ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA



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 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 Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker Auburn South Principal - Gai Melville T. 96461434 Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141 Ph: 96447787 E: info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au f Berala Catholic Parish Third Sunday in Lent Year C 28 February 2016

Enter into the Mercy of God, He is waiting

The greatest joy I have is that I am able to absolve the sins of repentant penitents in their confession. While I myself am a sinner, in need of God's mercy, I am ordained to bring God's mercy to many who want to make a new start in life. Being the agent of God's mercy to people has taken me well beyond the commitment of providing the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the past; it continues to be the case



even now. In a parish I had in India, alcoholism, illicit breweries, and cannabis cultivation were creating an atmosphere of hopelessness, mistrust among the dear ones, and sinful ways of living. I saw God's call then to help them. So I started a program of assistance for the alcoholics, a strategy of connecting with spiritually elusive people, and a program of special Bible Prayers. Meeting people with broken lives in counselling, group programs, prayer meetings, and home visitations made my life very occupied during the day and most times well into the night. But the memories of those delight me even now, because I could see the unfolding of the mercy of God in many lives which helped them to make a new start in life. In all these, the key element was persistent prayer and patient waiting.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples a parable of the fig tree that was not producing any fruit. Though the farmer decided to cut it off, the gardener pleads for more time to care for the tree and wait for it to produce fruit. The farmer agrees. Similarly, we are given time and God is patient, waiting for us to produce fruit. The greatest of God's gifts to a person wanting to make a new start in life is the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Penance. I am available to hear confessions and offer absolution.

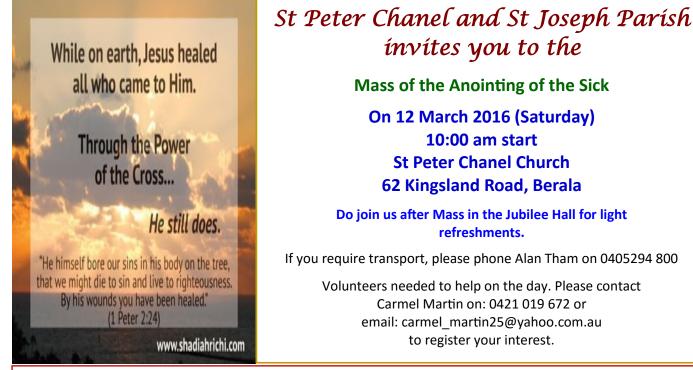
Jesus was asked about the tragedies of sudden and accidental deaths. Are they punishments for their sins? Not at all. But it should remind us that the end of earthly life is unpredictable for us humans. Therefore we need to be aware of the urgency to repent and turn back to God.

To enter into God's mercy, we may also need to work on circumstances that lead us and our companions into hopelessness and sinful ways. That is how I was drawn into working with alcoholics and counselling people with various problems. Such works with social issues with spiritual implications are the kind of things we can work together as a parish community. Though the things I have mentioned are from my Indian parishes, similar things are relevant here and now. One of the major issues we need to work on now is the problem of isolated life of many individuals in spite of being surrounded by crowds of people. There are plenty of spiritual issues as a consequence of the experience of isolation. Therefore we need to work on building up fellowship and it is a work of mercy I would like to share with my parishioners. In some cases we may need a lot of patience. But we can do it with the help of God. Together we can enter into the mercy of God. We all are called to be agents of God's mercy. Let us do it in this year of mercy

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross are held at St Peter Chanel Church on each Friday in Lent at 7.00 PM





Living Mercy - Sharing the Music of the Heart Reaching out to the needs of our world – The concern of each of us!

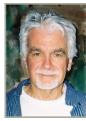
Two Sisters of Mercy, Sr Helen and Sr Valda are coming to our Parish to meet with us all on Wednesday, 16th March at 7.30pm. It will be an informal group session aimed at raising our awareness of the needs of our poor, and of our earth. It is hoped that, through our sharing together, we will come up with an appropriate and compassionate response to these needs, so that, moved to action as a Parish Group we can make a difference.

In this Year of Mercy, please take the first step in reaching out to the world's needs by coming to this meeting. You need to register your name with the Parish Secretary: email (info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au or call (9644 7787).

