



St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala

Streams of living water will flow from within. ~John 7:38

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

Parish Website: www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au, **facebook:** [stpeterstjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterstjoseph)

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 5.00am (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 on 9644 7787.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A

Child Protection Sunday

10 September 2017

First Reading

Ez 33:7-9

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

Second Reading

Rom 13:8-10

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your

neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

Gospel

Mt 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

Antiphons, Readings & Reflections

Entrance Antiphon **Ps 118:137,124**

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) O that today you would listen to 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 **2 Cor 5:19**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon **Cf. Ps 41:2-3**

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Next Week's Readings:

Sir 27:30 – 28:7

Rom 14:7-9

Mt 18:21-35

Reflections

Living the Gospel. Facing the Issue.

It can be very difficult when we feel that someone has hurt us to actually go and speak to them about how we are feeling. It is so much easier to revel in our hurt or seek payback for the hurt. Sometimes we feel that we might ruin a friendship by speaking to our friend about a way in which they have hurt us. But a hurt that goes unaddressed will continue to hurt and will probably be repeated. This week's gospel reminds us of the need to challenge our friends when they hurt us but it also reminds us that when we have hurt others we need to be challenged about it and called to account for our actions.

Scriptural Context. A Scriptural Sandwich

The placement of this discourse about confronting your brother within the gospel of Matthew helps to shed light on its

meaning. Immediately preceding this passage is the parable of the Lost Sheep, about leaving the 99 to go out in search of the one lost sheep. Immediately following this week's passage is the parable of the unmerciful or unforgiving servant who, despite receiving forgiveness of his own debt from his master, throws a fellow servant in debtors prison for failing to pay back money owed. The three passages together give a detailed discourse on forgiveness and reconciliation—dealing with those who have sinned, even against you personally and the powerful call to compassion and mercy..

Historical Context. Tell the Church

The idea of bringing a 'sinner' or offender before the church community to be confronted is one that the early Christians borrowed from the Jewish culture out of which they were formed. In Jewish society the local synagogue was effectively a community centre. It was a gathering place, not only for worship and education, but also for meeting, debating and seeking solutions to problems. The synagogue community took on the role of mediator, witness, jury, judge and, if needed, punisher. The role of the scribes in Jewish society was to interpret the Law—the Torah—in resolving everyday situations.

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
info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
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 T. (02) 9644 7787

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair) T. 0402 071 849
Karim Kassis (Vice Chair) T. 0402 071 849
Maureen Hynes (Secretary)
Joji Salar (Asst Secretary),
Micheline Botham (Social Committee)
T. 0422 939 342
Jenny Michael (Liturgy Committee)
Pat Kavanagh (Social Justice),
Jann Rockliff (Hospital Visit),
Rhia Victorino, Arthur Doumit (SVDP) and
Principals of the Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T. (02) 9644 8859
Micheline Botham (Secretary) 0422 939 342
Joe Moses, Ingrid Scharenguivel, Brendon
Nazareth (Finance Controller)

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
T. (02) 9644 9083
Principal - Phil Townsend
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
T. (02) 9646 1434
Principal - Gai Melville
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

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

Healing After Abortion: 0400 092 555

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

Parish Diary This Week

Monday	6.45am	Mass
Tuesday	6.45am 9.00am	Mass NO MASS
Wednesday	6.45am 9.15am	Mass NO MASS
Thursday	6.45am 9.15am 1.30pm 7.00pm	Mass NO MASS Starting Afresh this Winter (St Joseph's House) Psalmists followed by Parish Choir (8 Wallace St Sefton. Call Maureen on 9644-5818)
Friday	6.45am 9.15am	Mass NO MASS
Saturday	8.00am 8.30am 9.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena Adoration Confession Sunday Vigil Mass (SPC)
Sunday	8.00am 10.00am	Mass (SJW) Mass (SPC)

Family that pray together stay together"
PILGRIM STATUE



FROM ST PETER CHANEL
at the Abadam Home
2/79 Vaughan St, Lidcombe

Please join them any evening at
7.30pm for the Rosary.

