

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

[www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au](http://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au)

Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141. Tel: 96447787;  
[info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au](mailto:info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au)

Parish Priest: Fr Thomas Kurunthanam: [kurunthanam@gmail.com](mailto:kurunthanam@gmail.com);  
Assistant Priest: Fr Peter Kwak: [pdhkwak@gmail.com](mailto:pdhkwak@gmail.com)



Saint Peter Chanel



## First Sunday of Advent - Yr C - 2nd December, 2012

*From your Pastor*

### Not Waiting for Jesus' Birthday

Last Tuesday was a great celebration at St Mary's Cathedral. The occasion was the visit of the head of Syro-Malabar Catholics who has come to meet his subjects in diaspora. A Cathedral full of Syro-Malabar Catholics were delighted to see bishops from different Oriental Catholic Churches in Sydney applauding as bishop Julian Porteous (representing Cardinal Pell) and I spoke words of welcome to Major Archbishop George Cardinal Alencherry. People who are away from their homeland can experience a special joy when the head of their Church visits them in their adopted homeland. This Joy was brooding ever since they heard the news that their Major Archbishop was planning a visit to Australia.

In fact we all are in diaspora. Our true homeland is with God. Therefore any news about our God coming to visit us will be of great delight to all Christians. As we start with Advent today, we are primarily invited to reflect on this joy of Christ coming again to us.

Gospels for second and third Sundays of Advent are on how to prepare for to receive God's Son when he comes into our life. Only on the fourth Sunday of Advent, just one out of four Sundays, the Gospel reading at the Mass calls us to reflect on the birth of Jesus. This framework helps us to understand why Christmas is more than the birthday of Jesus.

God has come into the human story through the birth of Jesus. We celebrate this as a prelude to the second coming of Christ. The whole world joins in this celebration.

The signs referred to in the Gospel of the day are frightening. "There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken." (Lk 25, 26) When Jesus spoke to his disciples about the troubled times that lie ahead, he describes how people can easily be discouraged and lose heart when things go wrong.

In spite of all the comforts and security of the modern society, we are surrounded by alarming events and conditions of people - from natural disasters to violence and war, from personal tragedies to social unrest and riots. It is easy to feel overwhelmed. Many people are constantly afflicted by fear and anxiety. To them the Lord says, don't be alarmed. "they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand." (Lk 21:28)

The first Christian Community experienced the tension between the two comings of the Lord, his earthly ministry and his return at the end of time. Believing this Second Coming (Parousia) of Christ is imminent, they also believed in living in blameless lives.

But the Christians for who Luke is writing are already aware of another dimension. For them the Lord's coming is not for some unknown time in the future: he is already here and now. At any moment he may suddenly pass judgement on the inner meaning which we give to our existence.

Church is the sacramental presence of Christ in our midst. There are lots of occasions of worrying and sometimes even frightening happenings in the history which became advent signs of Church as a sacrament of Christ on earth. The latest in our times that rocked the Church would be the child abuse clergy. Like many other near disastrous happenings in the history before,

*Continued on next page*

**Holy Mass at Berala:** Monday-Friday: 6.45 AM; Tuesday 7 PM Novena, & 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, Lord's Day, Sunday 9 AM, **Reconciliation** Sunday 8.30 AM

Baptisms, Weddings, and Anointing of the Sick by Appointment



*Continued from previous page*

once again the evil actions of the darkness are being brought to light and the coming of Christ of hope and joy is established. That is the good news. In that sense the coming of Christ has come more real to many people. When we look at the totality of such pictures we can appreciate the Lord's words: "When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand."

This Advent is not a time of waiting for and preparing for an annual birthday celebration of Jesus, but it is a time of waiting and preparation for Christ coming with hope, peace, and joy to the humanity.

## Amalgamation of Parishes

Last Sunday was the parish meetings for both parishes. I would like to thank all those who showed an interest in the affairs of the parish and attended the meetings. Their opinions and suggestions are much appreciated. Those who gathered for the meetings were in agreement that it is time for both parishes to be amalgamated. For the benefit of those who have not voted on the issue of amalgamation, there will be a document circulated at Mass on next weekend, Second Sunday of Advent, to sign.

