



Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141;

Tel: 96447787; info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

f Stpeter Stjoseph t Fr Thomas@TKurunthanam

**7th Sunday in
Ordinary Time - Yr A,
23 February 2014**

Parish Priest

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam
pp@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
T (02) 9644 7787

Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari
Cor Bishop
T (02)9738 1491
M 0418 459 431

Fr Mark Spora
Pastor Emeritus SJW
T (02) 9649 9089

Secretary

Marie Caldarelli
T (02) 9644 7787
info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
T. 0402071849
Karim Kassis(Vice Chair)
T. 0408404130
Joji Salar (Secretary)
Pat Kavanagh(Asst
Secretary), Jenny Michael,
Kay Scully, Joseph Vu, Joe
Moses, William Andrews,
Arthur Doumit and
Principals of the Parish
Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T (02) 9644 8859
Micheline Botham
(Secretary) 0422939342,
Joe Moses & Ingrid
Scharenguivel.

Social Committee

Pat Kavanagh & Joji Salar

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel
Regents Park
Principal—Jo Fox
T. 96449083

St Joseph the Worker
Auburn South
Principal—John Kennedy
T. 96461434

From your Pastor

A New Order

We are continuing with the Sermon on the Mountain of Jesus. Once again the call is to enter into the spirit of the Law rather than following the letter of the Law. In the Old Testament it was said 'eye for an eye and tooth for tooth'. There is a context to this Law. Fights between tribes and villages were very common before. Matters were not taken lightly if someone from one village hurt someone from another village. The temper would flare so much that the offended village would go and burn down the whole village of the opponent or kill as many as possible of the offending group. This kind of revenge became such a problem that Hammurabi, in 18th century BC established a new legal system, which was much more compassionate. He said not to destroy ALL the property and personnel of the enemy camp. If your enemy takes out an eye or a tooth of yours, you knock off just one tooth or one eye off your enemy and nothing more. Therefore in the context of the Laws which were established they were meant to take away the attitude of revenge and look for justice. Hammurabi revolutionised the justice system in 18th century BC by proposing the law of retribution. Jesus revolutionised the law of justice drastically where even retribution does not have any place. The only principle to follow is that of love – love that involves forgiveness and compassion. Though not very common, we still can find courageous people following this demanding call of Jesus. The following story is one of them.

Last December Pope Francis invited Samundar Singh from India to the Vatican. Samundar was a hired hit man who brutally stabbed a Catholic nun, Rani Maria, in a crowded bus in North India and flung her on the roadside to bleed to death. It happened on 25 February 1995. All because she was a tireless missionary from Kerala (South India) who organised the poor villagers in Madyapradesh (North India) and empowered them to fight for their rights. This enraged some landlords and they hired Samundar Singh to kill Rani Maria. He stabbed her 54 times! He was subsequently arrested and sentenced to death, which was later commuted to life term (12 years). While serving his prison term, Samundar's wife divorced him and his oldest son died. This devastated him and he was contemplating revenge on the landlord who hired him, when he gets out of prison. But he had a visit from Sister Selmi Paul, who greeted him calling "My brother" and embraced him. Sister Selmi is the blood sister of murdered Rani Maria. In fact the whole family of Rani Maria forgave Samundar and even received him at their house in Kerala. These acts of forgiveness transformed the convicted criminal. He eventually became a Catholic and has turned a missionary himself.

This unimaginable courage of Rani Maria and her family to live out their faith and love even the enemy is what brings about beauty of life, human and divine. The life of Rani Maria and her family are good examples of the new order Jesus has established. What we should ask ourselves is 'do I have the real courage to live out my faith and love even my enemies?'



Holy Mass at Berala: Monday-Friday:6.45AM. Wednesday - Friday 9.15 AM

Saturday 8 AM, 9 AM Adoration & Novena. 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 9.00 AM - 10 AM.

Introduce Parishioners

Each week, I would like to introduce a parishioner in the Bulletin. For that I need parishioners to write an introduction about themselves and send it to me, preferably by email. You can write about a faith experience you had or just an introduction about yourself. If you are a son or daughter of a parishioner who has been a parishioner for a good while, you could write about them too. Please include a photo also with the write up. Your write up can be sent to info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

This week we introduce **Maria Simone.**



In October of 2012, our family lives were shattered due to the return of my Breast Cancer, after being in remission for 20 years.

