



Saint Peter Chanel

PARISHES OF ST PETER CHANEL BERALA & ST JOSEPH THE WORKER AUBURN SOUTH

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The Most Holy Trinity - Yr B, 3rd June 2012

From your Pastor

St Paul's Expedition

Patmos

Flying into the island of Kos and then fetching a boat to Patmos we were going to visit an important pilgrim island, not of St Paul, but of St John. The most beloved disciple of Jesus was trying to settle down in Ephesus. But the zealous St. Paul always looked for Greco Roman towns where he could influence and convert the elite of the society. Therefore Patmos, one of the northern islands of Greece, where Romans used to exile prisoners was not in his itinerary. St John the evangelist also would not have left Ephesus for Patmos, if he was not exiled by Romans to it. While John was in Patmos he had the vision to write Revelation, the last book of Bible. Approaching Scala, the port of Patmos, in a catamaran from the island of Kos, I could see why this island was considered as a good place for punitive exile by Romans. Water is scarce on this island. Now, there are about three thousand people calling this island home. But most of them live here only half of the year when the pilgrims come over.



Coming to the Hotel, noticeably all those including the porters who took care of us are women. That is not unusual here. It one of the places where the women have the upper hand in everything. The property inheritance goes from mother to daughter, unlike most other parts of the world. The main income of the people on the island is from the pilgrims coming to visit the cave of St John the theologian. There are four hundred monasteries and two nunneries on this island. The most prominent one is the monastery dedicated to St John the Theologian. Built in a time of ruthless pirates, it looks like a fortress. In spite of all Christian heritage, there is not a single catholic church or regular catholic service on this island. All Christian institutions are that of Greek Orthodox Church. After two nights on the island, as we were walking down to board a chartered boat to Ephesus, I was attracted into the Greek Church of the Port. It was the chants through the megaphone that got me into the church. There were six faithful chanting the Morning Prayer.

Continued on next page

Holy Mass at Berala: Monday-Friday:6.45AM; Tuesday 7 PM Novena, then Mass; Wednesday—Friday 9.15 AM Saturday 8 AM

Lord's Day: Saturday 5 PM (Vigil), Sunday 8 AM, 10 AM; **Reconciliation at Berala:** Saturday 9.30 AM

Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tuesday: 9.AM Mass; Lord's Day, Sunday 9 AM, **Reconciliation at Auburn South:** Sunday 8.30 AM

Baptisms, Weddings, and Anointing of the Sick by Appointment



Miletus and Ephesus

Travelling in a chartered boat towards north, we were more or less following St Paul's final journey from Greece to Asia Minor. While Paul took two days to reach Miletus, we did in four hours. Magic of modern catamaran! Paul hurried to reach Jerusalem to reach there for Pentecost. We were preparing to celebrate our Pentecost and start of the year of Grace with a Mass in the city of Kusadai in Turkey, which has Ephesus and Miletus as its suburbs. Miletus has a cultural history dating back to 3000 BC. But it was more known as an Ionian city and had a famous port from which St Paul bid his touching farewell to the elders of Ephesus and predicted his death. (Acts 20:25). Standing in the ruins of the ancient city which has many layers of history, now has some wonderful archaeological findings of Christian interest. We, five priests and 11 lay members of the group celebrated Pentecost with a Mass in the Muslim city of Kusadasi. Not able to find a catholic church, we did it in the Hotel Lobby. In our Holy Mass I prayed for you, especially for the year of Grace to be of benefit to all of us.



Ephesus is one of the seven churches in Asia Minor. (Rev.2:1-7). St Paul made a visit to Ephesus in his second missionary Journey and stayed in Ephesus about three years in his third journey. On his return to Jerusalem he would have visited Ephesus once more if not for the lack of time as he wanted to reach Jerusalem before Pentecost.

Paul was not the first preacher of Gospel at Ephesus. John the Apostle already had started the preaching. John lived in the mountain top next to the large ancient city of Ephesus. Mary Mother of Jesus also lived with him. Now there is a small chapel built in the place where John and Mary lived. When Pope John Paul came to visit the place, a small shade was erected near the chapel for him to celebrate Mass. We said Mass on the same altar. Being here I pondered over the emotions and prayers of Mary who could see Christians still persecuted after her Son. In this Mass I had a number of special intentions to pray for.

