### ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA



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Pat Kavanagh(Asst
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Kay Scully, Joseph Vu, Joe
Moses, William Andrews,
Arthur Doumit and
Principals of the Parish
Schools.

#### **Finance Committee**

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### **Parish Schools**

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St Joseph the Worker Auburn South Principal—John Kennedy T. 96461434 Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141; Tel: 96447787; info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

f Stpeter Stjoseph Fr Thomas@TKurunthanam

1st Sunday of Advent -Year A

1 December 2013

From your Pastor

### Let us wait for Christ, not just the Birthday of Jesus

Christmas is around the corner and all are in Christmas mood. We think of Christmas as the great celebration of Jesus' Birthday. But I may surprise you by saying that it is more about God's coming into human world than the anniversary of Jesus' birth. This understanding should help us put into perspective the readings of this Sunday, and in fact first three Sundays of Advent. Church proposes the season of Advent as a time of waiting for Christ's coming. As we wait to greet Christ we need to have a welcoming heart. The right attitude is important.

Advent is also the time of creating the right attitude. Prophet Isaiah in the first reading of the Mass today, speaks of Jerusalem as the city of peace. He also says that people will be looking forward to going up to Jerusalem, the city of the Temple to celebrate God's goodness to them. He said this about 700 years before Christ. By then the Temple had been their pride and joy for about 250 years. It was a glorious time for Judea. Life is God centred and the Temple was the symbol of their attitude in life. That is where he said, "All nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say, 'Come let us go to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of God of Jacob'. But this attitude did not last too long; nor did the temple. In BC 586 the temple was destroyed by Babylonians who invaded the country. Through the repentance of the people they had a second chance to build their Temple and their life around God and his House. The second temple was built in 6<sup>th</sup> Century Before Christ. Without a proper attitude to God and his House, the second temple was also going to be destroyed. The Jerusalem – City of Peace – will be flattened and there will be a lot of atrocities. The real peace and joy will not be found in Jerusalem but in welcoming the Messiah (Jesus Christ) as he comes.

Therefore stay awake to the historical facts. Stay awake to the moral and faith commitments. In recent exhortation Holy Father Pope Francis alerted us to the dangers of Capitalism which relies on the security of money only. We may have to re-evaluate a few things in our lives to be awake to the pit falls of the world. Have the right attitude to God. Only those who are with the right attitude to God will have the favour of God. We are good at being awake to the humanitarian concerns. But are we awake to God and faith commitments? Can we say we are a Eucharistic Community with Christ at the centre? Are we the sign and symbol of God's presence to the world?

Let us wait for Christ, not just for the big birthday celebration of Jesus.

Holy Mass at Berala: Monday-Friday:6.45AM; Tuesday 7PM Novena & Mass; Wednesday - Friday 9.15 AM Saturday 8 AM Lord's Day: Saturday 5 PM (Vigil), Sunday 10 AM. Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tuesday 9 AM (school term only); The Lord's Day Sunday 8 AM. Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.30 AM

### The First Crib

St. Bonaventure, who wrote a biography of St. Francis, described the institution of the crib in AD 1223 like this:

Now three years before his death it befell that he (St Francis of Assisi) was minded, at the town of Greccio, to celebrate the memory of the Nativity of the Child Jesus, with all the added solemnity that he might, for the kindling of devotion. That this might not seem an innovation, he sought and obtained license from the Supreme Pontiff, and then made ready a manger, and bade that hay, together with an ox and ass, be brought unto the spot. The friars were called together, the folk assembled, the wood echoed with their voices, and that august night was made radiant and solemn with many bright lights, and with tuneful and sonorous praises. The man of God, filled with tender love, stood before the manger, bathed in tears, and overflowing with joy.

Solemn Masses were celebrated over the manger, Francis, the levite of Christ, chanting the Holy Gospel. Then he preached unto the folk standing around at the Birth of the King of poverty, calling Him, when he wished to name Him, the Child of Bethlehem, by reason of his tender love for Him. A certain knight, valorous and true, Messer Giovanni di Greccio, who for the love of Christ had left the secular army and was bound by closest friendship unto the man of God, declared that he beheld a little Child right fair to see, sleeping in that manger, who seemed to be awakened from sleep when the blessed Father Francis embraced Him in both arms. This vision of the devout knight is rendered worthy of belief, not alone through the holiness of him that beheld it, but is also confirmed by the truth that it set forth, and withal proven by the miracles that followed it. For the example of Francis, if meditated upon by the world, must needs stir up sluggish hearts unto the faith of Christ; for even the hay that was taken from the manger by the folk proved a marvellous remedy for sick beasts, and a preventative against divers other plagues, God magnifying by all means His servant, and making manifest by clear and miraculous portents the efficacy of his holy prayers

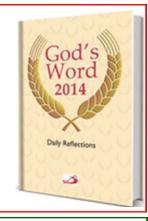
### **GOD'S WORD 2014: DAILY REFLECTIONS LITURGICAL DIARY**

Now available in the Piety Stall, Berala for \$15

Designed to help you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. Pray with it, share it and make your life a daily celebration with the word of God. Grow in God's love, being nourished daily by His word, the bread of life.

