



## ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA

### Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time—Year A

29 January 2017

#### First Reading Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them..

#### Second Reading 1 Cor 1:26-31

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord .

#### Gospel Mt 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Happy the gentle: they shall have the earth for their heritage. Happy those who mourn: they shall be comforted. Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right: they shall be satisfied. Happy the merciful: they shall have mercy shown them. Happy the pure in heart: they shall see God. Happy the peacemakers: they shall be called sons of God. Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right: theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

#### **Historical** **Context**

##### **Purity**

Purity and impurity was a major issue in 1st Century Jewish society. The Priests and Pharisees maintained that only pure adherence to the Law could make a person acceptable in God's eyes. Impurity came to be associated with physical disease and injury. Those with severe disease or disability were regarded as sinful and punished by God. Jesus' statement, 'Happy are the pure of heart', would have scandalised those who maintained that purity came through strict observance of Law. Jesus suggests that purity (and impurity) comes from within a person rather than from the outside – regardless of their observance of the Law.

#### **Living Gospel**

##### **Be-attitudes**

*One way to read the Beatitudes is that Jesus was commending and blessing the various people who found themselves in those sorts of conditions. Another, is as a list of qualities that all people should strive to exhibit. It's not just some people who happen to be economically poor who are blessed. Rather, we must all have a poverty of spirit – a humility about our need for God's merciful action in our lives. All are called to hunger and thirst for justice and all are called to be merciful. The Beatitudes are not a menu to select from, but rather an essential list of ingredients.*

#### **Gospel Focus**

##### **Covenant**

The structure of the Beatitudes can be seen as yet another attempt by God to re-establish a covenant between Godself and the people. Throughout Jewish history, God called the people back into relationship and re-established God's covenant with them. Like all the previous versions of the covenant, the Beatitudes contain both a series of demands and a series of promises. It is a two-way deal. The first part of each Beatitude is a statement of what the people are called to do and the second part is God's promise of how they will be rewarded for their right action.

**COMING SOON!**

**Meditation  
Program  
8 March 2017**

#### 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

Lea Baldoria  
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	Feast St John Bosco 6.45am Mass & 9.15 am Mass Year 7 Introduction Mass 6.00pm Legion of Mary (SJW Hall) 7.00-9.00pm Extra Parish Choir Practice (8 Wallace St, Sefton)
Wednesday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass 11.00 am Catechist Meeting (St Joseph's House, 68 Kingsland Road) 7.30 pm Parish Pastoral Council Meeting (St Joseph's House)
Thursday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass
Friday	6.45am Mass & 9.15am Mass
Saturday	8.00am Mass 9.00am - 10.00am Adoration, Novena & Reconciliation 5.00pm Mass
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth 10.00am Mass

#### Mass Intentions

**Sick:** Maria Cicuto, Sr Carol Pedersen RSC, Sr Aileen Thomas RSC  
**Recently Deceased:** Teodulfa Estrada, Vasco Rodrigues  
**Deceased:** Leonard Gabrielle, Mary Gabrielle,  
**Deceased members and friends of :** Ross & Mitchell Families, Erwin  
& O'Dwyer Families, Noel Felix Gabrielle  
**Death Anniversary:** Francesca Brancatisano

#### "Family that pray together stay together"

##### PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel



at the Manganaro home,  
16 Third Avenue, Berala  
Please join them any evening at 7.30pm  
for the Rosary

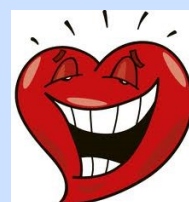
To host the Pilgrim Statue from St Peter Chanel  
contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

##### ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker

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

*I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that  
prayer changes us, and WE change things. ~Mother Teresa*

A Sunday School teacher after telling the story of the birth of Jesus, decided to test the attentiveness of her pupils. Expecting a reply of either "The Shepherd" or "The Wise Men", she asked, "Who was the first to know of Jesus' birth?"



#### Daily Prayers and Scripture on the Parish Web

Please visit "Liturgy Today" at [www.stpeterchanel-stjoseph.org.au](http://www.stpeterchanel-stjoseph.org.au) to explore Readings of the Mass, evening prayers & Office of Readings.