This chapel of Mary Mother of God has some specialities. This is a chapel, though maintained by a catholic nun, is a place where Muslims also venerate Mary as the mother of Isa Nabi (Prophet Jesus). There are heaps of tissues and kerchiefs tied along the wall near the spring under the house of Mary and John. Each one of those thousands of items has wiped off the tears of many praying faithful, and worked wonders in their lives. Looking at such expressions of faith is an amazing inspiration.

The place where John lived and wrote the Gospel is a great contrast to the vast ruins of amazingly big Greco Roman city of Ephesus down the valley which could boast of a busy port and the title as the Capital of Anatolia. It too was part of Roman Empire at the time of the apostles. The ruins of the great edifices would make anyone marvel. Paul looking for popular Greco Judaic places saw opportunities for missionary work here and he worked tirelessly here. Later in the Byzantine period a big church was built in the city. It was in this church of Ephesus, in 431, that Mary was officially proclaimed by church as Mother of God.

By the fourth century, the term Theotókos (Mother of God) was frequently used in the Church. One can therefore understand the great protest movement that arose in the fifth century when Nestorius cast doubt on the correctness of the title "Mother of God". Nestorius was led to make this error by his difficulty in admitting the unity of Christ's person and by his erroneous interpretation of the distinction between the two natures—divine and human—present in him. In 431 the Council of Ephesus condemned his theses and, in affirming the subsistence of the divine and human natures in the one person of the Son, proclaimed Mary the Mother of God.

The Church where this historical council took place is in ruins. I walked through the ruins and reflected on the dilemma and deliberation of the bishops who were discerning the direction of the Holy Spirit.

John, who died at a ripe age of over a century, was buried on a hill top not too far from Ephesus. Byzantine emperor Justinian erected a huge basilica on the site of the tomb of St John. This Basilica is also in ruins after the Muslim invasions. St. John's relics are taken to Rome where it is preserved now. I took a few pictures of the Basilica, its baptistery which was built for immersion, and the Mosque of 'Mister Jesus' next to the ruins of the Basilica.

This place of such biblical importance has hardly any Catholic presence now. The major Christian presence is the thousands of pilgrims passing through here each year.

I would like to conclude this week's note with quote from St. Paul. "Peace to the brothers and sisters, and love with God the Father and Lord Jesus Christ. Grace to all who love our Lord Jesus Christ with an undying love"
(Eph 6:23-14)

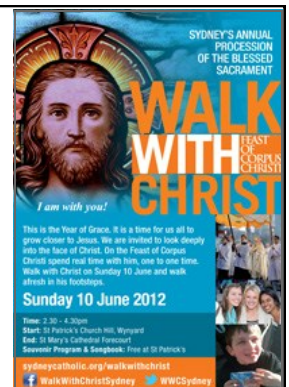
Fr Thomas Kurunthanam. PP

Parish Diary This WEEK

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45 AM Mass; Priests' Day off	Priests Day Off
Tuesday	6.45 AM Mass, 7.00 PM Novena & Mass	9.00 AM Mass (School Children)
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass 8.30 AM - 4 PM Secretary Available	8.30 AM - 4 PM Secretary Available at Berala Office
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass 8.30 AM - 4 PM: Secretary Available	8.30 AM - 4 PM Secretary Available at Berala Office.
Friday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM	8.30 AM Rosary in Fr. Mark Spora Room
Saturday	8.00 AM Mass, 8.30 AM Rosary, 9.30 AM Confession, 5.00 PM Vigil Mass	
Sunday	8.00 AM Mass. 10 AM Mass	8.30 AM Confession, 9.00 AM Mass

On the 1st Friday of each month, the Lidcombe Parish hosts 'Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration'. The Mass begins at 7pm, followed by Eucharistic Adoration from 7.45pm. All are welcome.

WALK WITH CHRIST 2012. On Sunday June 10th, join thousands of Catholics who will 'Walk With Christ' in the annual Eucharistic Procession on the Feast of Corpus Christ (Body and Blood of Christ). Starting from St Patrick's Church Hill (Grosvenor St) the procession will travel through the streets of Sydney and finish with prayer and Benediction at St Mary's Cathedral forecourt. Join your parish. Bring your youth group. Make a banner to carry. Collect your free commemorative booklet to accompany the broadcast of music and prayers. Let your presence make a statement about the gift of the Eucharist for the world. Procession starts at St Patrick's, Church Hill. 2:30pm – 4:30pm. **Please write down your petitions and prayers in the "Book of Life" which is in the Church foyer.**



For more information: sydneycatholic.org/walkwithchrist or join us on [facebook.com/WalkWithChristSydney](https://www.facebook.com/WalkWithChristSydney).