God's Word 2014 - Daily Reflections brings you:

- Liturgical readings of the day from the New Jerusalem Bible
- Inspiring reflection of the Gospel of the day by eminent homilists
- Liturgical information for the day
- Space to note down important events and reflections of the day



### **Break Open Word**

All Ministers of Word (Readers) should have a copy of BREAK OPEN WORD to help them prepare their proclamation of the Word at Mass. A copy of Break Open Word is now available for Readers to pick up from the Sacristy.

### **Divine Mercy Group**

Divine Mercy Group from Auckland will make a presentation in Jubilee Hall on Saturday, 7 December at 7 PM.

This is group from New Zealand works with women & children who are abused by the men in their lives and provide them a refuge. From their first program of 25 couples a decade ago, 24 couples/families have been healed and remain abuse free ever since. It would be great for us to support our Catholic brothers and sisters who are doing such great work. Their testimonies and love of God would be beneficial for all of us (young and old) as a Church Community to witness.

All are welcome to this special presentation.

# Extra-Ordinary Synod: Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the context of Evangelisation

Attached is a letter from our Archbishop of Sydney Cardinal George Pell explaining the call of Pope Francis. Parishioners are encouraged to respond to the document and complete a survey. This is available on the Archdiocese of Sydney website at <a href="http://www.sydneycatholic.org/howtorespond.shtml">http://www.sydneycatholic.org/howtorespond.shtml</a>

There is also the ability to complete an online version of the survey. Submissions close on Friday 6 December 2013. A few copies of this document have been printed for those without internet access and are available at the back of the Church.

### Letter from the Bishops of New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Recently the Church received the call of Pope Francis to convene an Extraordinary Synod (meeting of Catholic bishops) in Rome, planned for 5-19 October 2014, on the topic of:

Pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelisation.

We welcome this rare and important occasion, in which all the bishops of the Church have been asked to seek input by as many of the faithful as possible, on pastoral challenges facing the family.

With this in mind, we, as bishops in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory, invite you to take some time for prayer and reflection, and to share your responses to the questions put to us by His Holiness. You will find below a list of particular pastoral challenges, and you do not need to have a response to each one, nor feel the need to give a specific pastoral answer for every challenge that sits before us in these difficult times for the family. Your honesty and good will are invaluable at a moment such as this.

It is important to realise that the Extraordinary Synod, like the Second Vatican Council, will be a pastoral rather than a doctrinally-focused gathering. We hope that this will help the Catholic and wider community to respond to the real-life challenges faced by families. Therefore the Catholic moral teaching on basic issues such as sexuality, marriage and family will remain in place. For example, a recent article in the Osservatore Romano (23 October 2013) by Archbishop Gerhard Müller, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, "on the indissolubility of marriage and the debate concerning the civilly remarried and the sacraments" clearly

sets out the Church's teaching and was published with the approval of Pope Francis.

The Church, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, seeks your contribution to a conversation the Holy Father has invited us to enter, and we hope for a wealth of thoughtful and prayerful responses as we work to maintain Gospel truths, strengthen family life, and reach out and help all people caught up in difficult situations.

The Holy Family offers us a unique model of family life. What is particular to Jesus, Mary and Joseph, is not that they were immune to life's concerns. On the contrary, persecution and hardship dogged them. Yet Jesus Christ lived in the heart of their home, and we see in both Our Lady and St Joseph, people who remained faithful to God's Word.

May the work of this Synod help inform each of us and the Church in Australia how to respond more effectively to the pastoral issues faced by families.

Archbishop of Sydney And the Bishops of NSW-ACT 7 November 2013

### Deep into Faith

On Wednesday evening we will have the last of the presentation of DEEP INTO FAITH series.

**Qwayne Ybe Guevara**, Research and Project Officer at Justice and Peace Office of the Archdiocese of Sydney will be making the presentation on **Authority, Wisdom, and Justice**.

As usual the evening will start with a meal at 7 PM and the presentation from 7.30 PM till 9.00 PM.

