



## 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](mailto:info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au)

**Parish Website:** [www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au](http://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.

### Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - Year A

26 November 2017

#### First Reading

**Ez 34:11-12, 15-17**

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest—it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I



shall be a true shepherd to them. As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

#### Second Reading

**1 Cor 15:20-26, 28**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought

to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come to the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

#### Gospel

**Mt 25:31-46**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, 'Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food;

I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me.' Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, 'Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?' And the King will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.' Next he will say to those on his left hand, 'Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me.' Then it will be their turn to ask, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?' Then he will answer, 'I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.' And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

### Antiphons & Readings

#### Entrance Antiphon **Rv 5:12; 1:6**

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

#### Responsorial Psalm:

**(R) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. **(R.)**

2. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name **(R.)**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

#### Gospel Acclamation **Mk 11:9-10**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!  
**Alleluia!**

#### Communion Antiphon **Ps 28:10-11**

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

#### Next Week's Readings:

Is 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

1 Cor 1:3-9

Mk 13:33-37

# ADVENT STARTS NEXT SUNDAY

**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 9.15am 7.00pm	Mass Mass (SPC School Thanksgiving Mass) Bible Study with Fr Thomas (St Joseph's House)
Wednesday	6.45am 9.15am 7.30pm	Mass Mass Carol Planning Team Meeting (SPC Church)
Thursday	6.45am 9.15am 1.30pm 4.00pm 6.30pm 7.00pm	Mass Mass Bible Study with Sr Elena- Marie (St Joseph's House) Legion of Mary (St Joseph's House) Christmas Day Volunteer Meeting (Presbytery) Psalmists & General Choir Practice (Maureen's House)
Friday	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass
Saturday	8.00am 8.30am 9.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena, Adoration, Confession, Sunday Vigil Mass (SPC)
Sunday	8.00am 10.00am 11.00am	Mass (SJW) Mass (SPC) Raffle Draw (SPC)

*Family that pray together stay together"*  
**PILGRIM STATUE**



**FROM ST PETER CHANEL**

at the Amarille Home  
2/15 St Johns Road, Berala

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 Olie Home

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

**Roster Next Week**

3 DECEMBER 2017		1 <sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	E J HOEFELICH
ORGANIST	Maureen HYNES	LEWISHAM TONGAN	SAMOAN
CANTOR	C HYNES & PARISH CHOIR	COMMUNITY CHOIR	CHOIR
LECTOR/S	Noelene DONNELLAN	Ken HARTMAN	Margaret NGUYEN
	Flavia NARAYAN	Joe MOSES	Maureen HYNES
COMMENTATOR	Jann ROCKLIFF	Maris MARSH	Micheline BOTHAM
GIFTS	Carol MABON Family		CHILDRENS LITURGY
SP. MINISTER	Kay SCULLY		Angela TANG
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Mai VU
CHURCH SHOP	Margaret HEYS		Jenny MICHAEL
GREETERS	Kate PARISH	Joe MOSES	A THAM, S TAN & K GIM
HOSPITALITY			Anita ZRILIC
Hospital Visitation Sat: Jann Rockliff & Phil Lopez		Altar: Group 5 Margaret Heys, Carol Mabon, Maria Wood	
Hospital Communion Sun: : Joy Skerritt & Roland Javier			
Cleaners SPC : Samoan Choir		Children's liturgy: Anna Facer	
Saturday		2 DECEMBER	
LECTOR FOR MASS		Jann ROCKLIFF	

**Mass Intentions**

**Sick:** Anne Nguyen

**Recently Deceased:** Maria Pagarno, Shinta Widjaja, Harry Willoughby, Juliet Andino - Festejo

**Anniversary:** Erwin Domenico Patti, Mary Gabrielle, Fatima Bolonia, Colleen Willoughby (70th), Ivan Medved, Stella Mills, Colin Baudille, Gary Williams

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



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

**Aksel Elveren & Liyah Altunag Elveren**

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

## Christ the King

Yes vote camp won the recent plebiscite on changing the definition of marriage. The recent bill on legalising Euthanasia narrowly lost in NSW but won majority support in Victoria. In both these cases the teachings of the Church, which represents Christ on earth, is ignored or rejected by the majority of the civil population.



