



ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA

Second Sunday of Advent Year A

4 December 2016

First Reading **Is 11:1-10**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He judges the poor with justice.

A shoot springs from the stock of Jesse,
a scion thrusts from his roots:
on him the spirit of the Lord rests,
a spirit of wisdom and insight,
a spirit of counsel and power,
a spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.
(The fear of the Lord is his breath.)
He does not judge by appearances,
he gives no verdict on hearsay,
but judges the wretched with integrity,
and with equity gives a verdict for the poor of the land.

His word is a rod that strikes the ruthless,
his sentences bring death to the wicked.

Integrity is the loincloth round his waist,
faithfulness the belt about his hips.

The wolf lives with the lamb,
the panther lies down with the kid,
calf and lion cub feed together
with a little boy to lead them.
The cow and the bear make friends,
their young lie down together.
The lion eats straw like the ox.
The infant plays over the cobra's hole;
into the viper's lair
the young child puts his hand.
They do no hurt, no harm,
on all my holy mountain,
for the country is filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters swell the sea.
That day, the root of Jesse
shall stand as a signal to the peoples.
It will be sought out by the nations
and its home will be glorious.

Second Reading **Rom 15:4-9**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, the hope of all people.

Everything that was written long ago in the scriptures was meant to teach us something about hope from the examples scripture gives of how people who did not give up were helped by God. And may he who helps us when we refuse to give up, help you all to be tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, so that united in mind and voice you may give glory to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It can only be to God's glory, then, for you to treat each other in the same friendly way as Christ treated you. The reason Christ became the servant of circumcised Jews was not only so that God could faithfully carry out the promises made to the patriarchs, it was also to get the pagans to give glory to God for his mercy, as scripture says in one place: For this I shall praise you among the pagans and sing your name.

Gospel **Mt 3:1-12**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141, Ph: 96447787 E: info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au, Stpeterstjoseph



Carols Festival 21 December 7.30pm

Parish Priest

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

Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari, Cor Bishop
T (02)8723 9192
M 0418 459 431

Fr Mark Spora
Pastor Emeritus SJW

Parish Secretary

Marisa Squadrito
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm
T (02) 9644 7787

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) ,
Joe Moses, Rhia Victorino, Danny
Pavicic, 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 &
Brendon Nazareth

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
T. 96449083
Principal - Phil Townsend
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
T. 96461434
Principal - Gai Melville
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

Parish Diary This Week!

Monday	6.45am Mass
Tuesday	6.45am Mass 9.00am Mass at Auburn South 11.00am Music Ministry Planning Meeting at 8 Wallace St Sefton 7.00pm Pastoral/Finance Meeting in the Donovan Room
Wednesday	Feast St Ambrose 6.45am & 9.15am - Mass
Thursday	Feast Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 6.45am & 9.15am - Mass 9.00am Playgroup in the Mark Spora Room 6.00pm Legion of Mary (SJW Hall) 7.00pm Psalmist practice at 8 Wallace St Sefton 7.30pm General Parish Choir practice at 8 Wallace St Sefton
Friday	6.45am Mass & 9.15am Mass
Saturday	8.00am Mass 9.00am - 10.00am Adoration, Novena, Reconciliation 5.00pm Sunday Vigil Mass 3rd Sunday of Advent
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth 3rd Sunday of Advent 10.00am Mass 3rd Sunday of Advent 5.00pm General Choir Practice for Carol Festival & Christmas Masses at 8 Wallace St Sefton (Maureen's place)

Mass Intentions

Anniversaries: Eddie Leonardi

Deceased: Joseph Liuaga, Maria Lill, Ivo Langi, Mele Langi, Latai, Jack

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

May their Souls Rest In Peace



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel

at the Perrera home,

17/26 Bruncker Road, Yagoona.

Please join them 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.

Just for laughs!



A priest was opening his Christmas cards one December morning. Out of one the cards came a single sheet of paper on it was written only one word: 'Fool'.

The following Sunday, in church, he announced to the congregation, 'I have known many people who have written notes to me and forgotten to sign their names. But this week I received a note from someone who signed his name and had forgotten to write a letter.'

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

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats

Carmelites Varroville - www.carmeliteretreats.com.au

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby - www.divineretreatcentre.org.au

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

You are the Christ for the World

Christ will come again. The birth of Jesus is not the only reason to celebrate Christmas. But the question is 'when will he come again and how will we receive him?' In our baptism, we have become another Christ. We became a child of God and a member of the Church. That means we became part of his body. As part of the Body of Christ, you and I, present Christ to the world. That is Christ coming again.