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

FROM ST JOSEPH THE WORKER
at the Langi Home

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

Roster Next Week

17 SEPTEMBER 2017		24 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	Robert JAKSIC
ORGANIST	Renee SALAR		SAMOAN
CANTOR	SCHOOL CHOIR		CHOIR
LECTOR/S	SPC FAMILY MASS	Ken HARTMAN	Maureen HYNES
		Jenny MICHAEL	Hoa NGUYEN
COMMENTATOR		Joe MOSES	Hilary NGUYEN
GIFTS			CHILDRENS LITURGY
SP. MINISTER	Joy SKERRITT		Micheline BOTHAM
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Anna MANGANARO
CHURCH SHOP	Margaret HEYS		Mervin VICTORINO
GREETER	SPC CHILDREN	Joe MOSES	E LUI, V NAZARETH
HOSPITALITY		Karim & Gloria KASSIS	Micheline BOTHAM

Hospital Visitation Sat: John Le Mottee & Deb
Gooch

Altar: Group 1 Gloria De Alkstrand;
Moya Lewis; Anna Manganaro

Hospital Communion Sun: Ken Hartmann & Jenny Michael

Cleaners SPC : Rey Quinoy, YFC & Friends

Children's liturgy: Sharon Iacono

Saturday		16 SEPTEMBER
LECTOR FOR MASS		Jann ROCKLIFF

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased: Pat McManus, Ilija Latinovic, Des Ryan, Mary Ellen McKeon

Deceased: Joseph Nguyen Van Ngan, Joseph Nguyen & Joseph Mai

Anniversary: Maria Marigmen, Ignacio Amarille Sr

Mark Man Wah Chiu, Antonio D. Amores, Antonio Florendo Festejo, Louise,
Constantin, Seabellone Giovanni

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

Sick: Matasic Marija



Work on Being the Body of Christ

A crowd of people is not what we want, but a fellowship. As human beings we all need to belong to a community where hopes, vision, and life are shared. Values and culture matter in our bonding to one another in a community. In the context of our religious life the bonding is all the more profound and fundamental.



As Christians we are bonded to one another and Christ. We do the special bonding with Christ through our Holy Communion in the Eucharistic Celebration. The reception of the blessed bread and blessed wine in Mass makes us part of the Body of Christ. When the community of the parish bond together we are becoming more than a community of like-minded people, we become the Body of Christ.

Therefore together we present Christ in a physical body to the world. That is why it is important to keep up the integrity of the bonding between the members of this church community which is the Body of Christ. Out of our human weakness, if disunity and conflicts arise amongst the members of this body of Christ, we need to work hard and fast to resolve them for the good of the Church. Therefore Jesus told his disciples how to resolve conflicts for the good of the Church. (Ref Mt 18:15-20)

“Jesus said to his disciples: ‘If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone.’ If that does not work, then include mediators. If that too does not work, then involve the whole church with its authority to help resolve the conflict. Only after such hard and fast attempts you should give up on anyone. But always work on being the Body of Christ.

Feasts & Memorials of the Week

Wednesday—St John Chrysostom



He was born in Antioch in 347 AD and was raised by his widowed mother. After receiving the best education available, he became a monk and lived an austere life in the mountains. He returned to Antioch eight years later to become a deacon and eventually was ordained a priest in 386 AD. St John became a famous preacher and commentator on the Gospels of Matthew and John and the Epistles of Paul. In 397 AD, Emperor Arcadius chose St John to become the

Archbishop of Constantinople. He was outspoken in his attempts to reform the corrupt morals of the court, clergy and people. As a result of this he made many enemies, who conspired to have him removed as Archbishop and sent into exile. In the West he is known as one of the Four Greek Doctors of the church.

Thursday - The Exaltation of the Holy Cross



Originally this day commemorated the dedication of Constantine's Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in the fourth century; after the celebration, the wood of the cross was venerated. The feast spread in the West after the recovery of the relics of the cross from Persia in the seventh century. A feast of the Lord, it celebrates the "lifting up" of the Son of Man on the cross, into glory, and the paradox of the cross as a sign of humiliation and death, yet the source of victory and life.

