



## ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA

**5th Sunday of Easter—Year A**  
**14 May 2017**



### First Reading

Acts 6:1-7

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

### Second Reading

1 Pt 2:4-9

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

### Gospel

Jn 14:1-12

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. 'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

REMINDER!

## Fr Michael's Jubilee Celebration

**Saturday, 20 May  
SPC Jubilee Hall**

### Parish Priest

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

### Priest 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)  
Karim Kassis (Vice 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 (SVDP) 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 (Finance Controller)

### 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 7.00pm Confirmation Parents Meeting (Jubilee Hall)
Wednesday	6.45am Mass 9.00am-3.00pm Confirmation Retreat (SPC School) 9.15am Mass 7.00pm Rosary Novena (46 Lewis St, Regents Park)
Thursday	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass 7.00pm Psalmist Practice and 7.30pm Parish Choir Practice (8 Wallace St, Sefton)
Friday	6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass
Saturday	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary 9.00am Novena Adoration Confession 5.00pm Jubilee Mass/Sunday Vigil Mass 6.00pm Jubilee Celebration for Monsignor Berbari (Jubilee Hall)
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth 10.00am Mass 11.00am Confirmation Practice (SPC Church) 4.00pm Parish Choir Practice for Confirmation (SPC Church)

## Mass Intentions

**Recently Deceased:** Mary Fletcher

**Deceased:** Joe Cicuto, Giovanni Cicuto, Amabile Cicuto, Albino Bertuzzi,  
Caterina Bertuzzi, Mary Gabrielle, Mariano Somera Sr

**Anniversary:** Basilisa Yburan Alinson, Joseph Mai, Mary Mai, Alagudurai  
Allgiya, Nemesio Tejero, Felipe Amarille

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

## Centenary of Fatima

*"Family that pray together stay together"*



### PILGRIM STATUE & ROSARY PRAYER

**On this 100th year of Fatima apparition you are invited  
to Pray Rosary with the Snell Family  
and Fr Thomas on Wednesday 17 May at 7 PM  
at 46 Lewis Street, Regents Park**

**Any other day of the week you are invited to pray with  
Snell family at 7.00pm**

**To host the Pilgrim Statue and Rosary prayer please contact Mona on  
9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.**

A kindergarten teacher was walking around observing her classroom of children while they were drawing pictures. As she got to one girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."



**Alcohol & Drug Information Service:** (Confidential) 02 9361 8000 **CatholicCare:** Ph:13 18 19

**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

## The Call to Stewardship



“Whoever believes in me will perform the same works as myself”(John 14:11) says Jesus. The Acts of the Apostles tells us how the Christians in the early Church did the things as Jesus would. According to the Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7 the early Christians offered hospitality to each other, they looked after the needs of the Apostles who were busy preaching. They even pooled their resources. They prayed together the Eucharist as Jesus had commanded them to do. Following the example and teaching of Jesus, early Christians were service minded, helping especially the poor. The apostles as leaders shared their responsibility with other Christians.

The Church as a fellowship continues to base its life on these four pillars, namely Hospitality, Prayer, Formation, and Service, highlighted in the Early Church. These four pillars together could be called the STEWARDSHIP. It is a duty we all church members should share. Our parish always should be a place of hospitality, prayer, formation and service. It requires each of us sharing of time, talent and treasure with the rest of the Parish. Stewardship of the Parish is an integral part of Christian living.

From the Acts of the Apostles we learn a great deal spiritual truth. No one who has received blessings from God can be selfish enough to say “I do with as I please with what is mine”. Because we cannot claim total ownership of our wealth time or talent. We are stewards (managers, caretakers) of our time, our talent and our treasure. Our time, talent and our treasure are not given to us; rather, God entrusts them to our care, therefore:

1. We are grateful for the trust God has placed in us.
2. We hold what is given in proper regard, taking care of it as the property of another.
3. We use what we have been given according to the good pleasure of God, who is the owner and master of it all. The time, talent and treasure God gives to each person is given to be used for his glory, for our needs, and for the benefit of others.

