



## 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.

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7 JANUARY 2018

#### First Reading

**Is 60:1-6**

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

#### Second Reading

**Eph 3:2-3, 5-6**

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

#### Gospel

**Mt 2:1-12**

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. At Bethlehem in Judaea, they told him, 'for this is what the prophet wrote: And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

### ANTIPHONS & READINGS

#### Entrance Antiphon

**Cf. Mal 3:1; 1 Chr 29:12**

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

#### Responsorial Psalm:

**(R) Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king's son your justice, that he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement. **(R.)**
2. In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails. He shall rule from sea to sea, from

the Great River to earth's bounds. **(R.)**

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts shall pay him tribute. The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts. Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him! **(R.)**
4. For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless. He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor. **(R.)**

#### Gospel Acclamation **Mt 2:2**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord.  
**Alleluia!**

#### Communion Antiphon **Cf. Mt 2:2**

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

#### Next Week's Readings:

1 Sm 3:3-10.19

1 Cor 6:13-15. 17-20

Jn 1:35-42

### 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

### Pastoral Council

To be reconstituted in the New Year.

### 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	Mass
Wednesday	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass
Thursday	6.45am 9.15am 10.00am 4.00pm	Mass Mass Kids Camp Legion of Mary (St Joseph's House)
Friday	6.45am 9.15am 10.00am	Mass Mass Kids Camp
Saturday	8.00am 8.30am 9.00am  10.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena, Adoration, Confession, Kids Camp 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 Sitchon Home  
304 Chisholm 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 Dukich Home

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

## ROSTER NEXT WEEK

14 JANUARY 2018		2 <sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Mario CAPRA
ACCOMPANIST	Kate PARISH		ELMER'S
CANTOR	J SALAR & PARISH CHOIR		GROUP
LECTOR/S	Jann ROCKLIFF	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Mai VU
	John DONNELLAN	Maris MARSH	Maureen HYNES
COMMENTATOR	Christine KENSEY	Karim KASSIS	Rhia VICTORINO
GIFTS	Helen LE MOTTEE		Micheline BOTHAM Family
SP. MINISTER	Phirum DUCH		Hilary NGUYEN
SP. MINISTER	Sam DUCH		Hoa NGUYEN
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY		Edgar AMORES
GREETERS	Dante & Lynda AMORES	Loutoa OLIE	A THAM S TAN G KIM
HOSPITALITY			Anne MARIE

**Hospital Visitation Sat:** John Le Mottee & Deb Gooch

**Altar:** Group 5 Margaret Heys, Carol Mabon, Maria Wood

**Hospital Communion Sun:** Bob Kensey & Christine Kensey

**Cleaners SPC:** Bob Kensey & Christine Kensey

**Children's liturgy:** School Holidays

### Saturday

13 JANUARY

LECTOR FOR MASS

Christine KENSEY

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Sick:** Edna Rahmat, Anne Nguyen

**Recently Deceased:** Colin Sinclair, Maria Pagarno, Harry Willoughby

**Deceased:** Leonard Gabrielle, Noel Gabrielle, Joseph Nguyen Loi, Viv Banham, Shinta Widjaja, Ted Duffy,

**Anniversary:** Liam Coyle, Siobhain Morris, Gloria & Astrid Bolonia, Consuelo Ibardolaza

**Deceased Members and Friends of:** Cullen & Banham Families

**Other Intentions:** Marie Banham & Family, Cullen Family, Maria Pauline, Annette & Marie, Carol Dutton

**Birthday:** Justin Dutton (13 Jan)



## Visiting Jesus will Change your Life

During the Christmas and New Year season I rang friends and family back in India to greet them. Such calls are also an occasion to share news. One of them told me the good news about a neighbour who had a gambling problem. He went to a one week Bible Convention and returned as a new man. His life was totally changed. He professed to have experienced Jesus Christ in this Bible Convention. Now he wants to live for Jesus Christ. This is not an isolated story. There are many people with such stories of conversion in Kerala, India. No wonder Bible Conventions, which also are called retreats, are very popular in this part of the world.



The wise men from the east who visited baby Jesus in Bethlehem also had a conversion experience. According to the Gospel of Matthew (Mt 2:12) after seeing baby Jesus and acknowledging him as the Christ (saviour) the wise men did not go to the power and glory of the worldly king Herod, but went a 'different way' home. Matthew is not speaking about the physical path here. He is referring to a 'different way of life' of the wise men who had encountered Jesus and accepted him as their saviour.

The gifts the wise men presented to Jesus meant a lot more than our Christmas gifts. We might have been exchanging gifts as a mark of our good will and appreciation of each other. But the wise men from the east offered gold to represent the divinity of the child. The gift of frankincense is a symbol of holiness and righteousness. Myrrh was a spice and was used in embalming. Therefore it represented the redeeming sacrifice of Christ on the Cross and his entombment before his resurrection. It is not the historicity of this story that matters. Matthew wants to make a point. By telling us about the wise men from the east visiting baby Jesus in Bethlehem, Matthew announces that Jesus is born not just for the Jews but for the whole world. Have you been following the signs of hope like the wise men? Have you acknowledged Jesus as your saviour? If you have, it will transform your way of life!

### REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 2:1-12

#### **Have you Thought? Epiphany**

The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus to humankind. The wise men are the representatives of humanity bearing witness to this revelation. However, the Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as not only the Messiah of Israel but the Saviour of the whole world. Interestingly, in this gospel that emphasises the 'Jewish-ness' of Jesus, the witnesses to the birth are gentiles from a foreign land. Their inclusion is a powerful declaration that the revelation of Jesus is for all people. Regardless of the liturgical year, this reading is always used on the feast of Epiphany to celebrate this pivotal moment.

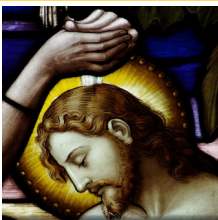
#### **Historical Context: The Magi**

In some translations, the 'wise men' of this passage are referred to as 'Magi'. Magi was the name given to the Persian priestly caste. Persia (now, Iran) lies to the east of Israel. These wise men are also sometimes portrayed as astrologers, but that is largely because of the reference "We saw his star as it rose". It is interesting that the passage describes 'some' wise men; tradition has developed a specific number of three—based on the three gifts presented. These anonymous (and purely literary) figures have been given names and their 'relics' lie in honour beneath the Cathedral of Cologne.

#### **Gospel Focus: Going Home**

The wise men, or Magi, are warned in a dream not to go back to Herod and they go home by a different way. How could they do anything but go home another way—indeed, go home as different people? They are changed by their encounter with the child Jesus and they go home in a different way; in a different state; in a whole different frame of mind. When we genuinely encounter Jesus—in scripture, in life, in prayer, in ourselves—then we cannot go home the same way; we must go home by a different way as the Magi did.

### FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK



#### **Monday - The Baptism of the Lord**

Drawing from the Eastern tradition of Epiphany, the West has remembered the baptism of the Lord on the octave of the Epiphany since the eighth century. Formally introduced into the Roman calendar in 1960 on the Sunday after the Epiphany, it now concludes the Christmas season. Commemorates the revelation of Jesus as God's beloved Son, the Christ, anointed by the Spirit.

#### **Church Shop**

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.



## PARISH NEWS

### Berala Kids Camp Helpers Wanted

We are looking for helpers to prepare food for the upcoming kids camp on the 11th of January.

If you have a current Working With Children Check and available to lend a helping hand from 10.00am on Thursday 11 January to Saturday 13 January, please let the Parish Office know.

### Reading Mark

Following the enthusiastic reception I had for the Bible Study Program on Matthew's Gospel this year, I will be offering a Bible Study, 'Reading Mark' during Lent 2018. It will be 90 minutes sessions on Wednesday evenings (21 February, 28 February 7 March, 14 March, 21 March), starting at 7 PM. The venue will be St Joseph

House Berala. If you are interested enrol for it by the end of January 2018.

### Lenten Programs

It might look too early to think of Lenten Program now, even before the New Year. Really it is not so. By the time the holiday month finishes, it will be Lent. By the time we tried to order Lenten Program books in the past years, it was too late and the books were sold out. Therefore we had to pay for the licence to print them ourselves in house. Therefore this year I would like you to inform the parish office well in advance, preferably early January, how many copies of the program book you will require. We will be getting the resource from Brisbane Liturgy Office.

### Just for Laughs

A preacher visits an elderly woman from his congregation. As he sits on the couch he notices a large bowl of peanuts on the coffee table. "Mind if I have a few?" he asks.

"No, not at all!" the woman replied. They chat for an hour and as the preacher stands to leave, he realises that instead of eating just a few peanuts, he emptied most of the bowl. "I'm terribly sorry for eating all your peanuts, I really just meant to eat a few." "Oh, that's all right," the woman says. "Ever since I lost my teeth all I can do is suck the chocolate off them."



## KIDS CORNER

Three Wise Men came from the East to worship the newly born king. They came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Draw yourself offering a special gift to Jesus.



The three wise men had to search for Jesus. Where are some of the places we can find Jesus in our world today?


## OTHER NOTICES

**Catholic Men's Fellowship Invites You to Men's Breakfast.** Reading the Bible through a Catholic Lens (\$20). Saturday, 3 February, 8am-10am, St Joseph's Enfield. To book, visit <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=341640> or contact Kevin Smith on 0470 284 590.

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

**CATHOLICCARE..... Looking for parenting resources?**

CatholicCare's new online parenting resource provides information and tips to help build positive parent-child relationships. Visit [catholiccare.org](http://catholiccare.org) and look for the Parenting Hub icon or call our CCareline Team 13 18 19 [connect@catholiccare.org](mailto:connect@catholiccare.org)

### 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)