Qwayne Guevara is passionate about social justice, human rights and bringing Catholic Social Teaching to today's society. She has history working in the legal industry in a Community Legal Centre and several other law firms. She has experience in community organising as an intern at Sydney Alliance and has held leadership positions in the Catholic lay community Couples for Christ International where she mentored young people and was involved in a variety of missions and projects. Qwayne studied Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts in International Studies at the University of Technology, Sydney and is currently completing a Masters in Laws at the University of New South Wales.



### **Advent**

Along with the Advent Season, Christmas time is rich in traditions which, despite modern commercial exploitation, still stir our hearts and imagination. The Christmas tree, the manger scene, the music and carols, the lights shining in the darkness joyfully proclaim the birth of Jesus Christ and call us to come and adore him.

Christmas and Advent can be a spiritual feast for those who live these seasons spiritually. Let the Child and Joseph and Mary teach us the dignity and importance of children and families. In a parish like ours, with such a diverse demography, the Christmas season's rich traditions come from peoples throughout the world. Let them remind us of the unity of all people as children of God.

### **Advent Wreath**

The origins of the Advent wreath are apparently from Germany. It is one of the pre-Christian practices adopted by Christians. During the cold December darkness of Eastern Europe, the Germanic people gathered wreaths of evergreen and lit fires as signs of hope in a coming spring and renewed light.

Christians kept these popular traditions alive, and by the 16th century Catholics and Protestants throughout Germany used these symbols to celebrate their Advent hope in Christ, the everlasting Light. From Germany the use of the Advent wreath spread to other parts of the Christian world.

Traditionally, the wreath is made of four candles in a circle of evergreens. Three candles are violet (or blue) and the fourth could be rose (or pink), but four violet (or blue or white) candles can also be used. In our wreath there are four painted columns with lanterns on the top representing advent candles.

### **The Symbols**

**The Circle of the Wreath**: God Himself, His eternity and His endless mercy, without neither beginning nor end.

The Green of the Wreath: Our hope of newness, renewal and eternal life.

**The Candles**: The Light of God that came into the world through Christ to bring newness, life and hope. **Four Candles**: The four weeks of Advent, representing the four centuries between the time of the Prophet Malachi and the birth of Christ.

Three Coloured (purple or blue) Candles: A period of waiting, expectation and preparation.

The First Candle: A time of expectation and hope.

The Second Candle: The peace that is to come.

The Pink (or Rose) Candle: for the Third Week: It symbolizes joy for the promise is almost fulfilled.

The Fourth Candle: The love of God for mankind.

### Christmas Schedule 2014

### Thursday, 19 December

7.00 PM - 8.30 PM Confession at Berala

### Saturday, 21 December

9.30 AM - 11 AM Confession at Berala

### **Tuesday 24 December**

7.00 PM- 7.30 PM Christmas Pageant & Carols at SPC Berala

7.30 PM Christmas Vigil Mass with families at SPC Berala

11.00 PM Carols at SPC Berala

12.00 Midnight Mass of nativity at SPC Berala

### **Wednesday 25 December**

8.00 AM Mass at SJW Auburn South
10.00 AM Mass at SPC Berala





### **Christmas Luncheon**

On Christmas Day 12 noon to 2PM St Peter Chanel Church premises Thanks to the volunteers for taking time out to help on the day.

We invite donations of cold meats, dessert, fruit, beer and wine. They could be dropped in on Monday 23rd December between 7Pm—8PM or Wednesday 24th between 8AM— 10AM in the Parish Jubilee Hall.

For further details contact Arthur Doumit on 0417 270 923.

### Feasts of the Week

### 3 December - St Francis Xavier, priest. Memorial.

Born in the family castle of Xavier, near Pamplona in the Basque area of SpanishNavarre on Apr. 7, he was sent to the University of Paris1525, secured his licentiate in 1528, met Ignatius Loyola and became one of the seven who in 1534, at Montmartre founded the Society of Jesus. In 1536 he left Paris to join

Ignatius in Venice, from whence they all in tended to go as missionaries to Palestine (a trip which never materialized), was ordained there in 1537, went to Rome in 1538, and in 1540, when the pope formally recognized the Society, was ordered, with Fr. Simon Rodriguez, to the Far East as the first Jesuit missionaries. King John III kept Fr. Simon in Lisbon, but Francis, after a year's voyage, six months of which were spent at Mozambique where he preached and gave aid to the sick eventually arrived in Goa, India in 1542 with Fr. Paul of Camerino an Italian, and Francis Mansihas, a Portuguese. There he began preaching to the natives and attempted to reform his fellow Europeans, living among the natives and adopting their customs on his travels. During the next decade he converted tens of thousands to Christianity. He visited the Paravas at the tip of India. near Cape Comorin, Tuticorin (1542), Malacca (1545), the Moluccas near New Guinea and Morotai near the Philippines (1546-47), and Japan (1549-51). In 1551, India and the East were set up as a separate