In a few weeks' time, the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse will bring out a multivolume report. It will be presenting the Catholic Church in Australia as anything but like Christ. In this climate what is the relevance of the Feast of Christ the King? While we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King of the Universe, the influence of Christ and his teaching seems to be losing its grip on the people at large. The society seems to take a direction in many ways opposite to Christian religious values. Yes, majority may be turning away from Christ. That makes it all the more important to conscientise on Christ as the King.

The Feast of Christ the King was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as a response to the secularism of the time. It was after World War I. Countries fought with each other for supremacy. In reality there were no winners after war. It brought misery and unrest for the people. Pope Pius XI observed that people have brought this fate on themselves because they had turned away from Christ the saviour and focus on the prosperity, the industrial revolution and advancement of science. So he urged people not to put their trust and faith in the science and prosperity but in Jesus Christ for the proper peace in the world.

The problem we now have is also similar. We are too proud of our prosperity and advancement in scientific knowledge. We are entering the era of artificial intelligence. In the excitement of these scientific advancement we tend to forget the purpose and meaning of life. We should not do things just because we can. The ability to modify genes, the self-guiding missiles, and intelligent robots, just as good as they are, will not provide fundamental meaning and purpose of life. To face the judgement day at the end of our earthly pilgrimage, we need to constantly work on reaching out to the humanity and connecting with God. Until we give the prime position in our lives to Christ, fundamental peace will elude us. Majority is no measuring stick for truth and righteousness. Even when the majority of the society wander away from Christian teachings we should not allow ourselves to lose our trust and faith in Christ Jesus. Ultimately we will have to give an account of our lives, no one else. Therefore, do not let redefinition of marriage, euthanasia, and so on distract you from your faith in Jesus Christ.

The faithful, moreover, by meditating upon these truths, will gain much strength and courage, enabling them to form their lives after the true Christian ideal. If to Christ our Lord is given all power in heaven and on earth; if all men, purchased by his precious blood, are by a new right subjected to his dominion; if this power embraces all men, it must be clear that not one of our faculties is exempt from his empire. He must reign in our minds, which should assent with perfect submission and firm belief to revealed truths and to the doctrines of Christ. He must reign in our wills, which should obey the laws and precepts of God. He must reign in our hearts, which should spurn natural desires and love God above all things, and cleave to him alone. He must reign in our bodies and in our members, which should serve as instruments for the interior sanctification of our souls, or to use the words of the Apostle Paul, as instruments of justice unto God.[35] If all these truths are presented to the faithful for their consideration, they will prove a powerful incentive to perfection. It is Our fervent desire, Venerable Brethren, that those who are without the fold may seek after and accept the sweet yoke of Christ, and that we, who by the mercy of God are of the household of the faith, may bear that yoke, not as a burden but with joy, with love, with devotion; that having lived our lives in accordance with the laws of God's kingdom, we may receive full measure of good fruit, and counted by Christ good and faithful servants, we may be rendered partakers of eternal bliss and glory with him in his heavenly kingdom. (*Quas Primas, Pope Pius XI paragraph 33*)

## Reflections on Matthew 25:31-46

### Scriptural Context

This week's gospel passage comes as the third in a sequence of passages that make up Matthew Chapter 25. The chapter addresses the gospel's intended audience who were caught in a time of uncertainty. Many had expected the promised return of the Lord within their lifetime and had seen the fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple by the Romans in 70CE as a sign that the end of days was approaching. The three gospel passages speak of continuing to prepare for the coming of the Kingdom and the need to act in a way that works to bring about the reign of God in the world.