Through our baptism we are called to be the face of the merciful Christ shining in our world!

Lenten Concert - Ashes to Easter with Peter Kearney

Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House' and 'The Beatitudes'. His 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week and Easter. The concert program is mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy. Admission by donation. The concert will be held on Saturday March 19th, after 5.00pm Mass and barbecue in the Jubilee Hall, Kingsland Road, Berala.



Catholic Inquiry

There are always people inquiring about joining the Catholic Church. There are a few people meeting with me currently and at different stages of preparation for baptism. There are 228 adults getting baptised and 46 adults from other denominations that will be formally received in the Catholic Church in various parishes of the Archdiocese of Sydney during Easter Vigil this year. If you know anyone wishing to join Catholic Church, please let me know. A program of preparation will start after Easter.



Living Biblically in a Secular World.

Understanding the Bible and its relevance to our time and life is important. Therefore, using the scholarship and experience of Rev Dr Mark Colleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane, a program called LIVING BIBLICALLY IN A SECULAR WORLD will be held at Jubilee Hall Berala. It will start on Wednesday 11 May and continues for 7 consecutive weeks. Each session will start at 7.30 PM and finish at 9 PM. You can start registering for the program now. It is free.

Holy Week

Holy Week starts with the commemoration of Jesus entry into Jerusalem, on Sunday 20 March (Palm Sunday). Mass times for Palm Sunday will be same as for normal Sundays. But we shall have the blessing of the palms and procession into church at each of the Masses.

If anyone can offer palms for Palm Sunday, please let the parish office know in advance. The palms need to be brought in by Friday evening.

Fr John Sullivan will be offering Holy week Reflections on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week (21-23 March). It will be after 9.15 AM Mass and a repeat of the session at 7.00 pm on each of these three days. There will be also opportunity to go for confession at each of these sessions. Fr John Sullivan will be remaining with us until the Easter Vigil

On Holy Thursday, there will be two Masses. The first one is at 10.30 AM at St Mary's cathedral and it is the Chrism Mass. The Second Mass is the Mass of Lord's Last Supper and it is at 7.30 PM at SPC. Washing of Feet also will be done at this Mass. The Liturgy will continue with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the Mass.

On Good Friday, there will two sessions of Stations of the Cross in the morning; one at 9AM at St Joseph the Worker and another at 10AM at St Peter Chanel. In the afternoon at 3PM we will have the commemoration of the Passion of the Lord and veneration of the Cross at St Peter Chanel. This is also a day of Fasting and abstinence from eating meat.

On Holy Saturday (Easter Saturday), Morning Prayer and blessing of food is done at 9 AM. In the evening at 7 PM we start with the blessing of fire and water, and Easter Vigil ceremonies. During the Vigil celebration, Sue, Chris and their two children will be baptised, and received into Church. After the ceremonies all are invited to Jubilee Hall to celebrate the initiation of the two adults into the church with a light supper. Should you wish to bring any food for this supper, please inform the parish office. Easter Sunday Masses are 8 AM at SJW and 10 AM at SPC.

Holy Week Schedule

St Peter Chanel Church, Berala

Monday 9.45am and 7.00pm	Holy Week Reflection by Fr John Sullivan
Tuesday 9.45am and 7.00pm	Holy Week Reflection by Fr John Sullivan
Wednesday 9.45am and 7.00pm	Holy Week Reflection by Fr John Sullivan
Holy Thursday 7.30pm	Mass of the Last Supper of the Lord and Washing of Feet
Good Friday 10.00am	Stations of the Cross
Good Friday 3.00pm	Passion of the Lord
Saturday 9.00am	Morning Prayer and Blessing of Food
Easter Vigil at 7.00pm	Blessing of fire & water, Adult Baptism
Easter Sunday 10.00am	Mass
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St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South