These days you have been voting on the name of the New Parish when it is created of the amalgamation of two parishes. A number of people have registered their votes. I urge the rest of the parishioners to register their vote by Tuesday, 4 December. With that I will be able to advise you how the trend is. By the end of the year I am hoping to prepare documents of recommendation to the Cardinal. Hopefully early next year Cardinal will be able to advise us on his deliberations.

I am grateful to all parishioners for your support.

## Christmas Celebrations

Christmas is a time to celebrate. There are choirs practicing already for the celebrations. I am interested to hear from volunteers who would like to decorate the church and premises. It could be flowers, illuminations, and other decorations of your imagination. I would like to hear also from anyone who can put up a huge cut-out of the nativity scene in front of either of the churches.

The fore court and surroundings of St Peter Chanel Church is dirty with marks of chewing gum stuck on the ground. It needs cleaning. Anyone with a gurney may be able to help clean it. Can you help?

I also propose to have wine and slices after Midnight Mass at Berala. Let me know if you can lend a helping hand.

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam

## PILGRIM STATUE

Our Lady this week will be at the Scully home, 13 Kingsland Rd, Berala.

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

***"Family that pray together stay together"*** the Rosary Statue is still visiting homes of parishioners of St Peter Chanel every Saturday.

If you would like to host Our Lady for a week please contact

Mona for booking on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.



# Christmas Mass times



Wednesday 19th December - 2nd Rite of Reconciliation at St Peter Chanel.

24th December - Christmas Vigil - 6.00pm at St Peter Chanel

Midnight Mass - St Peter Chanel, followed by wine & slices.

25th December - Christmas Day - 9.00am at St Joseph the Worker  
and 9.00am at St Peter Chanel.

# 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
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass Secretary available at Parish Office	Secretary available at Parish Office
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass, Secretary available at Parish Office	Secretary available at Parish Office
Friday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass	
Saturday	8.00 AM Mass; 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

## Fr Mark's 80th Birthday Celebrations

Fr Mark Spora turns 80 and to celebrate this milestone we invite all Parishioners to a morning tea with sausage sizzle following the 9.00am Mass at St Joseph the worker on Sunday 9th December. All welcome.



## HOLY SOULS

**Please pray for the peaceful repose of** John P Yahl, Maureen Elliott (nee Barton), Mark Man-Wah Chiu, Norma Willoughby, Gary Williams, Colin Baudille, Santina Baudille, Maria Yianni, Baby Lopez, Patricia Le Mottee, Noel Le Mottee, Leonard McDonald, Josephine Worthington, Hubert Worthington, Mary Worthington, Lorna Maltby, Ian Maltby, Nina Bell, Pat Crowther, Clarrie Creighton, Catalino Arcinue, Marina Arcinue, Zacarias Abadam, Aurelia Abadam, Litecia Marcelo, Teodoro Abadam, Lauriano Vega, Francisca Abadam, F Majchrzak, W Puchalski, J Kula, C Romanowicz, Kath Gazzard, Harold & Audrey Smith, Pablo C Martin, Ernesto Martin, Yoly Vegh, Charlie Orr, Sarah Vyden, Titus Jayasekara, Merle Garcia, Fred Ryan, Simon Mortillero, Rufina Mortillero, Felicidad Mortillero, Edmund & Ramon Mortillero, Augusta Lapitan, Agnes & Bill Kelso, Trudy B, Dominic Botham, Vemala Botham, Krupaiah Botham, Elias Costa, Pascal D'Souza, Adrienne D'Souza, Avelino Nazareth, Thedius Carvalho, Sancha Violetta D'Souza, Ana Severina Carvalho, Joseph Noronha, Agazio Fraietta, Elisabeta Fraietta, Salvatore Capra, Maria Rodolfo, Sigismondo Capra, Nicolo' Capra, Felice LaGreca, Nicolo' Capra (Snr), T B McManus (Snr), V McManus, T McManus, Cecile McManus, Richard McAllister, Gladys Mendis, Victor Patrick, Winifred Nimal, Marlene Marman, Ian Marman, Michael Marman, Reginald Marman, Regina Poon Seu Git, Eddie Tan Cheng Soon, Peter Hung, Anna Vinh, Anna Ly', Joseph Pham, Anna Thanh, Peter Ty', Giuse Dung, Maria Nghi, Mary & Alphonso Scanlan, Melita Warrington, Edwin Warrington, Carmen Formosa, Evan Formosa, Nina Zammit, Gianni Muscat, John Xerri, Caterina Sapiano, Anil Herat, Iris Raymond, Aubrey Forbes, Trevine Caspersz, John Tanti, Gianni Tanti, Andreanna Muscat, Tony Muscat, Felix Muscat, Charlie Portelli, Paulina Tanti, Salvatore Muscat, Charles Kensey, Kevin O'Brien, John Pemasi, Alosina Uisa, Pemasi Uisa, Denis & Mary Magdalen Caruana, Percy Smith, Gert & Jack Herrmann, Clement Hill, Kevin, Ellen, Jim & Ron O'Brien, Hugh & Kathleen & Owen McDermott, Kathleen Orth, Mary & John Bull, Gene Worlford, Noelene Gemmell, Maureen Freestone, Fr Colin Barker, Michael McGill, Tommy & Sue, Frank & Sid Cox, Mr & Mrs Brewster, Mrs Michaels, Mr & Mrs McGill, Louise Constantin, Marie-Anne Ribet, Music Stipe & Tera, Music Ante & Kata, Nobilo Bozo & Maria, Nobilo Ante, Batistic Jaka & Jakov, Iurac Kata & Nikola, Music Stipe & Frank & Maria, Sestanovic Dinko, Vincent Boyd, Concetta & Nicola Rizzo, George West, Dawn Roll, Jack Green, May Campbell, Paul Kent, Lorne Braithwaite, Joy Smith, Douglas Amett, Mr & Mrs Liuaga, Ivo, Mele & Jack, Melchor Dela Cruz, Jose Rene Jarque, Consuelo Capellan, Mary & Louis Moses, Bruce McManus, Reg Starr, Joan & Vince Byrnes, Marie Thibault, Lillian Murphy, Aileen & Stan Sullivan, Bahija & George Moses, Veronica Seckold, Rosa Manganaro, Joseph Ly Pham, Joseph Hien Pham, Ane Frane Anku, Pita Bozo, Ivo jaso Franko, Nevenku Nikolu Janju, Venci Frane Ane.