Friday - Our Lady of Sorrows

This commemoration originated in the medieval devotion to the seven sorrows of Mary. Approved for the Servite order in the seventeenth century, it was extended to the whole Western Church in 1814 by Pius VII in thanksgiving for his release from captivity under Napoleon. In the light of Simeon's prophecy about a sword piercing Mary's soul (Luke 2:35), the feast celebrates Mary, first disciple and first to share in the pain and triumph of the cross.



Saturday—Sts Cornelius & Cyprian



St Cornelius was elected as pope in 251 AD; a time when Christians were being persecuted. He faced much opposition within the church over the issue of reconciling those who had distanced themselves from the church (apostates) during these dangerous times. St Cyprian was the bishop of Carthage. He supported the pope's view that apostates should be pardoned and welcomed back into the church. A few letters written by Cornelius to Cyprian survive today, including those which were written after he was banished from Rome in 253 AD. Cornelius died in exile most probably from poor health, although it was Cyprian who called him a martyr to the faith.



Piety Stall

Drop by our Piety Stall and grab a gift for that special someone. The stall is filled with a range of religious items perfect as presents for those celebrating the Sacraments of Holy Communion, Baptism, Reconciliation and Confirmation. The stall is open on Sundays before and after the 10.00am mass. If you have any product enquiry, please contact the Parish Office by phone or email.

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 NoEmail

☐ Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

☐ Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent for completion)

Fr Thomas on Annual Retreat

Fr Thomas will be away till next weekend to do his annual spiritual retreat. All parishioners may pray that he will have a fruitful retreat. Due to his absence, there will be only one Mass from Monday to Friday that will be at 6.45 AM, celebrated by Monsignor Berbari. There will NOT be any Mass at 9.15 AM

Special Mary Mackillop Spirituality Day

Walk in the footsteps of Mary Mackillop and visit the Mary Mackillop Museum to learn more about her inspiring life and visit the Chapel on Friday 20th October. (Special Dooleys bus leaving school at 9am and returning at 2:45pm). Free excursion but limited spots! Please contact to find out more: angela.finnane@syd.catholic.edu.au

Petition-assisted Suicide Bill NSW

Please sign the petition located at the back of the church against the NSW Voluntary assisted Dying Bill 2017. It allows persons to access physician assisted suicide. It is impossible to safeguard against abuses and coercion in such legislation. NSW should be working to provide better access to good end of life care instead. You will hear more about this during Mass and there will be volunteers facilitating petition signing afterwards. More Info: www.no euthanasia.org.au.

Fr George is promised help for School at Chima Impel



Fr George has sent a few pictures of St Xavier's School, Chima Impel, including the above ones. He is happy to hear about our fundraising for his school. So far 33 bricks are sold. The target is to sell 300 bricks by 7 October.

You can sponsor bricks for the school. One Hundred dollars will sponsor a brick. You are welcome to buy a few of them according to your capacity. You will get a personalised certificate for your sponsorship and your name will be inscribed on plaque and displayed permanently at St Xavier's School Chima Impel India.

Arthur Doumit (0417270923), Charlie Scully (0402 071 849), Evelyn Safadi (0416 140 378), Tony Draybi (0403 367 789), Jenny Michael (0413 679 931), and Ivica Kovac (0407 467 692) are coordinating the fund raising activities. Both SPC & SJW Schools and Trinity College are also helping by selling raffle tickets with attractive prices.

You are welcome to contact one of coordinators or me to discuss how you could also help with this overseas mission as thanksgiving to God for his goodness to us.

~Fr Thomas

Fathers' Day Collection for Retired Priests

**PRIESTS'
RETIREMENT
FOUNDATION**

Our Parish collected \$692 in cash donations for the Retired Priests Foundation. Thank you for your generosity!

MenALIVE Weekend

23rd/24th September St Joachim's Parish Hall. Like thousands of other Catholic men who have already been on a menALIVE weekends across Australia, you will be inspired and encouraged to renew your faith and rediscover God's purpose in your life. Experienced leaders from menALIVE will be running the weekend, including Author, and co-founder of menALIVE Robert Falzon. For registrations and inquiries contact Steven Lia 0412 667657

Festival Mass

St Vincent de Paul Liberty Plains, Rozelle, Macquarie and Western Suburbs Regional Councils invite all Society members and their families to join us at Festival Mass concelebrated by Fr Thomas & Fr Ray on Friday, 20th of October at 6.30pm (SPC Church). A light supper will be served in the Jubilee Hall after mass. Please RSVP by Friday, 29 September by phone 02 9643 7794 or email annew@sydneyvinnies.org.