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

**Spiritual Retreats:** Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - [www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats](http://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats) Ph: 4236 0533

Carmelites Varroville - [www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au) Ph: 8795 3400

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby - [www.divineretreatcentre.org.au](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org.au) Ph: 4372 1598

**Sara's place:** For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit [www.sarasplace.org.au](http://www.sarasplace.org.au) Ph: 9699 8190

## DEFY WORLD AND PREFER KINGDOM OF GOD



These days we hear a lot about President Trump's decision to build walls with Mexico and US breaking away from the Trans-Pacific Trade Partnership Agreement. These moves of the new president is sending shock waves through the political world. It is all done in the name of making America great again. I am not in a position to judge the merits of American Politics. But there was another man in history whose policies were shocking, but proved to be of full merit. I am referring to the Sermon on the Mount of Jesus, as we read in the Gospel of Matthew 5:1-12.

Last week, I spoke about how Jesus started his ministry at a time least ideal according to normal logic. He started his ministry amongst the 'people who lived in darkness', in a most unlikely place, Capernaum. By liberating the people from darkness, and bringing them into the light, his mission and ministry had some similarity to that of Moses. After liberating the people of God from the slavery of Egyptians, Moses led them to the Promised Land. In the course of doing so Moses brought down the Ten Commandments from Mount Sinai to his followers as their rule of life. Similarly Jesus also, after bringing the people out of the darkness, gave them a set of rules from a 'Mount'. We call it the Beatitudes or simply the Sermon on the Mount by Jesus. What do the Beatitudes teach?

First of all it is not the hard work and 'believing in ourselves' that bring happiness to us. We do not acquire happiness through our will power and hard work. It is God who provides happiness. For that we need to have our hearts and mind open to God. Therefore the four qualities, we the followers of Jesus Christ should have are Poverty of Spirit, Gentleness, a preparedness to mourn and a hunger for Justice.

Secondly being proactive about the Kingdom of God is important to acquire happiness. We need to be prepared to show mercy. As Christians our minds need to be fully focussed on God, that is purity of hearts. Preparedness to create peace and willingness to love God at all costs is also part of the equation.

These eight precepts may defy the human logic. Yet history has proved how wise and true it is. This explains why the great achievers according to the worldly standards are not always the happy people. So to be really happy defy what the world throws at you and be prepared for the Kingdom of God!

### Meditation Program

Fr Thomas will be conducting a Meditation Program during Lent. He will introduce different methods of meditations.

It will be held on Wednesdays of Lent commencing on 8 March

Venue: St Joseph's House, 68 Kingsland Road, Berala.

Time: 7.30 Pm – 8.30 PM

To register your name for the program, please contact the parish office, either by email or by phone.

### Pastoral Relations Officer

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Marianna Tannous as Pastoral Relations Officer of the parish commencing on this Monday. She will assist me with pastoral communications related activities. Her role also will enhance the Parish 2020 initiatives in our community. Marianna is a parishioner of Sefton and she is donating her time to our parish.

## Feasts of the Week



**31 January - St John Bosco**—patron saint of apprentices, editors and publishers, schoolchildren, magicians, and juvenile delinquents. John was ordained as a priest in 1841 and started working with children in the poor neighbourhoods in the city of Turin. He used his talents to perform and do tricks to capture the attention of the children, then sharing his message for the day.

Fr Bosco established the Society of St Francis de Sales in 1859 with its main objective was to carry on charitable works, helping boys developing their faith and to keep them out of trouble. This organisation still exists and continues to help many, especially children around the world.



## Lectors Training

Lectors are the Liturgical Ministers who proclaim the Word of God at Mass, especially on weekends. New Lectors are being recruited for our parish. Phirum Duch will run a training program for new recruits over 4 Saturdays in February. Any of the current Lectors wishing for a refresher course also welcome to join the program. After the newly trained Lectors will be commissioned and included in the Roster for the Weekend Masses. To enrol for the program, please email the Parish Office.

Venue for training will be St Peter Chanel Church, Berala. Time: 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm.  
Commencing on Saturday, 4 February 2017.