You and I together have a role to play in carrying out the mission of teaching, sanctifying and serving that Jesus gave to his Church. Each of us should contribute to making the parish a place of hospitality, prayer, formation and service. Some people have more time, talent and treasure to share; others are more in need of receiving. All will have to give to God an account of their stewardship of what God has given to them. Therefore think about your time, talent and treasure and see whether they are used as God would like you to use them. Also think, what part you play in supporting the fellowship of your parish.

### **HISTORICAL** **CONTEXT**

#### **It is for the best...**

*At the time of this gospel's writing, some 70 years after the events it describes, amazing things have taken place in the early Christian community. Rather than everything falling apart with the death of Jesus, the message of Jesus has spread further than he himself could ever have accomplished. It is the departure of Jesus from their midst and the sending of the Spirit that really prompts the disciples to act on what they had experienced while Jesus lived among them. The gospel writer has Jesus saying that he has to go away so that the disciples can reach their potential.*

### **LIVING THE GOSPEL**

#### **The Way, the Truth and the Life**

*When Thomas asks, 'we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answers by saying, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' The reader of the gospel has known this truth all along from the opening line of the gospel, 'In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.' Our aim, as Christian people, is to be one with God, not only by sharing in the resurrection but also in the way we live. Jesus makes clear that the way to be with God is by following his example.*

### **SCRIPTURAL** **CONTEXT**

#### **The gospel of John**

*The gospel of John is very different from the other three 'synoptic' gospels. The other three have a very narrative style and can be seen together as different recounts of the same events. Whilst the gospel of John also has some beautifully narrated stories, it is better known as a more theologically reflective piece of writing. It assumes that the readers of this gospel are already familiar with one or more of the others, so it doesn't need to tell the story again. Rather, it presents a sweeping image of God, through Jesus, reaching out, in, through, and with love to the people.*

## 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)





(Fr Thomas' Homily for the School Mass for Mothers Day)

A son who forgot his mother's birthday, made a last minute dash to mum to greet her. It was too late to buy flowers or anything else for his customary gift giving, on mum's birthday. The mum rejoiced over her son's presence and he made the greeting special with a tight and affectionate hug. Then the mother still seeing no sign of her customary present, could not

contain the curiosity and asked him where the gift is. The quick thinking son said, "Mum, I am your gift." Mum couldn't agree more. Though it was a trick from the part of the son to get out of the situation, what he pronounced was profound.

Yes children are the best of gifts mums can have. When the mums see the best of their children that makes the mothers really rejoicing, with a happiness which nothing else can provide. Mary, according to the Gospel of Luke chapter one, brought great joy to her cousin Elizabeth, not just with her own presence, but because of the greatness of the son Mary was bearing in her womb. Therefore Elizabeth praised Mary as the most blessed woman ever.

If Mary was special because of the divinity of her son Jesus, we too can make our mothers special because of the call to holiness we children are also called to. Through our baptism we are called to be part of the Body of Christ and members of God's family. This is a call to holiness. Therefore by living according to our baptismal promises and call is the best way preparing ourselves to be best of gifts to our mother, and indeed to the world. I wish you all a very happy Mothers Day!

To the world  
you are a  
*Mother,*  
but to your family  
you are the  
*World.*

## Sacramental Preparation

The second **Parents Meeting for Confirmation** will be held at **7pm on Tuesday 16 May in the Jubilee Hall.**

**At the Confirmation Mass** we need 9 Candidates to be readers, and 2 other Candidates to carry up the gifts during the Offertory Procession.

On arrival at the Parent meeting make known to Josie or Maureen if you wish to volunteer.