The CFC Handmaids of the Lord

The CFC Handmaids of the Lord, a family ministry of Couples for Christ invite women to a Christian Life Program, an integrated course intended to lead the program participants into a renewed understanding of God's call to them as Christian women. It is open to all mature women such as single mothers, widows, separated women, unmarried mature women & married women whose husbands are working in another state or country or are not willing nor able to participate in any religious affiliation. It runs for 8 consecutive Sundays starting on 17 September 2017 at St Felix Valois Parish Church, Bankstown. For more information, please contact Joy Skeritt - 0401353826, Portia Mariano - 0421694078 or Josielyn Dunshea - 0431870733. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Playgroup

St Peter Chanel School, Berala runs a fun playgroup session every Thursday from 9.00am to 11.00am in the school Library (during school term). Children's ages range from 12 months to 5 years. Singing, dancing, story-time and craft are some of the activities offered. A great place for mum/carers to catch up with other adults too. Please let friends who do not speak English know about the playgroup.



St Joseph the Worker, Auburn

Come join us with your little ones for some music, singing, storytime, craft and painting. Just bring a piece of fruit to share. All welcome. Cost: Free! Playgroup resumes Thursday 20th July. When: Thursday mornings 9-11am (during school term) Where: St Joseph the Worker, Auburn in the Fr Mark Spora Room.

Some Thoughts on Marriage from Pope Francis

God's masterpiece

Pope Francis grounds his teaching on marriage and the family by reflecting on the creation accounts in Genesis, by pointing out that in "the Book of Genesis, when God completes his work of creation and makes his masterpiece; the masterpiece is man and woman."¹ God's masterpiece has a special quality because "it is not man alone who is the image of God or woman alone who is the image of God, but man and woman as a couple who are the image of God."²

Equal but different

God made woman and man equal but different. The difference "is not meant to stand in opposition, or to subordinate, but is for the sake of communion and generation."³ The difference is the basis for a "covenant between man and woman"⁴ and when it is lived properly "the earth is filled with harmony and trust,"⁵ and "its failure deprives the earth of warmth and darkens the sky of hope."⁶

A unique union of man and woman

Pope Francis views "the union of man and woman in marriage as a unique, natural, fundamental and beautiful good for people, families, communities and societies."⁷ He also sees that "as a social institution, marriage protects and shapes a shared commitment to deeper growth in love and commitment to one another, for the good of society as a whole. That is why marriage is more than a fleeting fashion; it is of enduring importance."⁸

Motherhood and fatherhood

One of the most fundamental aspects of marriage is parenting. Pope Francis has taught that "every child has a right to receive love from a mother and a father; both are necessary for a child's integral and harmonious development."⁹ Furthermore this right is not just concerned with "the love of father and mother as individuals, but also of their mutual love, perceived as the source of one's life and the solid foundation of the family."¹⁰ Consequently "only the exclusive and indissoluble union between a man and a woman has a plenary [comprehensive, complete or full] role to play in society as a stable commitment that bears fruit in new life."¹¹

Conclusion

In our current historical context in which the definition of marriage is being questioned, Pope Francis has stated that "as Christians, we can hardly stop advocating marriage simply to avoid countering contemporary sensibilities, or out of a desire to be fashionable."¹² These thoughts from Pope Francis should give us a reason to reflect on what is at stake in the current marriage debate.

¹Pope Francis, General Audience, 29 April 2015

²Pope Francis, General Audience, 15 April 2015

³Pope Francis, General Audience, 15 April 2015

⁴Pope Francis, General Audience, 15 April 2015

⁵Pope Francis, General Audience, 15 April 2015

⁶Pope Francis, General Audience, 15 April 2015

⁷Pope Francis, Address to the International Colloquium on the Complementarity between Man and Woman, 7 November 2014

⁸ *Amoris Laetitia* 131

⁹ *Amoris Laetitia* 172

¹⁰ *Amoris Laetitia* 172

¹¹ *Amoris Laetitia* 52

¹² *Amoris Laetitia* 35

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".