The teaching of John the Baptist (Mat 3:1-12) provides guidelines on how to receive Christ so that we can present Him to the world. First of all John said "repent for your sins and turn away from your old ways." Even to the righteous people like Pharisees and Sadducees, John asked them to turn away from their old ways. Neither Following the austerity of John the Baptist, nor the righteousness of the Pharisees and the Sadducees were enough indication of embracing new ways. John said, "produce the appropriate fruit". To do so they were invited by Jesus to join his fellowship. And those who did were eventually 'baptised with the Holy Spirit and fire' at Pentecost. After that they started to produce amazing fruits.

As people baptised into the Body of Christ, we need to produce the fruits of the fire of love and power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Our charity, as Jesus did, should be in the name of the Kingdom of God. The Fire of our Love should proclaim the love God the Father, as Jesus did. That means Jesus demands more than just righteousness. That is where we differ from the righteous people like Pharisees and Sadducees.

You are the Christ come again. You are the Christ for the world to meet. This Advent is the time to get ready for the mission of presenting Christ to the world.

"Parish 2020" Launch

This weekend marks the launch of 'Parish 2020', the new pastoral project, commissioned by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP, which aims to renew and strengthen parishes and communities of the Archdiocese. To launch the project, the Archbishop has written a Pastoral Message, and in place of today's homily, a DVD containing the Archbishop's Pastoral Message will be screened for you, with printed resources available at the back of the church for you to take home. The Archbishop wishes to receive reflections and comments from everyone across the Archdiocese regarding mission priorities and ways of renewing and strengthening Parishes for our future. The first phase of this consultation will take place for three months between January – March 2017, and you will hear more about this shortly. Info Contact: Parish 2020 Working Group – parish2020@sydneycatholic.org or 9390 5233.

Special Combined meeting of Pastoral Council and Finance Committee

To follow up the Launch of Parish 2020, there will be a special meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council and the Finance Committee. At this meeting we will be deliberating on the best way of consulting the parishioners. Accordingly I will be advising the Archdiocesan Committee in January 2017.

Looking for Baby Jesus

The Christmas Vigil Mass at 7pm on Saturday, 24 December is meant to focus on families with children. We usually have a tableau of the Holy Family with child Jesus in front of the Crib in the church. We are looking for a family with a baby to do this part. Please contact the parish office or Fr Thomas to volunteer

Christmas Schedule 2016

Wednesday 21 December

7.30pm Carols Festival at SPC Berala

Friday 23 December

7.00pm Second Rite Reconciliation at SPC Berala

Saturday 24 December

7.00pm Mass at SPC Berala with children & families.

Children are invited to dress up as shepherds,
Magi (kings), angels.

12.00am Solemn Midnight Mass at SPC Berala

Sunday 25 December

8.00am Mass at SJW Auburn South

10.00am Mass at SPC Berala

11.00am - 3.00pm Christmas Lunch in the Jubilee Hall

Monday 26 December

10.30am Mass (Anniversary of Ordination for Fr Thomas)



Advent Music

At the 5pm Vigil Mass during Advent to reflect the spirit of the Season we will use a simple, easy to learn Plainsong Mass Setting; where possible we will sing unaccompanied; the organ will be used sparingly – just to support the singing; ...and all of this is to prepare us liturgically for the joyful celebration of Christ's birth at Christmas. *Maureen Hynes and The Music Planning Team*



Parish Carol Festival - Change of time

At the last Planning Meeting, it was noted that as there so many items, that the Carols should start earlier than what was originally planned. Therefore it was decided to start it at **7.30pm Wednesday, 21 December**, on the lawns next to SPC Church Beralá. It will also include Scripture readings. Bring along rugs and picnic baskets if you wish. You will be able to buy electronic candles for \$2 on the night.

Christmas Giving Trees

At SJW Church: Tags are on the tree which can be taken and attached to presents for the needy for Christmas. Please return the presents soon so that they can be distributed before Christmas. Your participation is appreciated.

At SPC Church: The Tree has been erected in the entrance of the church and all are invited to leave a gift. Please label wrapped gifts with who they may be most appropriate for (i.e. child, man). Your generosity will help bring a smile to those less fortunate.



Christmas Masses Roster

The Liturgy Roster for all Christmas Masses is now being organised. There are 4 Masses over Christmas - The Vigil Mass, Midnight Mass, 8.00am at St Joseph the Worker Church and 10.00am at St Peter Chanel Church. Please let the parish office know if you are available to read, do the offertory, be a Special Minister, open the Church Shop or be a Greeter at any of these Masses.

Advent Wreath

The round shape and the green leaves that decorate it, together symbolises life without end – Eternal Life. Progressively lighting one each candle each week of Advent symbolises progressively God revealing himself to us. Lit candles represent the resurrected life of Christ. The colours of the candles are the liturgical colours of the week. So much is common with any advent wreath you see. But the Wreath in St Peter Chanel Church is made of the original baptismal font before it was replaced with the marble font. Therefore this wreath also should remind us of our baptismal call to welcome Christ our life.

