



ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA

Third Sunday of Lent—Year A

19 March 2017

First Reading

Ex 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Second Reading

Rom 5:1-2. 5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel

Jn 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again: but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants.

God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony, so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'



**Stations of the
Cross at
Auburn City on
Good Friday**

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

Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm
T (02) 9644 7787

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Tommy Francisco
tommy.bolin.francisco@gmail.com

Pastoral Relations Officer

Mariana Tannous

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
T. 0402071849
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, 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 (SJW) 10.30am Music Ministry Planning Meeting (8 Wallace St, Sefton)
Wednesday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass 7.00pm RCIA Lenten Prayer (Jubilee Hall) 7.30pm Meditation for Lent with Fr Thomas (St Joseph's House, 68 Kingsland Rd)
Thursday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass 7.00pm Psalmist Practice (8 Wallace St, Sefton) 7.30pm General Practice for Parish Choir (8 Wallace St, Sefton)
Friday	6.45am Mass & 9.15am Mass 12.30pm Pastoral Care of Sick Meeting (St Joseph's House) 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary 9.00am Novena, Adoration & Confession 5.00pm Mass
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth 10.00am Mass 11.00am Confirmation Class (Jubilee Hall) 11.00am DRAW Youth Group (St Joseph's House)

Mass Intentions

Sick: Sheila Cantwell

Recently Deceased: , Sr Carol Pedersen RSC, Pat McManus

Deceased: Fatima Bolonia, Mamerto Bolonia Sr, Sylvia Portelli

Anniversary: Frank Picek, Stjedan Matasic, Ivo Matasic, Joseph Portelli, Angelo Attard

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

"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel

at the Bittar Family,
51 Sixth Avenue, Berala
Please join them any evening at 7.30pm
for the Rosary

**We need more families to host the Pilgrim Statue
from St Peter Chanel.**

**Please 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.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

Mia Lane & Andre Fuentes

May they always know the love of God and feel
His guiding hand throughout their lives.

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

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats Ph: 4236 0533

Carmelites Varroville - www.carmeliteretreats.com.au Ph: 8795 3400

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby - www.divineretreatcentre.org.au Ph: 4372 1598

Sara's place: For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 9699 8190

ARE YOU A SAMARITAN?



Lion is a popular movie running at cinemas in Australia. It is based on a true story of a boy, Saroo, who was lost in an India train and found hundreds of kilometres away in the slums of Kolkota at the tender age of five. This story has a happy ending. An Australian couple, Sue and John Brierley, adopted Saroo and gave him a 'life' to live. The depictions of the repulsive slums of Kolkota in the movie highlight the magnanimity of the Australian couple, Sue and John Brierley. Slumdog Millionaire, a movie based on a story by Vikas Swarup was a box office hit in 2008. That story too had the backdrop of the repulsive slums, this time in Mumbai. Prior to these two movies, there was another movie which became a box office hit in 1992 which also had slums of Kolkota as backdrop and an American doctor becoming the much appreciated saviour of the people in their miseries. In all these three movies there is one thing that help us enjoy them. In all these we can easily feel pity and compassion for the miserable people. It helps us to identify with the people who try to save them.

In the Gospel narrative about Jesus encountering the Samaritan Woman, we see a woman who is in a miserable state though the woman herself may not think she was in a miserable state. Jesus comes to her salvation. Easily we can feel pity and compassion for the woman. Unconsciously we identify ourselves with Jesus in this narrative, and feel good with the charitable works we do to help others. But can you identify with the woman of Samaria? In this day and age, we are not short of 'saviours'. We all like to play the part of the saviour. Yet the truth is that most times we are more like the Samaritan Woman.

The woman Jesus met at the well was not looking for any sympathy or compassion. She had changed at least six men as her partner and it did not bother her. She knew the Jews would not like to deal with her since she is considered infidel by them. That too did not seem to worry her. She was happy to draw water from the public well and go home. That is the life giving water for her. She was content to live her life, bothering no one. There is no indication in the Gospel account that she is not content with her life. Isn't our lives also are like that? Now we may not go to any well to draw water to live. But we do go to work to draw a wage to live. Like the Samaritan Woman, marriage and family seems to be secondary matters to many men and women. People are, on the whole, content with their lives. If the Samaritan woman thinks there is no one greater than Jacob who gave them the well, people now think that there is no one is greater than the government or the firm that provided the job for them to draw their wage to live.

Encounter Jesus in this Lenten season and you too will be transformed, like the Samaritan woman. If not transformed, that means our life is fully focussed on the worldly gains. And we will be deprived of the real joy of celebrating your life in truth with others. So this Lent is a time for us to encounter Jesus, listen to him, and transform your lives. Come Easter we should be able to share our God experience with others. It will gladden their lives as well as ours.