Help St Peter Chanel School

We would like to ask for your assistance in collecting stickers from Woolworths for the 'earn and learn' promotion they are running from May 9 to July 1. Every \$10 you spend at Woolworths you are entitled to 1 sticker. You need to ask the operators for the stickers on payment. There is a cardboard "Woolies" bin at the back of St Peter Chanel Church for collection of stickers. All you need to do is place the stickers in the box and we will collect them.

Please help us earn points so we can purchase reading, maths, sport and music resources for our school.

From the children of St Peter Chanel School.

Christine & Julie thank you for your generous support of the Biggest Morning Tea. The \$2,702 raised will go to Cancer



Councils research prevention & support programs. Raffle Winners: Basket of Hair care products donated by Hair by Filiz, Regents Park and the Doll Cupboard were both won by Alicia Moore. Crochet Rug & Perfume was won by Suzan. And the Money Tree & hamper was won by Crystal Tran. Congratulations!

Catechist Meeting

Catechists are advised of their next meeting on Wednesday 6th June 2012 at 1.00pm in the Parish Hall. See you there. Romaine.

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Blest be God the Father,
and the Only Begotten Son of God,
and also the Holy Spirit,
for he has shown us his merciful love.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

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.**

By his word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He spoke: and they came to be.
He commanded; they sprang into being. **R.**

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.**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:
to God who is, who was, and who is to come.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

Since you are children of God,
God has sent into your hearts the Spirit of his Son,
the Spirit who cries out: Abba, Father.

Today's Readings

Deuteronomy 4:32-34. 39-40

Romans 8:14-17

Matthew 28:16-20

Next Sunday's Readings

Exodus 24:3-8

Hebrews 9:11-15

Mark 14:12-16. 22-26



Berala Rosters — God's House Keepers, Next Week

10 TH JUNE		THE BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST	
MASS	VIGIL	8AM	9AM
ACOLYTE	E DUFFY	R.KENSEY	M. CAPRA
ORGANIST	ORGAN	-----	-----
CANTOR	J SALAR	-----	-----
LECTOR/S	R CHEEMA	K HARTMAN	J. DONNELLAN
	P DUFFY	C KENSEY	FAMILY
COMMENTATOR	P SNELL	P A DUFFY	F.BOLONIA
GIFTS	D BOYD	WARDENS	CHILDREN'S
	FAMILY	-----	LITURGY
PIETY STALL	P SNELL	F ROLL	A. MANGANARO

Group 5: **ALTAR** – M Heys; C Mabon; M Wood.
COUNTERS – E John; J John; M Smith.
CHURCH CLEANERS - Roland/Aida JAVIER.

PILGRIM STATUE of Our Lady this week will be at the Hazboun Home 6 Larcombe St. Please join them any evening at **7.30 pm** for the Rosary.



HOLY SOULS

Please pray for the peaceful repose of Norah Carey, Teresa Somerville, Mark Man-Wah Chiu, Ann Murphy, Grazzia Patamisse, Venci Lisica, Noel Thomas Le Motte, Consuelo, Bardolza, Gloria Bolonia, Mada Melifo, Mancuso Giovana, Fruli Natala, Gert & Jack Herrmann, Percy Smith, Gerard McKay, Mary Della Smith, Molly Walsh, Attracta Fernandez, Maria Speranza, Frank Picek, Mary Small, Charles Kensey, Adrienne D'Souza, Carmen Portelli, Charlie Portelli, Bert Portelli, Anthony Portelli, Michael Wong, Donnellan, Strahan, Elek, Blazevic, Michael, Baini, Ross & Mitchell families

and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time - Christopher Yahl, Salvatore Cavaleri, Josephine Fitzgerald, Angela Corrente, Patricia Brown, Marija Lupis, Regina Swat, William Mackie, Rosaline Armstrong, Roy Sansota.

May Their Souls Rest in Peace