**FIRST IN WILL GET FIRST CHOICE**



## Singing Practice for Confirmation 2017

(27 May 5pm Mass)

4pm to 6pm on **Sunday 21 May** in St Peter Chanel Church. We would love you to join us in song and add to the joy of the occasion!

## Abortion Bill Defeated

Thank God, Abortion Bill which was debated last Thursday was defeated. 14 votes supporting the Bill and 26 votes against the Bill. Thank you for your prayers and signing the petition against it.

## Feasts & Memorials of the Week

### Friday—St Bernardine of Siena



St Bernardine was the son of the governor of Siena. He was orphaned at age six and was brought up by his aunt. He became a Franciscan friar at the age of twenty two and travelled all over Italy, preaching several sermons a day to large crowds. He is remembered for his devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. At the end of his sermons he would hold up for veneration a plaque on which he wrote IHS - the Greek translation of 'Jesus'. Through his preaching, Bernardine was responsible for a vast number of conversions to Christianity. In 1437 he became the vicar-general of the Observant branch of the friars, during which time the number of Observants rose tenfold due to his popularity. After establishing theology schools for the friars, he returned to his favourite task of preaching at the age of sixty three, but died a year later on the 20th of May.

## Monsignor Michael Berbari's Golden Jubilee



You are cordially invited to join us in celebrating this milestone! Let us all wish Monsignor Berbari a Happy Golden Jubilee. Monsignor Michael is an ordained Cor bishop of Syrian Rite and Patriarchal Vicar for Australia and New Zealand.

Berala has been blessed with his presence and ministry for last 33 years. Let us celebrate his Sacerdotal Golden Jubilee on **Saturday, 20 May** with vigil Mass at 5.00pm mass and felicitations in Jubilee Hall after the Mass.

Donations of both sweet and savoury food and drinks are welcome.

## CWF Pastoral Appeal

From everyone in our parish, we wish to thank you for supporting last weekend's Charitable Works Fund (CWF) Pastoral Appeal!

The CWF Appeal will continue to be collected this weekend. The Parish relies on your generosity to meet our quota of \$5,100. **Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.**

**There is no third collection for CWF. You may use CWF envelopes to make your donation and place it in either first or second collection plate.**

## Other Notices

**Australian Catholic Women's Mentoring Launch:** You are invited to attend the launch of the new Australian Catholic Women's Mentoring Program on **Saturday May 20, 2017** at Mary Mackillop Place, North Sydney. The new program, which is run through the National Office of Participation of Women, aims to grow the skills, confidence and networks of Australian Catholic women, increasing their capacity to use their gifts and talents for the Australian Church and Australian society. Time: Mass at 5.30pm; Launch from 7pm in the Auditorium Venue: Mary Mackillop Place North Sydney: 7-11 Mount Street, North Sydney Please RSVP your attendance at this FREE event: [coordinator.opw@catholic.org.au](mailto:coordinator.opw@catholic.org.au).

**CatholicCare:** Supporting the people of Sydney for 75 years - Interested in training to care for clients needing support in their own home? Government support is available for eligible applicants. Please call us to find out more on **13 18 19** CatholicCare Sydney, email [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org) or visit [www.catholiccare.org](http://www.catholiccare.org).

**Youth Spiritual Renewal Retreat:** Divine Retreat Centre. **15 & 16 July 2017** from 9.00am – 4.30pm. The Lord guides and gives us strength for our journey. Each one of us have been called for a specific purpose in life. The purpose in life that will bring us closer to Him. This retreat will give everyone opportunities to hear from God in amazing worship experiences and help us to realise God's greater destiny in our lives. Come and experience what the Lord has in store for us. Age group: 18 to 30 years. Divine Retreat Centre, 160 Hensons Road, Somersby NSW 2250. Fr Michael Payyapilly – Director of Vincentian Missionaries. For any queries please contact Clary on **0434 099 088**, Divine Retreat Centre Tel. **02 4372 1598** or email: [clary.anato@gmail.com](mailto:clary.anato@gmail.com) or [ronymvc@gmail.com](mailto:ronymvc@gmail.com).