Good Friday 9.00 AM Stations of the Cross Easter Sunday 8.00 AM Mass

Confession

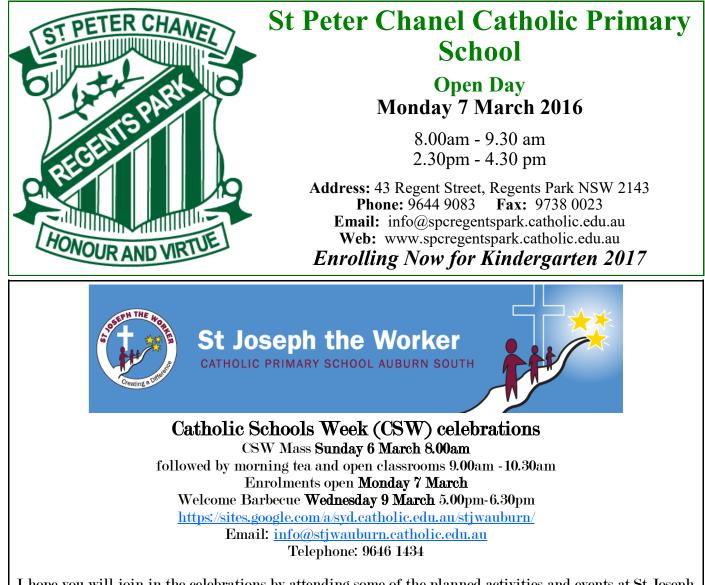
You are welcome to confession any Saturday of Lent 9.00 AM - 10 AM and 1.30 PM - 2.15 PM Fridays

The sacred Pascal Triduum starts with the Mass of Last Supper on Holy Thursday night and ends with solemn Easter Vigil celebration. The Liturgies of these three special days are considered as three parts of one long liturgy that lasts for three days.

Mercy– One Day Lenten Conference with The Catholic Guy Lent can be the most powerful time of our year. This is a time when we come into contact with God's mercy and that changes everything about us. We are inviting people of all ages and backgrounds to come and spend 'One Day' with us and experience God in a special, powerful and personal way.

'Mercy' is an event for people of all ages and walks of life. Whether you're single or married, whether you go to Church regularly or perhaps haven't been for a while, 'Mercy' is for you.

Saturday 12th March 2016 (1pm-9pm) at Patrician Brothers Catholic College, 268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield. Cost: FREE (Dinner included) Pre-register for the special FREE daytime program for children aged 2 to 15 years. Parent's room also available. Register online at www.TheCatholicGuy.tv/Mercy More info visit mercy@thecatholicguy.com or ph 1300 734 880



I hope you will join in the celebrations by attending some of the planned activities and events at St Joseph the Worker during Catholic Schools Week 2016.

Mrs Gai Melville (Interim Principal)



Open Afternoon Auburn Campus

March 9 2016 • 4.00pm - 7.00pm

Visit us at our Auburn campus for an Open Afternoon where you can take a tour of our facilities, meet our teachers and experience the Trinity spirit.



ENROLMENTS OPEN MARCH 9 FOR 2017 • YEARS 7-12

Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45 AM Mass	
Tuesday	6.45 AM Mass 7.00 PM Communion Parent Meeting in the Church	7.00 PM Legion of Mary (SJW Hall) 9.00 AM Mass
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass & 9.15 AM Mass	
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass & 9.15 AM Mass7.30 PM Group 2 singing practice at 8 Wallace St Sefton	9.00AM - 10.00AM Playgroup in the Mark Spora Room.
Friday	6.45 AM Mass & 9.15 AM Mass 1.30 PM - 2.15 PM Reconciliation 7.00 PM Stations of the Cross	
Saturday	8.00 AM Mass 9.00 - 10.00 AM Adoration, Novena, Reconciliation 5.00 PM Mass	
Sunday	10.00 AM Mass 11.00 AM Confirmation Preparation in the Hall 5.00 PM Choir practice in the Church	8.00 AM Mass

Mass Intentions

Sick: Archbishop Anthony Fisher Anniversaries: Louis Moses Recently Deceased: Philomena Eggins, Mary Hyland, Anita Liew, Maria Oanh Vu, Deceased: Mirijana Lisica,

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

Alcohol and Drug Information Service: (Confidential) (02) 9361 8000 Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo T/F: (02) 4236 0533 E: <u>cottageretreats@bigpond.com</u> Carmelites Varroville E: <u>retreats@carmelite.com</u>;

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby E: <u>clary.antao@gmail.com</u>

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

Ladies, Improve your Reading, Writing & Conversation skills : If English is your second language, Sr Elaine Walker is holding classes to improve communication skills from 1.00pm - 2.30pm Monday to Friday or 4.00pm - 5.30pm Tuesday to Friday at 25 Helena St Auburn

Knitting and Crochet Group: This Group, also run by Sr Elaine, meets on Monday mornings at 9.30am to knit for the Sydney Night Patrol Van and children with cancer.

