUP	YOUTH CHOIR	CHOIR
LECTOR/S	Joy SKERRITT	Karim KASSIS	Sharon IACONO
	Lawrence LOPEZ	Michael CHOW	Maureen HYNES
COMMENTATOR	Christine KENSEY	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Robert JAKSIC
GIFTS	Graham TOBY Family		VICTORINO family
PIETY STALL	Charlie SCULLY		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Hoa NGUYEN
SP. MINISTER	Sam DUCH		Mai VU
HOSPITAL: Charlie & Kay Scully		ALTAR: Group 1 G De Alkstrand; M Lewis; A Manganaro	
SPC CLEANERS: Lawrence & Phil Lopez		COUNTERS: Group 3 K Hartman; A Tham; R Cheema	
SJW CLEANERS: Maronite Group.		CHILDREN'S LITURGY: School Holidays	
HOSPITALITY SPC: Antoinette			



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Amores,

45 Third Ave, Berala. Please join any evening at 7.30pm for the Rosary

To host the Pilgrim Statue from St Peter Chanel contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker

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

Holy Mass at Berala: Monday to Friday 6.45AM & Wednesday to Friday 9.15 AM

Saturday 8.00AM, 9.00AM Adoration & Novena. **Lord's Day Mass:** Saturday 5.00PM (Vigil), Sunday 10.00AM.

Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tues 9.00 AM (During school term only) **Lord's Day Mass:** Sunday 8.00 AM

Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.00AM - 10.00AM.

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

☐ Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

YES/NO Tax deduction (*please circle*)

☐ Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (*An authority form will be sent for completion*)