*And the deceased members and friends of the following families*

Donnellan, O'Connor, Mullins, Willoughby, Rodrigues, Lopez, Cardozo, Oliver, Plumb, D'Souza, Babagalo, O'Rourke, Puxty, Ann, Hart, Johnstone, Eamiguel, Alinson, Swat, Kensey, Snell, Croning, Seckold, North, O'Shea, Moore, Marsh, Nolan, Quigley, Elek, Blazevic, Lisica, Orlovic, Walsh, Hill, Leonardi, Roll, Stanislas, Portelli, Cuscheri, Barrett, Ross & Mitchell, Green, Smith & Itenoq.

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time** Ivan Medved, Matthias Xudong Cheng,

**May Their Souls Rest in Peace**

## *Feasts this week*

### *3 December – St Francis Xavier, priest. Memorial*

St Francis Xavier was born in Spain in 1506 and studied at the University of Paris. He met St Ignatius of Loyola and joined his group of disciples who would found a new religious order; the Jesuits. Preaching in foreign missions became a fundamental aim of the Jesuits and in 1541, he sailed to Goa in India. He worked and lived with the poor people in every place he visited; from India and Ceylon to Japan and the Malay peninsula.

During his ten years as a missionary, he is believed to have converted many thousands to Christianity. He is recognised as the patron saint of foreign missions.

### *7 December - St Ambrose, bishop, doctor. Memorial*

St Ambrose was born at Trier in 334 AD. While practising law he was appointed governor of the province of Aemilia and Liguria. Four years later when the see of Milan became vacant, St Ambrose was chosen as the new bishop, despite the fact that he was not even baptised. He reluctantly accepted the position, was baptised, ordained a priest and then installed as bishop. In 390 AD, after Emperor Theodosius ordered the savage massacre of many people, St Ambrose impressed upon the Emperor to perform a public penance for this act of cruelty.

St Ambrose is listed as one of the four great Latin doctors of the church. He was a great orator who gave sermons that offered practical teachings for his people. He was also the first teacher in the West to make significant use of hymns as a popular means of praise.