Please contact Sr Elaine Walker on 9649 9635 to enrol or for more information on these programs..

Project Compassion: Dominic's story - Papua New Guinea

Participating in the Caritas Australia supported Community Conversations program has empowered Dominic and the people of his village to create a new way of life, far from the violence and gender inequality of the past.

Dominic (36) lives with his wife and four children in the Jiwaka Province of Papua New Guinea (PNG), where generational poverty has led to many challenges, including inequality, alcohol abuse and violence.

Dominic admits that he too faced some of these challenges. But when Caritas Australia and local partner, the Sisters of Notre Dame, established the Community Conversations program, he saw an opportunity to create change.



"I was inspired to hear of the different issues highlighted and processes used to come up with solutions," Dominic explains.

Through regular Community Conversations training sessions, Dominic learnt communication and problem-solving skills that helped him lead open, respectful community discussions in his village. By empowering everyone to voice concerns and play a role in community decisions, Dominic's village has achieved greater peace and increased respect, as well as reduced violence and alcohol abuse. Now, Dominic's community has a chance to thrive and create a better future for themselves.

"When we start to realise we have power to stand independently to change ourselves, help ourselves, we feel liberated," says Dominic. "I am most proud of the positive changes I am witnessing. I pass my big thanks and pray God will bless our supporters in Australia."

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Responsorial Psalm:

R The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings R.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion R.

The Lord does deeds of justice, gives judgement for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses and his deeds to Israel's sons R.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him R

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Communion Antiphon:

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Today's Readings Ex 3:1-8, 13-15 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12 Lk 13:1-9

Next Sunday's Readings Joshua 5:9-12 2 Cor 5:17-21 Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

St Peter Chanel & St Joseph the Worker Rosters - Next Week					
6 March 2016 Fourth Sunday of Lent					
VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)			
Joseph MARMAN	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER			
Maureen HYNES		SAMOAN			
PARISH CHOIR		CHOIR			
John DONNELLAN		Sharon IACONO			
Noeline DONNELLAN	Jenny MICHAEL	Hoa NGUYEN			
Katrina YIP	Joe MOSES	Hilary NGUYEN			
Dorothy BOYD		Roland JAVIER family			
Charlie SCULLY		John SHANLEY			
Pam SNELL		Karen NGUYEN			
Janet RYAN		Anna MANGANARO			
HOSPITAL: William Andrews & Robert Jaksic		ALTAR: Group 2 Bolonia family			
SPC CLEANERS: Samoan Youth Group		COUNTERS: Group 2 Christine Kensey; Julie Toby			
SJW CLEANERS: Maris & John Marsh		CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Joji Salar			
HOSPITALITY SPC: Micheline Botham		SJW: Maria Oszust			
	VIGIL (SPC) Joseph MARMAN Maureen HYNES PARISH CHOIR John DONNELLAN Noeline DONNELLAN Katrina YIP Dorothy BOYD Charlie SCULLY Pam SNELL Janet RYAN Andrews & Robert Jaksic umoan Youth Group Iaris & John Marsh	Vigil (SPC)8AM (SJW)Joseph MARMANWilliam ANDREWSMaureen HYNESPARISH CHOIRJohn DONNELLANJenny MICHAELNoeline DONNELLANJenny MICHAELKatrina YIPJoe MOSESDorothy BOYDCharlie SCULLYPam SNELLJanet RYANAndrews & Robert JaksicALTAR: Group 2 Bolonia faIaris & John MarshCHILDREN'S LITURGY: Job			



"Family that pray together stay together" **PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel** at the O'Dwyer home,

4/35 Hyde Park Road, Berala. Please join any evening at 5.30pm 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 NoEmail

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)