## Ministers Fraternity

A few times a year, ministers of various Christian denominations come together for prayer and sharing. The last meeting was hosted by at Berala by Fr Thomas. It was decided that on Good Friday this year, the Churches various denominations in Auburn Area come together to pray the Stations of the Cross in Public as a witness. The details are yet to be planned.



## World Day of Prayer

Each year a church volunteers to host the World Day of Prayer. It is an inter-denominational prayer. This Year it is hosted by Salvation Army at 166-170 South Parade Auburn, at 10 AM on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. The Focus this year is Philippines and the Theme is AM I BEING UNFAIR TO YOU? Morning Tea will be provided. It will be good if there is an active participation from our parish. So please consider attending it. Next year it will be our turn to host it.

## Confirmation Program

Enrolment for Confirmation program will be on the weekend of 18 February. Young Catholics currently in Year 6 in primary school or over may be eligible to enrol for the program.

The candidates need to come 30 minutes prior to one of the weekend masses and fill in the enrolment form. If the candidate has not made their first communion at the SJD or SPC church they will require to produce their baptism certificate at the enrolment. During the mass the enrolled candidates will make a commitment as well. There is also a fee of \$15 collected at the enrolment.

Parents of the enrolled candidates are invited to a meeting at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 21 February in SPC Church. Should you have further queries, you are welcome to contact Father Thomas.



## Lenten Prayer Group

This year Lent starts on 1 March. During Lent you are invited to group prayers. Father Thomas will be leading a Lenten Group prayer on Thursdays starting 2<sup>nd</sup> March in St Joseph's House. However, you may like to have group prayers with your friends and neighbours.

The parish office can organise booklets and other resources for such prayer meetings, so please let the parish office know at the earliest, the number of people participating in your groups.

## Planned Giving Request Form

Your financial contribution to the Planned Giving of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the financial year you will receive a receipt for your contributions. 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, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent for completion)

## Important Dates

Jan 31 – Catechists lunch with Archbishop Fisher  
Jan 31 – Year 7 Introduction Mass  
February 1 – Catechists Meeting  
February 2 – Pastoral Council  
February 4- Lectors Training begins (4 weekly sessions on Saturdays)  
February 7 – SJW School Opening Mass  
February 9 – Greeters Meeting  
February 18/19 – Confirmation Enrolment and Commitment  
February 21 – Confirmation Parents Meeting  
February 24 – Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
February 24 – Volunteers gathering  
March 1 – Ash Wednesday  
March 2 – Lenten Prayer Group with Fr Thomas Commences  
March 3 – Stations of the Cross for Lent Commences  
March 3 – World day of prayer (hosted by Salvation Army Auburn)  
March 4 & 5 - First Communion Enrolment and Commitment  
March 5 - Rite of Enrolment for the RCIA  
March 7 - First Communion Parents Meeting  
March 8 – Meditation Program with Fr Thomas commences (Wednesdays of Lent)  
March 11 – Mass of Anointing of the Sick  
March 12 – Confirmation Preparation Classes commence ( 4 weekly sessions on Sundays)  
March 22 – Ministers Fraternity of various denominations  
March 26 – Ordination Anniversary of Mgr Berbari  
April 9 – Palm Sunday  
April 10 – Holy Week Reflections with Fr John Sullivan Commences

April 13 – Easter Triduum, Mass of Last Supper  
April 14— Good Friday & Combined Stations of the Cross with different denominations, Passion Service  
April 15—Easter Vigil  
April 16—Easter Sunday  
April 25—ANZAC Day Mass  
April 28—St Peter Chanel Memorial  
May 9—Confirmation Reflection  
May 26—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
May 27—Confirmation Celebration, Vigil Mass Confirmation  
June 4—Pentecost  
June 10—Mass of Anointing of the Sick  
June 11—First Communion Program Commences (4 weekly sessions on Sundays)  
June 23—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
July 16—Parish Day  
July 28—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
August 24—First Communion Retreat  
August 25—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
September 22—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
October 15—First Reconciliation Program Commences (4 weekly sessions on Sundays)  
October 27—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
November 11—Mass of Anointing of the Sick  
November 15—First Reconciliation  
November 24—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting, Candle Light Mass  
December 22—Pastoral Care of the Sick Meeting  
December 25—Christmas Day, Christmas Luncheon

## Other Notices

**Position Vacant:** All Saints Catholic Parish, Liverpool. Applications are being considered for the position of Parish Business Manager. The position is part time, 4 days per week. For further information please visit [www.catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.com.au) or by contacting Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on **0402 210 055**. Applications close **Monday, 13 February 2017**.