Consequences Stemming from Changing the Legal Definition of Marriage

- **Freedom of speech.** Anti-discrimination laws have been used to restrict speech on issues relating to marriage. Archbishop Julian Porteous was brought before the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commission for distributing a letter about Catholic teaching on marriage.
- **Freedom in the workplace.** A Melbourne IT specialist was sacked after he told his colleagues that he did not want his kids to be exposed to the Safe Schools program. His employer accused him of “creating an unsafe work environment.” In another case, a Victorian public servant was given a warning for complaining about being pressured to take part in a gay pride march. An Alice Springs teacher was also threatened with disciplinary action for expressing opposition to “same-sex marriage” on his personal Facebook account.¹³
- **Freedom of conscience.** In countries where marriage has been redefined, examples abound of wedding service providers who have been sued or fined for declining to participate in same-sex wedding ceremonies.
- **Erasing the significance of biological sex.** Same-sex marriage came into effect in the United Kingdom in 2014. This year, the UK Government Equalities Office streamlined the process for a person to legally change their gender by removing the need for a medical certificate and the Equalities Minister said this built on the progress of same-sex marriage.¹⁴
- **The removal of mothers and fathers.** In Ontario, Canada, the All Families Are Equal Act 2016 has replaced all references to “mother” or “father” in the law to “parent,” and birth certificates now allow up to four “parents” with equal rights to the child to be included.¹⁵
- **Changes to sex education.** Once the law on marriage is changed, sex education will change to include all forms of sexual activity. In Canada, such lessons were optional before same-sex marriage was legalised in 2005, but have now become compulsory, even for faith-based schools.¹⁶
- **The removal of parental rights.** Canadian parents who have tried to remove their children from “Safe Schools” style sex education classes have been blocked by the courts.¹⁷
- **The closing of “non-compliant” schools.** In the UK, Vishnitz Girls School, an orthodox Jewish school has failed two education authority inspections and now faces closure for refusing to teach girls between the ages of 3 and 11 years about sexual orientation and gender re-assignment.¹⁸

¹³ *Christians under siege, religious freedom inquiry hears*, The Australian, Rebecca Urban, May 6, 2017

¹⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-action-to-promote-lgbt-equality>

¹⁵ http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2016/11/30/all-families-are-equal-act-bill-28-wynne_n_13326140.html

¹⁶ <http://nationalpost.com/news/canada/ontario-liberals-to-introduce-updated-version-of-sex-education-curriculum-pulled-in-2010-over-religious-objections>

¹⁷ Same-sex education ruling an ‘attack on parents’ rights’, The Australian, Joe Kelly, November 30, 2016

¹⁸ <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/private-jewish-school-lgbt-issues-fail-ofsted-inspection-vishnitz-girls-london-orthodox-sex-british-a7809221.html>

From Lyle Shelton, Managing Director, Coalition for Marriage

Your faith and freedom are under fire. Recently Bill Shorten said: “I don’t accept the religious practice in this country is under threat.” He’s saying it’s OK for you to go to church and believe what you like there. But what is under threat, and what Mr Shorten is not telling us, is that your religious practice outside the church, mosque or synagogue is under grave threat should the definition of marriage, in law, be changed.



It’s now Labor policy to use the law to punish anyone who does not conform to same-sex marriage ideology, unless they’re professional clergy. I watched it happen at the ALP national conference in Melbourne in August 2015.

Pledge to vote NO today – to protect your faith and your freedom.

Catechist News

Honouring a Faithful Catechist

Romaine Cheema, 88, was honoured last week at a special lunch attended by Father Thomas, Catechists and other SRE (Special Religious Education) teachers to mark her retirement after over 40 years of faithful service in our Parish and community. Her varied roles included



coordinating the Catechist Ministry and the Sacramental Program.

The group surprised Romaine with a personal photo book saying: "Romaine Cheema – this is your life; your life in our Parish family, your life in our community and most of all, your life in God. This book shows how much we all love and appreciate you."