The Catholic Parish of St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Beralá

Invite all who wish
to share the joy of Christmas with others
to a Christmas Lunch
Food and drink provided

Date: 25 December 2016
Place: Jubilee Hall, 64 Kingsland Rd Beralá
(next to church)
Time: 11am to 3pm

RSVP for lunch and transport: Please phone Anne or Christine no
later than Friday 16 December on 96437794

For further details please contact
Evelene Safadi on 0416 140 378 or Arthur Doumit on 0417 270 923



Preparations for Christmas



Making the Crib is an art and a skill. When it is combined with dedication and passion for it, it is a wonderful experience. These pictures are of the team of volunteers who made the outdoor Crib on the parapet of SPC Church.

There was another team consisting of Jenny Michael, Anna Manganaro, Kay and Charlie Scully, who set up the Crib under SPC Altar and the new style Advent Wreath. Joyce Macdonald and Gina Lisica made the floral arrangements for the SPC Altar. Marrienne Ralph and children set up the Christmas Tree in the foyer of SPC Church where parishioners are placing gifts to include in Christmas Hampers to be distributed to the less advantaged.

Jennifer Pauperis and the Legion of Mary set up the Giving Tree in SJW Church. Please leave donations of toys and food, according to the tag you pick up from the tree. Frank Attard decorated the Advent Wreath for SJW Church.

Different teams of young and not so young have contributed to the preparation for the Church for the Advent Season. Such team works are helping us improve the vitality of our parish. Therefore it is part of our preparation for Christmas.



Thanks for your generosity

When Pastoral Council decided to have a collection of non-perishable food to prepare hampers for refugees, it was counting on the generosity of our parishioners. And the parish did not disappoint us. There were enough items collected to make up 30 hampers! They were delivered to Brother Nicholas from the Patrician Congregation, based in Fairfield, by Jenny Michael and Ray Michael. That is where most of the Syrian Refugees we wanted to assist. Brother Nicholas was surprised by the generosity of the parish and thanks our parish for the kind donation.

There was a token offering from the collected food at the Candlelight Mass at SJW which concluded the Year of Mercy in our parish. It was a beautiful expression of our Christian faith and fuller celebration of our Liturgy. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (Number 1070) teaches that in a true Liturgy, Church shares in Christ's priesthood through our worship, in his prophetic role when the Word of God is proclaimed and listened to with a homily, and the Service of Charity. So our charity in the name of Christ is also part of our Liturgical Celebration. We made our Candlelight Mass a fuller celebration of our Liturgy through offering of food to the poor.



Recently I was at a meeting of the pastors of our area. We meet four times a year. At the meeting, Jude from Barnabas Fund advised that they help with air tickets for any Christian Refugee with a 202 visa. Barnabas Fund has helped 700 Persecuted Christians with air tickets to Australia. Most of these refugees tend to come to Auburn, Fairfield, Smithfield, Guildford and Merrylands areas. The Salvation Army invites refugees to their store in Auburn to pick up Christmas Gifts, mostly toys, of their choice. But the Society of St Vincent de Paul prepares Christmas Hampers and delivers them to the door of the needy. They will rely on the contribution under the Christmas Tree to prepare hampers. This year I have requested for the list of Refugees in our area so that we can deliver a Christmas Gift to them. You, my parishioners have been always generous. I continue to rely on your generosity to meet this additional commitment.

Introduction to Meditation

Meditation is an art of praying used by many contemplative spiritual leaders in the history of the Church.

There are elements of meditation in the traditional piety of the faithful. But it is the Eastern religions which mastered the technique of Meditation. Fr Thomas will be giving an introduction to Meditation. This talk will refer to Christian Contemplative schools of Hesychasm, Desert Fathers, Ignatian Spirituality, and Eastern contemplative schools of Vipasana and Pathangali Yoga.

Venue: Jubilee Hall Date: Wednesday, 14 December

Time: 7 PM – 8.30 PM Cost: Free

To enrol please contact the parish office.

Advent Recollection Day for Women: Prepare the Way of the Lord

You are invited to join the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia for a day of recollection, prayer and fellowship on Saturday December 17th 2016 at St. Peter Chanel's Parish Hall. The day will include: Mass (8am); Adoration and Confession (9am); Welcome and morning tea (10am) followed by talks given by the Sisters and time for personal recollection. The day will end at 4.30pm and 5pm Vigil Mass is available. Please bring a plate to share for lunch. more info contact Dominican Sisters: sydney@op-tn.org or PH:96442786

New Altar Servers

A group of 9 children have been trained by Barbara Mucha, Karim Kassis and Frank Attard at SPC Church. This week they will be commissioned. We thank Barbara, Karim and Frank and congratulate the children praying for God's blessings on them as they begin this very important ministry

So you want to become a Parish Safeguarding Officer!