### *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Solemnity*

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is the subject of a lot of misconceptions (so to speak). Perhaps the most common one, held even by many Catholics, is that it celebrates the conception of Christ in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. That the feast occurs only 17 days before Christmas should make the error obvious! We celebrate another feast—the Annunciation of the Lord—on March 25, exactly nine months before Christmas. It was at the Annunciation, when the Blessed Virgin Mary humbly accepted the honour bestowed on her by God and announced by the angel Gabriel, that the conception of Christ took place.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, in its oldest form, goes back to the seventh century, when churches in the East began celebrating the Feast of the Conception of Saint Anne, the mother of Mary. In other words, this feast celebrates the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of Saint Anne; and nine months later, on September 8, we celebrate the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

## **Christmas activities at St Mary's Cathedral**

**BLESSING OF THE OUTDOOR NATIVITY SCENE AT ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL.** The magnificent 12 piece life-size Nativity Scene in the Cathedral forecourt will be blessed following the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 2 December. We invite everyone to come, reflect and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas – the gift of God's Son.

**FOOD FESTIVAL – HOSTED BY THE CATHEDRAL'S YOUTH GROUP 'EMBRACE'.** A Food Festival, hosted by the Embrace Youth Group, will follow the Blessing of the Nativity Scene on 2 December in the grounds of the Cathedral. All welcome.

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY - CATHOLIC STUDENTS ART EXHIBITION.** Over 90 inspired artwork pieces showcasing the creative talent of young Catholic students in Years 5 and 6 will be presented in an exhibition - The Christmas Story. One artwork will win the Cardinal's trophy. Open to the public from 3 December in the Crypt of St Mary's. Monday to Thursdays - 10am to 4pm.

**THE LIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS** is on again at St Mary's Cathedral. This spectacular light show on the facade of the Cathedral will tell the story of unity, world peace and harmony. The Lights of Christmas will be launched on Thursday, 13 December from 7.30pm and will run every night from 8.30pm to midnight through until Christmas night. Bring the family to Cathedral square and watch the spectacular show of light, sound and the true meaning of Christmas.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROLS SERVICE AND READINGS.** The Cathedral's spectacular and renowned Christmas Carols Service and Readings with the St Mary's Choir. The evening will consist of a rich selection of traditional carols and liturgical Christmas music. Friday, 21 December 7.30pm.

## **ROSARY STATUE at St Joseph the Worker**

-an inspiration for daily recitation of the Rosary.-

There is now a new roster available at the back of the church. Anybody who is interested in having Our Lady's Statue in their home for a week please put your name, address and phone number on the roster. Claudette Abu Azzar will contact those interested persons, for delivery and pick-up of the Rosary Statue.

Thank you from the Legion of Mary

## **After Mass Refreshments**

As an initiative to welcome new Parishioners to our Parish and also for us Parishioners to spend some time getting to know one another, it is proposed to have some light refreshments at the conclusion of each Mass. This would only take up an extra 15 - 20 minutes of time.

Volunteers are needed for a roster to assist with preparing and serving. The more volunteers we have the less often you will be rostered on. If you are able to help, please write your name on the list placed on the table at the back of the Church.

## **SVDP Christmas Appeal 2012**

*This year our Catholic Bishops' Conference has underlined the needs of families in its Social Justice Sunday Statement, The Gift of Families in Difficult Times. Families are at the heart of our faith and are the basis on which our society is built; and families are particularly vulnerable in 2012.*

*Your donations will help the society provide a range of services, from finance assistance to food baskets, emotional support to those without it, even gifts to children so that they can still be children during Christmas. The Christmas appeal this year optimistically affirms the promise of new beginning, of strength and of hope.*

*The St Vincent de Paul society asks for your compassion & generosity to help bring hope this Christmas to people who need our help. Appeal envelopes can be found at the back of the Church. Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Please give generously.*

## **Other Notices**

### **World Youth Day 2013**

ARE YOU COMING? Come and join with the Archdiocese as we travel to Rio de Janeiro to meet with the Holy Father and celebrate what it means to be a young Catholic! Check out [www.wydtours.com.au](http://www.wydtours.com.au) to discover the seven amazing pilgrimages that are on offer and register now! The pilgrimage of a lifetime awaits you!