### Have you Thought? Christ the King

This week's liturgy marks the end of the liturgical cycle. Next week begins the new year with the season of Advent. The liturgy is celebrated as the Feast of Christ the King—reminding us of a very imperial model of church and theology that reflected the structure of the Roman Empire and later Feudal Europe. To have this reading on the Feast of Christ the King is a powerful reminder of how Jesus envisaged the Kingdom of God. For Jesus, the Kingdom was not a rule of power and status but a rule of justice and peace for even the lowliest. It is an apt conclusion to the liturgical year.

### Gospel Focus: The Final Judgment

Often referred to as 'The Final Judgment', this gospel presents an understanding of judgment and punishment that reflects the theology and culture of the first century. It is an image that has continued to dominate Christian art and theology for most of its history: the idea of God sitting in judgment on the final day and weighing up each individual's actions. It is often applied very literally and it is a dominant image of God represented in the media—TV sitcoms and movies often draw on the image. It is a literalist image of God that needs to be challenged. We must remember that the focus of the gospel passage is on the call to action for justice.



## Feasts & Memorials of the Week



### Thursday— *St Andrew, apostle*

Born at Bethsaida (Galilee). A fisherman and perhaps a disciple of John the Baptist (24 June). Introduced his brother, Simon Peter (29 June), to Jesus and became one of the first to follow Christ. Mentioned a number of times in the gospels, for example, in introducing some Gentiles to Jesus (John 12:20ff.). Widely venerated since ancient times and remembered as one of the twelve who bore witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

## Parish News

### First Reconciliation

Congratulations to the following candidates who received their First Reconciliation last week.

Jasmine Aboul-Hasn  
Vincenzo Bartolo  
Stijn Brwonswijk  
Ryan Burge  
Sarah Dang  
Natasha Dillon  
Oliver Facer  
James Frimpong  
Antheon Gabila  
Vincent Ha

Joseph Hady  
Joy Issa  
Annelia Itula  
Amelia Ivanson  
Ante Jurcevic  
Olivia Kardum  
Tamara Kidner  
Bella Kinda  
Joe Kristianto  
Seini-Valu Lasalo  
Darius Lerotic

Leon Muscas  
Brandon Nguyen  
Ethan Nguyen  
Chelsey O'Donoughue  
Nathan Pelino  
Lucas Pham  
Darius Pokanau  
Jack Pokanau  
Mariah Raad  
Charlotte Ralph  
Daniel Saade

Rita Saade  
Edward Scargall  
Paul Scargall  
Malaki Sinisa  
James Skelly  
Timoty Stevens  
Tuaunga Tupou  
Lesley Veatufunga  
Steven Xue  
Anthony Zivkovic

### Fr Tovia Lui to Celebrate Mass

Fr Tovia Lui will be presiding over the 10 AM Mass next Sunday, First Sunday of Advent. He is the Samoan Chaplain. But the Mass will be in English as usual and the Samoan Choir will be singing as usual for the Mass. Fr Tovia will be the main celebrant for 10 AM Mass first Sunday of January and February 2018 as well.

### Change of Mass Schedule

Since I invited comments on my proposal to move 8 AM Mass to St Peter Chanel Berala, I have received a request with a number of signatures to maintain the status quo. Therefore let me discern the merits and demerits of a change.

-Fr Thomas

### Raffle for Fr George's School, New Draw Date

Tickets will be on sale this weekend after the Sunday Vigil 5.00pm (SPC), 8.00am (SJW) and 10.00am (SPC) masses. Tickets are only \$2 each or \$20 per booklet, with some amazing prizes to be won! **Raffle to be drawn on Sunday, 3 December 2017 after the 10.00am Mass at Berala.**

### Buy a Brick! Fr George's School

Thanks to you for sponsoring **238** bricks so far Fr George's School. **Another 62 more bricks** to meet our target. With your help we can do it. So please sponsor bricks, according to your capacity, for the school. One Hundred dollars will sponsor a brick. You will get a personalised certificate for your sponsorship and your name will be inscribed on plaque and displayed permanently at the School in Garo Hills, India. You are welcome to contact one of the following coordinators or me to discuss how you could help with this overseas mission: Arthur Doumit (0417270923), Charlie Scully (0402 071 849), Jenny Michael (0413 679 931), Parish Office or Fr Thomas.