Living gospel

Personal encounter

The Samaritan woman's personal encounter with Jesus compels her to start spreading the good news about the amazing man she has met. She meets Jesus face to face and feels compelled to act on what she has felt. Lent is a time for each of us to again – or for the first time – seek out a face to face encounter with Jesus. Through prayer, contemplation on scripture or reflection on encountering Jesus in the face of others, we build a one to one relationship with Jesus. When we acknowledge this relationship, like the Samaritan woman, we are compelled to act on it.

gospel focus

Transformation

The woman has obviously come to the well to draw water for herself. Her encounter with Jesus is a moment of transformation for her. At first, she fails to comprehend his reference to 'living water' and never being thirsty again. However, in the end "the woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town." Leaving her water jar behind was a sign of the transformation that had taken place within her. She had indeed drunk of the living water of Jesus and no longer paid attention to the need for water that had brought her to the well.

Historical context

Jews and Samaritans

Samaritans descended from one of the tribes of Israel. They held faithful to Mt Gerazim as the first place for the worship of God even when the prophet Elijah declared a new place for worship. In the 7th and 8th Centuries BCE, the Assyrians descended on the Northern and Southern Kingdoms of Israel. The Samaritans in the north assimilated with the Assyrians, whilst the Jews were taken into exile in Babylon. When the Jews returned from exile, the Samaritans offered to assist in the reconstruction of the Temple. This infuriated the Jews and led to centuries of distrust and animosity.

Feasts & Memorials of the Week

Monday—St Joseph

St Joseph, the husband of the Virgin Mary and adoptive father of Jesus, was a descendant of King David and a carpenter by trade. During his betrothal to Mary he became distressed when he heard that she was with child, but an angelic vision reassured him that this was all part of God's plan. After Jesus' birth he was warned in a dream to flee with his family to Egypt, in order to escape from King Herod. Joseph showed great faith in his willingness to do whatever God asked of him. St Joseph is the patron saint of many causes including families, expectant mothers, workers and people in doubt.



Parish 2020

Our Archbishop Anthony Fisher has commenced a new pastoral project called 'Parish 2020' with the aim of renewing and strengthening Parishes and communities of the Archdiocese for our future, and he wants to hear from you about how our parishes can better collaborate to grow the Church in Sydney. He is asking you to provide him with your thoughts about ways to strengthen Parishes and communities in our Archdiocese. Therefore today the parish is undertaking a survey. This survey provides an important opportunity for your views to be heard, and for us all to share together in prayerfully discerning future directions. Please take time to fill in the survey form today if you have not done so. Better yet, do the survey on line by going to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2V7XL9X>.

Fr Mark Spora Honoured



Last Tuesday, 14 March, Bishop Terry Brady presented Fr Mark Spora the Croce pro Ecclesia et Pontifice which was awarded by His Holiness Pope Francis marking the 60th anniversary of his Ordination. It has been a recognition of the long lasting devotion Fr Mark has shown to his sacred vocation. The Honour for Fr Mark Spora especially recognised his commitment to assisting the studies of future priests at St Columba's College, Springwood.

He was born in Sydney but undertook studies for the Priesthood at Propaganda Fide College in Rome where he completed a Licentiate in Theology and was Ordained by His Eminence Clemente Cardinal Micara on 21st December 1955. After returning to Australia in 1959, he was first appointed as Assistant Priest at Lewisham and later at Cabramatta, Neutral Bay and St Mary's Cathedral.

Fr Mark then spent nine years sharing the knowledge he had gained from his overseas theological training and his parish experience with seminary students. A return to parish work followed when he became Administrator at Dover Heights in 1979 before beginning his longest appointment as Parish Priest of Auburn South, which he served for 33 years until his retirement in February 2012. Sincere congratulations to a devoted shepherd of Our Lord Jesus Christ. He is most deserving recipients of the Papal Honour of the Croce pro Ecclesia et Pontifice. In the near future we shall organise to have him come over to 8AM Mass for a felicitation.

Contact details for Fr Mark Spora, Unit 47 Rosary Village, 1 Tara Close, Yennora NSW 2161; Ph: 8790 0447.

Public Stations of the Cross in Auburn

Ministers Fraternity of Auburn area in its January meeting decided to hold a combined church Good Friday service and perform the Stations of the Cross.

The churches that are involved in this event are: St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Parish Berala, Auburn Salvation Army, Auburn Uniting Church, and Auburn Baptist Church. St Raymond's Parish Auburn South is also considering to join.

This combined church "Stations of the Cross" event will be held on Good Friday, 14 April 2017, beginning at 12pm and finishing at 2pm. The service will commence In front of Trinity Catholic College, Park Road and conclude at the Queen Street Mall.

The combined church service will comprise of a re-enactment of Jesus carrying the cross, performed by youth from participating churches, including our own parish. There will also be a choir. Please let the parish office know if you are volunteering to assist in some way.

Formation & Training Course For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

This programme is for those who, with the support of their Parish Priest, are or will soon be assisting as **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION** in the Archdiocese of Sydney.

It is also a **pre-requisite** course for those men who wish to attend the Acolytes training courses.