### **Divine Mercy Devotion - December 9, 2012**

St Ambrose Catholic Church, 2 Burke St Concord West. 1pm – 3pm devotion, confession, adoration & divine mercy prayers. 3pm – 4pm Holy Mass. Enquiries: ruby 0468871810 email: [divinemercylife@hotmail.com](mailto:divinemercylife@hotmail.com)

### **iWitness Conference**

Looking for somewhere to wind down from the year? Hoping to meet other young Catholics? Then come and join the hundreds of young adults (17-35yrs) headed to this year's iWitness Conference, from 6-9 December at Stanwell Tops. iWitness is organised for young people by young people - it brings together fantastic speakers, fun and games all just a few minutes from beautiful South Coast beaches. As well as meeting like-minded young people and hanging out at the beach, participants have a chance to deepen their relationship with God, with daily Mass, perpetual Adoration and Reconciliation, on offer throughout the conference. For more details or to register, visit [www.lifetothefull.com.au](http://www.lifetothefull.com.au).

### **The Sisters of Life retreat day for women**

All women are invited. The theme of the retreat - "Behold I Make All Things New" on Thursday, 13 December 2012, 9:15am-4:00pm. A retreat day for all women seeking to deepen their prayer life and be inspired in their faith. Includes Mass, Adoration and talks by the Sisters of Life and Fr Greg Morgan. Complimentary morning and afternoon tea provided, lunch by donation. Venue: University of Notre Dame, 104 Broadway, Broadway. Registration essential. To register or for more information: 8204 4135 or [sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au](mailto:sydney.chaplaincy@nd.edu.au).

### **Cleaner, Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush South**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney is seeking applications for the role of Cleaner, Seminary of the Good Shepherd. Working hrs are 8.30am to 4.00pm, Mon to Fri. Further details at [www.catholicjobsonline.com.au](http://www.catholicjobsonline.com.au). Applications to Anthony Spata by email at [anthony.spata@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:anthony.spata@sydneycatholic.org)

## Antiphons & Readings

### Entrance Antiphon:

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

### Responsorial Psalm:

**R.** To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:  
for you are God my saviour. **R.**

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,  
he guides the humble in the right path;  
he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

His ways are faithfulness and love  
for those who keep his covenant and will.  
The Lord's friendship is for those who revere him;  
to them he reveals his covenant. **R.**

### Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Lord, show us your mercy and love,  
and grant us your salvation.

**Alleluia!**

### Communion Antiphon:

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall  
yield its increase.

### Today's Readings

Jeremiah 33:14-16

1 Thessalonians 3:12, 4:2

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

### Next Sunday's Readings

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6



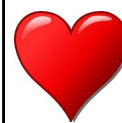
## Berala Rosters — God's House Keepers, Next Week

9TH DECEMBER		2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
MASS	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	C. SCULLY	R.KENSEY	R. JAKSIC
ORGANIST	YOUTH	----	ELMER
CANTOR	CHOIR	----	ELMER
LECTOR/S	A HOWSON	C.KENSEY	C MARTIN
	L LOPEZ	D.GOOCH	P FORAN
COMMENTATOR	P. DUFFY	M.SMITH	M BOTHAM
GIFTS	R.CHEEMA	J TESTA	R JAVIER
	FAMILY	FAMILY	FAMILY
PIETY STALL	M.LEWIS	R.TESTA	M THAM

**Group 1:** ALTAR – Alkstramd; Moya Lewis; Anna Manganaro; N Mann

**Group 4:** COUNTERS – Jenny Michael; Charlie Scully; Kay Scully

**Church Cleaners:** Dec 8 - Rey/Brilla QUINOY.



## Volunteers

The **HEART** Of The  
COMMUNITY

## Auburn South Roster - God's Housekeepers, Next Week

9TH DECEMBER		Please contact William Andrews on 97020428 or 0410878952 if you are interested in:  1) Preparation and operation of Power Point Presentation during mass. 2) Altar Serving. 3) Joining the Choir. 4) Offertory Procession participation. 5) Joining monthly church cleaning group.
1st Reading & Resp. Psalm	Ingrid Scharenguivel	
2nd Reading	Maris Marsh	
Prayers of the Faithful	William Andrews	
Altar Servers	TBA	
Cleaning	Maris & John Marsh & Joe Moses.	

**The new St Peter Chanel, Berala Liturgy Roster from 9th December 2012 to 16th February 2013 is available to be picked up from the back of the Church.**