**Healing and Hope After Abortion:** Rachel's Vineyard ministries offers support through a retreat for all who suffer grief and loss after an abortion. Next retreat is March 24-26 at Pennant Hills. Call: 0400 092 555 or see: [rachelsvineyard.org.au](http://rachelsvineyard.org.au) or email: [info@rachelsvineyard.org.au](mailto:info@rachelsvineyard.org.au).

**Fertilitycare Practitioner Training Program:** Are you interested in teaching a modern method of natural family planning that is 99.5% method effective and collaborates with medical doctors to restore fertility health to couples struggling with infertility? You may be interested in the upcoming FertilityCare practitioner training program. Program is 13 months in duration, tuition fees apply. Part 1 of training program: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston, QLD, **01- 08 April 2017**. Enquiries: [katiefullilove@dbb.org.au](mailto:katiefullilove@dbb.org.au).

**St Benedict's Monastery – 2017 Christian Meditation And Renewal Days.** You are invited to four introduction and renewal days at St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia Tel: **9653 1159** Sundays: **19 February, 21 May, 20 August and 19 November** . Contact **Br Terry** on **0438 282 318**. Enquires to Ann Bergman: [anniebergman@hotmail.com](mailto:anniebergman@hotmail.com) or **9498 2625** or Ann Lomas:[atlomas@bigpond.com](mailto:atlomas@bigpond.com) or **9456 4775**.

## Antiphons & Readings

### Entrance Antiphon:

Save us, O Lord our God!  
And gather us from the nations,  
to give thanks to your holy  
name,  
and make it our glory to praise  
you.

### Responsorial Psalm:

(R) Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith  
forever, who is just to those who  
are oppressed. It is he who  
gives bread to the hungry, the  
Lord, who sets prisoners free. (R)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight  
to the blind, who raises up those  
who are bowed down, the Lord,  
who protects the stranger and  
upholds the widow and  
orphan. (R)

3. It is the Lord who loves the  
just but thwarts the path of the  
wicked. The Lord will reign for  
ever, Zion's God, from age to  
age. (R)

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in  
heaven.

**Alleluia!**

### Communion Antiphon:

Let your face shine on your  
servant.  
Save me in your merciful love.  
O Lord, let me never be put to  
shame, for I call on you.

### Next Week's Readings:

Is 58:7-10  
1 Cor 2:1-5  
Mt 5:13-16



### 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 the 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

5 FEBRUARY 2017		5TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
ACCOMPANIST	Maureen HYNES		SAMOAN
CANTOR	Chris HYNES & PARISH CHOIR		CHOIR
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ken HARTMAN	Micheline BOTHAM
	Noelene DONNELLAN	Joe MOSES	Anna FACER
COMMENTATOR	Jann ROCKLIFF	Maris MARSH	Monica SMITH
GIFTS	Dorothy BOYD		CHILDRENS LITURGY
SP. MINISTER	Warren RYAN		Karen NGUYEN
SP. MINISTER	Elizabeth CHIA		Pam SNELL
CHURCH SHOP	Adele MELER		Jenny MICHAEL
GREETERS	Kate PARISH	Joe MOSES	R & S SEBASTIAN
HOSPITALITY	Dante & Lynda AMORES	Loutoa OLIE	Phil LOPEZ

<b>HOSPITAL VISITATION SAT:</b> A Hehea & B Hawthorn	<b>ALTAR:</b> Group 1 G De Alkstrand; M Lewis; A Manganaro
<b>HOSPITAL COMMUNION SUN:</b> B & C Kensey	<b>COUNTERS:</b> Group 2 Julie Toby
<b>CLEANERS - SPC:</b> Samoan Group <b>SJW:</b> Maronite Group	<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY:</b> Joji Salar

SATURDAY		4 FEBRUARY
LECTOR FOR MASS		Jann ROCKLIFF