A message from Father Thomas: "May God bless you for the many years of your dedicated service to Berala Parish as a Religious Educator, and especially as Catechist Coordinator. I also acknowledge your great contribution as Sacramental Coordinator for the Catholic children from the public schools. Thank you for being my co-Minister of Evangelisation."

~Brenda, Catechist Co-ordinator



Sacrament News

First Reconciliation Program

Information night for parents of First Reconciliation candidates will be held on Tuesday 19 September in the Jubilee Hall at 7.00pm. At this meeting the First Reconciliation program will be explained. The outline of the Reconciliation Program will be announced at the parents meeting.

Legion of Mary at SJW



The Legion of Mary will host a special morning tea after the 8.00 am Mass this Sunday, 10th September, at St Joseph the Worker Church to celebrate the birthday of Our Blessed Virgin Mary (8th September). Do join us!

From Trinity Catholic College

Invitation to a Mass of Thanksgiving and Reception for Sr. Mary Rachel and Sr. Cecilia Rose

Mr. Daniel Delmage
Principal of Trinity Catholic College
Auburn and Regents Park
and

Mr. Michael Krawec
Inner West Regional Director
Sydney Catholic Schools

Invite you to join them at a

Mass of Thanksgiving and Reception to celebrate the wonderful service and great contribution of Sr. Mary Rachel and Sr. Cecilia Rose to our Sydney Catholic schools, as they leave us to undertake a new venture in Australian Catholic Education.

Mass will be celebrated by
Fr. Dominic Murphy

Venue

St. Peter Chanel Parish Church
Kingsland Road, Berala

Date and time

Monday 18th September, 2017
Commencing at 5pm

A reception will immediately follow in
the Parish Hall.

RSVP

Please kindly advise Mrs Erin Cardeno
of your attendance by
Monday 11th September
on erin.cardeno@syd.catholic.edu.au



Jubilee Hall

The Jubilee Hall, adjacent to St Peter Chanel Church is available for hire. The fee for hiring is \$400. Members of the Planned Giving Program of the parish receive a 25% discount. For more info contact the parish office.

Other Notices

St Joseph's Enfield Parish Teaching Day. 126 Liverpool Road, Enfield . Parking in Baker Street, Saturday, 16th September 9:45 am—3:45 PM. Speaker: Fr. Adam Crouch, MGL . Cost: \$15.00 . Please bring something to share for lunch & your bible. Coffee & Tea provided. Contact: Rose: 02 9642 2359 Mobile 0412 115 961, email: rosetwymansydney@gmail.com . Come along and discover how to develop and have a deeper relationship with Jesus!

An Evening with Katy Faust. Katy Faust has seen first-hand the consequences of changing the Marriage Act in the United States. Hear her story on Friday, 15 September at St Joachim's Catholic Church hall, 2 Mills Street, Lidcombe, 6.30pm-9.30pm. Tickets \$80, includes buffet dinner, beer and wine. For tickets: marriagealliance.com.au/Katy.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival. Group registrations and Individual Registration are still open for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in December. There are still some complimentary registrations for students attending State schools. Please contact Tommy Francisco, Youth Co-ordinator via email tommy.bolin.francisco@gmail.com if you wish to join. Visit www.acyf.org.au for all the information of the Festival.

CatholicCare. Bringing community to older people Our Community Visitors Scheme needs volunteers to visit elderly people for a few hours a week. If you have some free time and can attend training at Liverpool, we'd love to hear from you. Call our friendly CCareline team on 13 18 19 or email us at connect@catholiccare.org

Our Lady of Victories Catholic Parish, Horsley Park - Parish Feast Will be holding their annual parish feast on Sunday 2:00pm 17th September 2017. 1788 The Horsley Drive, Horsley Park . 2pm with Rosary, procession with Our Lady of Victories statue and OLQP band. 3pm - Feast Mass accompanied by Marion school choir. 4pm - Festival.