province and Ignatius made Francis its first provincial. In 1552 he set out for China, landed on the island of Sancian within sight of his goal, but died before he reached the mainland. Working against great difficulties, language problems (contrary to legend, he had no proficiency in foreign tongues), inadequate funds, and lack of cooperation, often actual resistance, from European officials, he left themark of his missionary zeal and energy on areas which clung to Christianity for centuries. He was canonized in 1622 and proclaimed patron of all foreign missions by Pope Pius X. F. D. Dec. 3.

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

Born to the Roman nobility. Brother of Saint Marcellina and Saint Satyrus. Educated in the classics, Greek, and philosophy at Rome, Italy. Poet and noted orator. Convert to Christianity. Governor of Milan, Italy. When the bishop of Milan died, a dispute over his replacement led to violence. Ambrose intervened to calm both sides; he impressed everyone involved so much that though he was still an unbaptized catechumen, he was chosen as the new bishop. He resisted, claiming that he was not worthy, but to prevent further violence, he assented, and on 7 December 374 he was baptized, ordained as a priest, and consecrated as bishop. He immediately gave away his wealth to the Church and the poor, both for the good it did, and as an example to his flock. Noted preacher and teacher, a Bible student of renown, and writer of liturgical hymns. He stood firm against paganism and Arians. Hispreaching helped convert Saint Augustine of Hippo, whom Ambrose baptized and brought into the Church. Ambrose's preaching brought Emperor Theodosius to do public penance for his sins. He called and chaired several theological councils during his time as bishop,



many devoted to fighting heresy. Welcomed Saint Ursus and Saint Alban of Mainz when they fled Naxos to escape Arian persecution, and then sent them on to evangelize in Gaul and Germany. Proclaimed a great Doctor of the Latin Church by Pope Boniface VIII in 1298.

The title Honey Tongued Doctor was initially bestowed on Ambrose because of his speaking and preaching ability; this led to the use of a beehive and bees in his iconography, symbols which also indicate wisdom. This led to his association ith bees, beekeepers, chandlers, wax refiners, etc.

### **Identification Cards for Hospital Ministers**

Parish ID cards have been organised for the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist to wear when they visit the sick in hospital. You may pick up your individual name tag from the Sacristy after Mass or the Parish Office during the week.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

# **Darius Ned Lerotic Sienna Suzannah Lerotic**

**1SM** May they always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout their life.

### Typhoon Haiyan Appeal - Thank you

Thank you to all Parishioners for your generosity who donated towards the Caritas – Typhoon Haiyan Appeal. A total of \$2945 was raised by the Parish over two weeks.

### other Notices

### **iWitness Conference**

Come along and register for the iWitness Conference. Held in the beautiful South Coast beaches of Stanwell Park!! iWitness is an annual Conference for young people (18-35), iWitness was created in the spirit of World Youth Day Sydney 2008. For more information go to www.lifetothefull.com.au

### The Manhood Forum

A new online community is available for Catholic men at <a href="www.beingcatholic.com.au/men\_invite">www.beingcatholic.com.au/men\_invite</a>
A dynamic online community for single men, husbands, fathers and religious The Manhood Forum is an exciting new initiative for any man that wants to deepen in faith, love of the Church and their vocation as men. If you want to grow as a man and connect with other committed Catholic men please visit <a href="www.beingcatholic.com.au/men\_invite">www.beingcatholic.com.au/men\_invite</a>

**Volunteers are needed** to undertake training to work for Pregnancy Help Sydney which is a pro-life counselling service. A course is soon to be conducted to equip people to counsel on the telephone in their homes in hours to suit them. Please telephone the Co-ordinator (Carmel 9602 6100) for more information about the training course.

### **Beach Day Out**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014, Catholic Youth Services are inviting kids from years 7-12 to "Beach Day Out" We will travel from Catholic Youth Services office in Homebush West to Bronte Beach (via train and bus) where we will have a BBQ, music, swimming and games! Date: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 Cost: \$20 Time: 8:30am – 5:30pm RSVP: 13<sup>th</sup> of Jan 2014. If you have any questions or would like to register to come along please email <a href="mailto:emma@catholicyouthservices.org">emma@catholicyouthservices.org</a> for a registration form.