### Carols on the Lawn

Wed 20 Dec beginning at 7.30pm – You are invited to come along and bring the whole family, some rugs to sit on and your Christmas voices of course! Battery candles, glo - sticks and Carol booklets will also be available so that we can sing with joy in anticipation of the coming of the Christ Child.



### Final Planning Meeting for Carol Team

The meeting will take place in the church at 7.30 pm on Wed 29 November. We need to have this last check up to ensure all is in place and ready for this beautiful and joyful evening.

~Maureen

### Special Plainsong Mass for Advent

To reflect the penitential spirit of this Season the Parish Choir will lead you all in singing unaccompanied, a simple Plainsong Mass setting, just as we did for Lent. It is very easy and you should have no trouble with joining in.

~Maureen

### Bible Society—Message from Richard Allcock

Please accept my sincere thanks for your personal support and your parish Community at St Peter Chanel Church – Berala – St Joseph's Church – Auburn South and for the very generous contribution made towards the "Remote Indigenous Ministry Support" Bible Translation project, which was presented on the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Through their love for the Indigenous communities, the total amount raised at both Churches: **\$930.00**. The unity of effort in contributing this significant amount is very much appreciated. This money has been processed and an official receipt will be issued direct to all those who provided the necessary details.

## Christmas Schedule 2017

**Wednesday 20 December**

7.30pm Carols Festival at SPC Berala

**Friday 22 December**

7.30pm Second Rite Reconciliation at SPC Berala

**Sunday 24 December**

8.00am Mass at SJW Auburn South

10.00am Mass at SPC Berala

7.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass at SPC Berala

12.00am Solemn Midnight Mass at SPC Berala

**Monday 25 December**

8.00am Christmas Mass at SJW Auburn South

10.00am Christmas Mass at SPC Berala

11.00am - 3.00pm Christmas Lunch in the Jubilee Hall



### The Catholic Parish of St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala

invite all who wish  
to share the joy of Christmas with others to a Christmas Lunch.

Food, drink, entertainment and face painting provided

Date: 25 December 2017

Place: Jubilee Hall, 64 Kingsland Rd Berala (next to church)

Time: 11am to 3pm

RSVP for transport: Please phone Anne or Christine no later than

Monday 18 December on 9643 7794

For further details please contact

Evelene Safadi on 0416 140 378

### Christmas Lunch Donations

On Christmas Day, 25 December, there will be a Luncheon for all those who would like to participate.

Please let Evelene Safadi on 0416 140 378 or the parish office know how you would like to help.

It will be buffet lunch in the Jubilee Hall. You can also help with the Luncheon either by donating food & drinks or becoming a volunteer.

Should you wish to donate, kindly complete the Luncheon Donation form at the back of the church.

### Christmas Lunch Volunteers Meeting

There will be a meeting for the volunteers on Thursday, 30th of November at 6.30pm at St Joseph's House. Contact the Evelene Safadi (see above) or the Parish Office know if you would like to volunteer and attend the meeting.

### Christmas Luncheon Crib

Christmas Luncheon is a tradition we have started in 2013. As part of the celebration a Crib is set up in Jubilee Hall on 23/24 December. It is simple but ingenious piece of art, when you know how it is made. Pam Snell is the creator of it. Now she would like to hand over the technique and material to a volunteer who is prepared to set it up for Christmas. It would take no more than 2 hours either on 23rd or 24th of December. Therefore I will be happy to hear from anyone who is prepared to learn this crib making.