Day Seminar: Girard's Mimetic Theory: A Short Guide with Dr James Alison. Saturday 23rd September, 9am-5pm St Paul's College, University of Sydney, 9 City Road, Camperdown This seminar provides an introduction to the French-Catholic theorist, René Girard (former professor of Stanford University and member of Académie française), whose theories on desire, violence, religion and Christianity have been ground-breaking. The seminar will be interactive, with workshops and groups led by Dr James Alison, Rev. Prof. Scott Cowdell (Charles Sturt University), Assoc. Prof. Chris Fleming (Western Sydney University), Dr Carly Osborn (University of Adelaide) and Dr Joel Hodge (Australian Catholic University). Cost: \$100 (waged), \$70 (concession), free for students. Book at www.trybooking.com/RBNT. Details: info@australiangirardseminar.org

Free Public Lecture. "Violence gives rise to religion: And why popular culture has this back to front..." with Dr James Alison Friday 22nd September, 6.30-8pm, St Paul's College, University of Sydney, 9 City Road, Camperdown. Abstract: Much popular culture and academic literature identifies religion as the cause of violence. In contrast, what if the opposite is the case: that violence gives rise to religion? James Alison will show that religion is actually an answer to the problem of human violence, which develops as a fundamental issue in human evolution and hominization. For more information, please go to: <http://jamesalison.co.uk/> info@australiangirardseminar.org

Fundraising Volunteers Needed. The Archdiocese value the contribution that our volunteers make but more are needed to assist us from time to time. For info phone Amanda on 1800 753 959 or email fundraising@sydneycatholic.org .

Catholic Youth Services. City Silence is a Holy Hour hosted by Catholic Youth Services for young adults every Tuesday at St Mary's Cathedral from 6.30-7.30pm. City Silence is not restricted to only youth. We invite people of all ages over 18 and backgrounds to City Silence. We find it is a great time to worship and adore Our Lord in the heart of Sydney.

Calling all University students! Are you a student (or do you know a student) studying at University? Each University has a Catholic Society that offers daily Mass, social gatherings and avenues to deepen your faith on campus. Visit: www.unicatholics.org.au to find out what is happening on your campus.

Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griegtograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griegtograce.org

The Archdiocese of Sydney App. The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney had released a Smartphone App (for iPhones and Androids only) for parishioners in the Archdiocese. The App is available to download for free – search for "Archdiocese of Sydney" in the Google Play and App stores.

Bereavement Support Reflections Mornings. Third Wednesday of Every Month 10.00am – 1.00pm. For family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. Morning tea provided. Contact Bereavement Support (02) 9646 6908 or bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au.

Natural Fertility Services is looking for suitable applicants in the Greater Sydney area to train as Fertility Educators. Thorough, in-depth training over a 12-month period is provided to those who complete the training and become accredited educators. For more information and application forms please contact The Manager NFS (02) 9509 1222.

Tell Your Story in The Catholic Weekly. Do you have a local parish news story which would be of interest to the many readers of the Catholic Weekly? The Catholic Weekly is always looking for human interest, inspirational and faith-based stories for our weekly publication. If you have a story please send it to: cweditor@catholicweekly.com.au or call (02) 9390 5407. We'd love to hear your story!

The Benedict XVI Retreat Centre now offers a series of fun, innovative facilitated activity programs to complement and enrich any group retreat. Whether you are looking for adventure, team building, opportunities for reflection or simply to have fun with your group, our specially trained facilitators can tailor a program to meet your needs and budget. Activities include flying fox, archery, bushwalking, leadership challenge, communications challenge, camp craft, environmental programs and more. Contact Reception on (02) 4572 2899 / email bxvi@sydneycatholic.org to find out more or visit www.benedictxvicentre.org.au.

Visiting Rome? Domus Australia is a 32 room guest house established by the Australian Catholic Church, welcoming travellers to Rome seeking comfortable accommodation and an ideal base from which to explore historical and cultural sites of the Eternal City. Centrally located with a magnificently restored Chapel featuring daily Mass in English, Domus Australia is the perfect oasis in the heart of Rome for Aussie pilgrims. Enquiries: reservations@domusaustalia.org.

'A cheerful heart is a good medicine.' ~Proverbs 17:22

An elderly couple talk in the evening:

"Honey, I'm so sorry that I let out my anger at you so often. How do you manage to stay so calm with my foul moods?"

"I always go and clean the toilet when that happens."

"And that helps?"

"Yes, because I'm using your toothbrush."