Well that's great because the Safeguarding Team needs people like you to assist us in Spreading the Message of Safeguarding throughout the Archdiocese of Sydney.



What to do now? That's easy. Firstly talk to your Parish Priest to see if he is happy to nominate you for the role and if so, you can contact the Safeguarding Team at safeguarding@sydneycatholic.org or ask your Parish Priest to log into the Parish Intranet for further information.

Other Notices

For Love Alone: a night for single young women (18-35) to discover more about Consecrated Life. Tuesday 6 December at 5pm. Come to meet and chat with consecrated women from various communities, time for prayer and dinner. Run by the University Catholic Chaplaincies and the Vocation Centre. For details and registration (essential) go to www.vocationcentre.org.au



Lights of Christmas 8 Dec-25 Dec. Once again, St Mary's Cathedral will light up this Christmas with inspiring and reflective projections of the Christmas season. **FREE EVENT!** St Mary's Cathedral Forecourt 8-25 Dec each night from 7.30pm-12.00am
www.lightsofchristmas.com.au

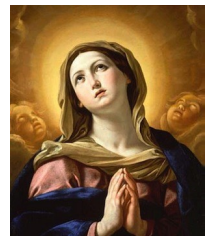
Notre Dame University QandA. Euthanasia and Palliative Care will headline discussion at the upcoming forum at St Benedict's Hall, Notre Dame University, 104 Broadway (Corner of Abercrombie Street) 6pm Wednesday, 7 December 2016. Admission is free. For more info visit www.nd.edu.au/qnda. Guest panelists include The Most Reverend Bishop Richard Umbers Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of Sydney.



Feasts of the Week

7 December - St Ambrose Born in Trier (Germany) about 340. Ordained bishop on this day in 374 and died at Milan (Italy) on Holy Saturday 397. A lawyer who became governor in Milan and who was still a catechumen when elected bishop by popular acclaim. Upheld orthodoxy against the Arians and won many Christian converts. Encouraged monasticism and defended the independence of the Church against secular authority. Remembered as an outstanding pastor through his writings on the sacraments and Christian ethics and through his homilies, instructions, and hymns.

8 December - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary This feast had its origin in the East as the "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne". It spread through the West during the Middle Ages as the "Immaculate Conception" and was extended to the entire Western Church in the eighteenth century. The feast celebrates Mary, preserved from sin from the moment of conception; she is the first fruits of her Son's redemption and a prophetic model of what the Church is called to be.



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.) Justice shall flourish in his
time, and fullness of peace for
ever.

1. O God, give your judgement to
the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in
justice
and your poor in right
judgement. (R.)

2. In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to the
earth's bounds. (R.)

3. For he shall save the poor
when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the
poor. (R.)

4. May his name be blessed for
ever
and endure like the sun.
Every tribe shall be blessed in
him,
all nations bless his name. (R.)

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the
dead;
glory and kingship be his for ever
and ever.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

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

Next Week's Readings:

Is 35:1-6, 10
James 5:7-10
Mt 11:2-11



Holy Mass at Berala

Monday to Friday 6.45am
Wednesday to Friday 9.15am
Saturday 8.00am
Saturday 9.00am Adoration &
Novena.

Holy Mass at Auburn South

Tuesday 9.00am
(during school term only)

Lord's Day Mass Berala

Saturday 5.00PM (Vigil)
Sunday 10.00AM

Lord's Day Mass Auburn South

Sunday 8.00AM

Reconciliation at Berala

Saturday 9.00AM - 10.00AM.
Or contact Parish Office for any
other time.

For Baptisms, Weddings, Bible
Study and Catholic Enquiry,
please contact Fr Thomas or the
Parish Office

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

11 DECEMBER 2016		THIRD SUNDAY ADVENT	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
ACCOMPANIST	Kate PARISH		EMER'S
CANTOR	J SALAR & PARISH CHOIR		GROUP
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Micheline BOTHAM
	Noelene DONNELLAN	Maris MARSH	Mai VU
COMMENTATOR	Katrina YIP	Karim KASSIS	Margarette NGUYEN
GIFTS	Carol MABON Family		CHILDREN'S LITURGY
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Sam DUCH		Hilary NGUYEN
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY		Anna FACER
GREETERS	Dante & Lynda MORES	Joe MOSES	M & R VICTORINO
HOSPITALITY		F ATTARD & W ANDREWS	Anne Marie
HOSPITAL VISITATION SAT: J Rockliff & P Lopez		ALTAR: Group 6 Korina Kinda, Antoinette Boudaheer	
HOSPITAL COMMUNION SUN: C & K Scully		COUNTERS: Group 2 Christine Kensey; Julie Toby	
CLEANERS - SPC: H Duff & Friends		SJW: M & J Marsh & J Moses	CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Pam Snell

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)