WHEN: Wednesday 3rd & 10th May 2017

WHERE: St Augustine of Hippo Eaton Street Balmain NSW 2041

Other Notices

Position Vacant

Parish Secretary, St Mark's Parish, Drummoyne. Applications are being considered for the position of Parish Secretary. Position is part time, 8.30am-4pm, Tuesdays to Fridays. For further information please visit www.catholicjobsonline.com.au or by contacting Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. Applications close **Monday, 27 March 2017**.

Fathers on Tap. Wednesday, 29 March 5.30pm Mass, 6.00pm Dinner, 7.00pm Talk: Bishop Richard Umbers speaks on: "Social Media: Friend or Foe? How do we re-evangelise the fathers?" @ The Two Wolves Cantina, 202 Broadway, Chippendale. RSVP to David 0437 679 865.

Director, Communications & News Media, Archdiocese of Sydney. For further information please visit www.catholicjobsonline.com.au or by contacting Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. Applications close **Friday, 7 April 2017**.

Our Lady of Mercy College Parramatta warmly invites prospective families to the **Year 7, 2019 Enrolment Information Evening** starting at 5.30pm on **March 21, 2017**. Tour the College, collect an Enrolment pack, attend an information session, meet the College staff and enjoy Afternoon Tea with the OLMC P&F. For enquiries, please contact the Registrar on 8838 1222 or email registrar@olmc.nsw.edu.au.

Uncle Richard's Story - Australia

First Australian Uncle Richard is a survivor of the Stolen Generations, forcibly removed from his family as a child and taken to Kinchela Boys Home (KBH) in NSW. Hundreds of Indigenous boys were incarcerated there between 1924 and 1970, suffering ongoing physical and verbal abuse. They lost every aspect of their identity – their names, their culture and their families.

When Uncle Richard left KBH, he struggled with the legacy of pain, trying to find relief through his work as an artist. But he attributes the beginning of his healing to something even more powerful than his creative work, his reconnection with former KBH boys.

The KBH Aboriginal Corporation (KBHAC) was established by KBH survivors to reunite with one another and begin healing. KBHAC's Unlocking the Past to Free the Future Program works to restore the social and emotional wellbeing of the survivors and their families. The former KBH boys have realised that their shared suffering has created a brotherhood. They support each other by sharing their stories, and coming to a common understanding of how their experiences have impacted on themselves and their descendants. Through KBHAC, the men are also opening the door to the wider Australian community, inviting everyone to journey together as neighbours in the healing process. Caritas Australia supports KBHAC and is proud to walk alongside in partnership on the journey to wellbeing.

"We can hopefully show the way for other people to learn from our pain. And we're trying to be the leader, a role model for our kids." - Uncle Richard



Project Compassion envelopes and boxes are available in the Church. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated!

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)

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) If today you hear his
voice, harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the
Lord; hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving
thanks, with songs let us hail the
Lord. **(R)**

2. Come in; let us bow and
bend low; let us kneel before the
God who made us for he is our
God and we the people who
belong to his pasture, the flock
that is led by his hand. **(R)**

3. O that today you would listen
to his voice! 'Harden not your
hearts as at Meribah, as on that
day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the
test; when they tried me, though
they saw my work.'. **(R)**

Gospel Acclamation:

**Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of
the world; give me living water,
that I may never thirst again.

**Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

Communion Antiphon:

For anyone who drinks it, says
the Lord, the water I shall give
will become in him a spring
welling up to eternal life.

Next Week's Readings:

1 Sm 16:1. 6-7, 10-13
Eph 5:8-14
Jn 9:1-41



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

26 MARCH 2017

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS	5PM VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Robert JAKSIC
ORGANIST	Kate PARISH		SAMOAN
CANTOR	S EAMIGUEL & PARISH CHOIR		YOUTH
LECTOR/S	Noelene DONNELLAN	Joe MOSES	Margaret NGUYEN
	John DONNELLAN	Ken HARTMAN	Micheline BOTHAM
COMMENTA- TOR	Christine KENSEY	Karim KASSIS	Monica SMITH
GIFTS	Dorothy BOYD		Alan & Margaret THAM
SP. MINISTER	Kay SCULLY		Hoa NGUYEN
SP. MINISTER	Pam SNELL		Mai VU
CHURCH SHOP	Margaret HEYS		Micheline BOTHAM
GREETERS	J ROCKLIFF & J ZHANG	Loutoa OLIE	A FACER P KAVANAGH
HOSPITALITY			Antoinette BOUDAHER

HOSPITAL VISITATION SAT: J Rockliff & P Lopez

ALTAR: Group 2 Bolonia family

HOSPITAL COMMUNION SUN: K Hartman & J Michael

COUNTERS: Group 1 J Le Mottee, J Shanley

CLEANERS - SPC: H Duff & Friends **SJW:** I Kula, T Langi &
Friends

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: School Holidays

SATURDAY

25 MARCH

LECTOR FOR MASS

Christine KENSEY