### **Mass Intentions**

**Recently Deceased:** Nicola Conte, Frank Pace

Anniversary: Xiulan Ma

**Deceased:** Paciencio Anonuevo, Teonesto Estrada, Brien Leonard Estrada, Erlinda Bajas, Aileen Bernabe, Miling Turla, Isabel Bohan, Gary Williams

deceased members and friends of the following families Ross & Mitchell, Bohan, Eisenhuth & Williams

**Sick:** Terry Flanagan & Mary Fraser, Adrian Lynch, Stipe Lisica, Aloysius Chong.

May they Rest in Peace.

# Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45AM Mass.	
Tuesday	6.45AM Mass. 7.00 PM Novena followed by Mass	9.00AM Mass
Wednesday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass. 10.30 AM Funeral Mass for Nicola Conte 7.00PM Presentation on Authority, Wisdom & Justice. Secretary Available.	Secretary Available.
Thursday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass. Secretary Available.	Secretary Available.
Friday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass.	
Saturday	8.00AM Mass, 9.30 AM Reconciliation 5.00PM Vigil Mass	
Sunday	10AM Mass	8.00AM

### Alcohol and Drug Information Service: (Confidential) (02) 9361 8000

**Spiritual Retreats:** 

Bendictine Abbey Jamberoo T/F: (02) 4236 0533 E cottageretreats@bigpond.com

Carmelites Varrovile E retreats@carmelite.com;

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby E <u>clary.antao@gmail.com</u> T: 0434099088

### **Hospitality**

At St Peter Chanel - This week Anne Marie will be hosting Morning Tea after 10am Mass. No hospitality next week.

At St Joseph the Worker - Legion of Mary will be hosting morning tea after 8.00AM Mass to celebrate the anniversary of the Legion. Next Week Jenny Michael will be hosting Morning Tea.

Thank you to all the volunteers for hosting this wonderful event. Please organise to swap with someone if you cannot attend your rostered day or ring Pam on 9649 5974.

Note that in the event of rain there will be no hospitality.

### **Rest in Peace**

The late Nicola Conte passed away during the week. Her funeral will be held at St Peter Chanel Church on Wednesday 4th December commencing at 10.30AM

### **FOUND - ONE GREEN MISSAL**

A green missal was accidently picked up from the Church pew a couple of weeks ago. If someone has lost their green missal please contact Pam on 9649 5974 who has it for you.

### **Angels Needed**

For the Christmas Vigil on 24th December. We are looking for children to dress up as angels, shepherds and kings. Please let Fr Thomas know if you are volunteering.

A man goes to the doctor, "Doc", he says pointing to different parts of his body, "When I touch my arm it hurts. When I touch my neck it hurts. When I touch my stomach it hurts. Every part of my body I touch, it hurts. Is there something wrong with me?"

"No" the doctor replied after thoroughly checking his patient,
"there is nothing wrong with you, but you have a broken finger."



### 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.) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when I heard them say:

'Let us go to God's house.'

And now our feet are standing

within your gates, O Jerusalem. (R.)

It is there that the tribes go up,

the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,

there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement

of the house of David. (R.)

For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

'Peace be to your homes!

May peace reign in your walls,

in your palaces, peace!' (R.)

For love of my brethren and friends

I say: 'Peace upon you!'

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good. (R.)

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,

and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia, alleluia!

### **Communion Antiphon:**

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

### **Today's Readings**

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:37-44

### **Next Sunday's Readings**

Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15:4-9

Matthew 3:1-12



### St Peter Chanel & St Joseph the Worker Rosters - Next Week

8 <sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2	013	2 <sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
Mass	Vigil (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY		Roland JAVIER
ORGAN	Kate PARISH		Elmer
CANTOR	Lyn FORBES & Joji SALAR		Elmer
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Ken HARTMAN
	Noelene DONNELLAN	Maris MARSH	Micheline BOTHAM
COMMENTATOR	Katrina YIP	Deborah GOOCH	Pam SNELL
GIFTS	Anita YIP Family		Roland JAVIER Family
PIETY STALL	Stefanie YIP		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Joy SKERRITT		Pam SNELL

### HOSPITAL

Roland JAVIER & Romaine CHEEMA

Group 5: ALTAR – Maureen Heys; Chris Mabon; Maria Wood.

Group 1: COUNTERS – John Le Mottee; John Shanley.

SPC CHILDREN'S LITURGY - Alicia McLaren & Maria Jurcic.

Volunteers
The HEART Of The
COMMUNITY

Church Cleaners: Dec 7 - SPC: Samoan Youth Group SJW: Maris & John Marsh & Joe Moses.



### "Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Jaksic home, 2 Dempster Cres,

Berala. Please join them any **evening at 7.00pm** for the Rosary.

To host the Pilgrim Statue from St Peter Chanel contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.



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