**Healing After Abortion:** Rachel's Vineyard ministries offers support through a retreat for all who suffer grief and loss after an abortion. Next retreat is 25 – 27 August. Call: **0400 092 555** or email: [info@rachelsvineyard.org.au](mailto:info@rachelsvineyard.org.au) or visit: [www.rachelsvineyard.org.au](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.au)

**St Anthony's Clovelly Centenary Mass** Past parishioners, students and friends are cordially invited to the Centenary Mass on **Sunday 21 May 2017** at 10.00am, For more information or to indicate attendance, email: [centenary@stanthonyclovelly.org.au](mailto:centenary@stanthonyclovelly.org.au); Facebook: St Anthony's Clovelly Centenary

**Christianity across the Ages - A Journey of Faith through the Evolution of Christian liturgy and its Music.** A presentation of amazingly unique slides combined with related story-telling by Marie Therese Levey rsj - music teacher, author, specialist in medieval plainchant, collector of digital copies of manuscripts from across the centuries. Where: St Joseph's Regional Centre 5 Alexandra Ave, Croydon 2132. When: 9am-12midday **Friday June 2**. Entry by voluntary donation. Bookings essential: RSVP by May 26 Email [marie.levey@sosj.org.au](mailto:marie.levey@sosj.org.au)

**Catalyst for Renewal:** Forum with Fr Timothy Radcliffe op on **Saturday, May 27th, 2017**, Santa Sabina College Strathfield. Session 1: "What Hope can we offer the Young? Lessons from the Frontline with ISIS". Session 2: "Making Place for the Conscience of the Laity today – the Challenge of Amoris Laetitia". Entry \$15 per head. Tickets available at TryBooking <https://www.trybooking.com/266284> or through Catalyst for Renewal, PO Box 265, Swansea NSW 2281 or phone message bank: **02 9990 7003** or by email to [catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au](mailto:catalyst-for-renewal@tpg.com.au).

## Antiphons & Readings

### Responsorial Psalm:

**(R) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **(R)**

2. For the word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. **(R)**

3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **(R)**

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

**Alleluia!**

### Next Week's Readings:

Acts 8:5-8. 14-17

1 Pt 3:15-18

Jn 14:15-21



### 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

21 MAY 2017		6th SUNDAY OF EASTER	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	Mario CAPRA
ORGANIST	Renee SALAR	SJW	SAMOAN
CANTOR	Renee & YOUTH CHOIR	YOUTH CHOIR	CHOIR
LECTOR/S	SPC FAMILY MASS	Ken HARTMAN	Mai VU
		Jenny MICHAEL	Hoa NGUYEN
COMMENTATOR		Joe MOSES	Hilary NGUYEN
GIFTS			CHILDRENS LITURGY
SP. MINISTER	Joy SKERRITT		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Janet RYAN		Micheline BOTHAM
CHURCH SHOP	Margaret HEYS		Margaret THAM
GREETERS	SPC CHILDREN	Joe MOSES	E LUI & V NAZARETH
HOSPITALITY			Vinita NAZARETH

<b>Hospital Visitation Sat:</b> C Parish	<b>Altar:</b> Group 3 Helen Le Mottee; Jann Rockliff
<b>Hospital Communion Sun:</b> J McDonald	
<b>Cleaning SPC :</b> H Duff & Friends	<b>Children's liturgy:</b> Sharon Iacono

Saturday	20 MAY
LECTOR FOR MASS	Jann ROCKLIFF

### Daily Prayers and Scripture on the Parish Web

Our Parish Website now includes a new section called "Liturgy Today" on our home page. This is a great resource to explore the liturgy of the day including Readings of the Mass of the day, morning, noon and evening prayers, and Office of Readings. Please visit <http://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/> and click on the link under "Liturgy Today".