## 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)

## Happy 80th Birthday John Donnellan!!!

John and his wife Noeline came to settle in Berala in 1960. John became involved in parish life soon after. He joined the St. Vincent de Paul Society and was an active member for many years. John also made a major contribution in compiling the constitution for the first Parish Council. In the seventies, he formed a youth group which was called Y.U.C. (Youth Under Care) which was very successful and ran for many years.

John practised law as a Solicitor in Bankstown for over 40 years until he retired. He and Noeline raised 4 children and have 12 grandchildren and 2 great grand children – a lot achieved in 80 years!



On your birthday with a wish for happiness  
today and always! God bless!

### Church Shop

Drop by our Church Shop 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.



### 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

**Position Vacant - Director, Professional Standards Office NSW/ACT.** A permanent full-time position. Sydney CBD-based. For further information please contact Anthony Spata at REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. Applications close 30 November 2017.

**Update on the protection of religious freedom amendments for Marriage Law change.** There is a considerable amount of debate occurring about the level of religious freedom protection to be included in any legislation enabling same-sex marriage. At one end of the spectrum, Labor, the Greens and some members of the Coalition are arguing for the Smith Bill. At the other end of the spectrum, conservatives are arguing for extensive amendments to the Smith Bill. However there are some within the Government who are pushing to postpone any debate on religious freedom until 2018. This eventuality risks taking religious freedom permanently off the agenda as the citizenship crisis threatens to intensify at the beginning of 2018 and consume the focus of Federal Parliament. We encourage you and your senior staff to engage with your local Federal politicians to ensure they understand the need to strengthen protection for religious freedom in legislation before Christmas. Senators will be sitting in Canberra from November 27 to December 7. The House of Representatives will now be only sitting from December 4 to December 7. The last sitting day for both houses of Parliament may be extended after December 7 to allow for the passing of any legislation enabling same-sex marriage.

**CATHOLICCARE.....** Do you have a son or daughter leaving school with NDIS 'School Leaver Employment Support' or 'Finding and Keeping a Job?' CatholicCare Sydney provides a two-year program of one-on-one and group support with activities to help young people gain the skills to identify a career path, gain the skills required and prepare and complete

interviews. For more information contact our CCareline Team on 13 18 19 or email us [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

**Australian Catholic Youth Festival – Invitation to Mass in the Domain.** Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP has invited all to attend Mass in the Domain on Saturday 9 December for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival. **To allow all to attend, the Archbishop has cancelled vigil Masses in the Archdiocese on that day.** The Mass at 6.30pm will follow an afternoon of concerts and festivities beginning at 4pm and featuring Australian and international musicians and performers, including Matt Maher. Visit [www.acyf.org.au](http://www.acyf.org.au) for more info. A special App is available with information about the Festival. Please download it for FREE here: [www.xt3.com/acyf2017/apps/](http://www.xt3.com/acyf2017/apps/)

**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](mailto:info@griegtograceaus.org.au) or phone 0407704539. For more information visit [www.griegtograce.org](http://www.griegtograce.org)

**A Christmas Celebration 2017 – Friday 15 December 2017**  
Celebrate the beauty and wonder of Christmas with the St Mary's Cathedral Choir and the Orchestra of the Antipodes Including congregational carols and music to lift your spirits in the joy of the season! For tickets and more information please visit [www.achristmascelebration.com.au](http://www.achristmascelebration.com.au)

**Christmas Remembrance Service – 17 December 2017 at 7:30pm.** All are welcome to join in St Mary's Cathedral as we remember and pray for all those who have died and whose memory we cherish over the Christmas season.

### Be Positive

Lady to her dietician : What I am worried about is my height and not my weight.  
Doc : How come???  
Lady : According to my weight, my height should be 7.8 feet...  
(Now this is called "Positive Attitude")

Doctor: Your Liver is enlarged  
Patient: Does that mean it has space for more whisky ?

(This is called "Positive Thinking" ☺☺)