Even though I wasn't a practising catholic, I still had my faith and that all changed once I heard of my news.

My faith became a lot stronger, my attendance and prayers in church became a lot stronger, my saints and visits to St Mary Mackillop all became a part of my life.

At the end of May my Professor had requested I have a CT Bone Scan from head to toe to see how the medication was working, as in October 2012 they had found a few cancer cells in my rib cage, but the

outcome was GREAT the cancer had gone.

Then came the most amazing journey in our life as I and my daughter received the okay to travel overseas, and within a week we had left Australia Behind. We had visited some amazing churches over the world, in which we prayed in, and also had the opportunity to attend a Mass in Paris.

Lourdes was also an amazing experience for me; it was unexplainable tears of anxiousness and emotion. A Joy a shiver all over, attending the Mass and communion, the drinking of the holy water; the three days we were there I was very overwhelmed in being able to have had this experience.

Then In St Peter's Basilica in Rome I had this unbelievable experience, there was a section of the church where it was closed off by heavy black curtains, and there was a security guard asking the reason why you wanted to enter this section. I gave him my reason and entered.

When I entered into that section it was breath taking, it just left me memorised, I knelt and began praying, and after some time of praying I focused and prayed concerning my health. I asked for help with my cancer cells in my lungs and also with the rest of my health. As I finished praying for this I actually coughed a few times which was out of the ordinary, and I felt like that was a release of my illness, and it gave me Goosebumps all over my body.

On the 24.07.2013, the day after our return from Europe I had a CT lung scan booked to check on the prognosis of the cancer cells in my lungs, but I wasn't scared.

When I received my results we went up to see the Professor and I was still rather calm, when the Professor read the results he was very surprised as he couldn't believe his eyes, and Bianca was also amazed as the cancer cells were no longer there, my daughter Bianca was in tears and had to ask the Professor again to make sure he was right. I strongly believe that this had to do with the beautiful experience I had at St Peters Basilica in Rome.

I just wanted to share with everyone that our faith is the most amazing belief one could have in our daily life, regardless of which path we have been given in life, and with whatever challenges come our way.

I am so happy to have returned to the Lords house, and especially in receiving communion.

AMEN

Catholic Inquiry (RCIA)

A number of people inquire about Catholic Faith and Religion through the year. Some of them do this with the intention of join the Church. Our parish is always happy to help such people. Currently there are people going through such programs. There is a session of catechesis for some inquirers on Wednesday morning at 9.30 AM in the presbytery. There is another session of catechesis at St Joseph the Worker Church on Sunday mornings after Mass. If anyone is interested in knowing about the Catholic Faith and Religion, they are welcome to speak with Fr Thomas or Pat Kavanagh on 96464283.

Ministry of Lectors

Lectors (Readers of the Word at Mass) are an important ministry of the parish. Any new parishioners interested in joining this ministry is welcome to sign up for a training with Fr Thomas.

Ember days - Prayer & Penance

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has decided that the Australian Church should observe the first Fridays in Autumn & Spring (March & September) each year as special days of prayer & penance.

Ember Days might also be linked with Rogation Days (from the Latin *rogare*, to ask) which were eventually associated with intercession for a fruitful harvest. The choice of Fridays reminds us that they are days of penance, the Australian bishops conference recommends penitential practices such as prayer, self denial & helping others of Fridays. (CCL1249-12530)

On rogation & ember days the practice of the Church is to offer prayers to the Lord for the needs of all people, especially for the productivity of the earth and for human labour, and to give him public thanks. (GNLYC 45)

Ember days seek God's blessing of favourable weather & a fruitful harvest from the land, interceding in times of drought or flood & giving thanks in better times.

There is a strong impulse on these days towards the justice of God's kingdom, with attention given to those peoples who are devastated by famine & exploitation.

Ember days rightly focus on the environment, climate change, & our stewardship of the world's resources. Doing penance reminds us that sustainable use of our resources will cost us in our attitudes & lifestyle.

(extract taken from ORDO 2014)



Common Sense about Cohabitation by Ron & Kathy Feher

Liberating insights, Practical strategies, Grounded in Catholic Theology

A limited number of booklets are available in the foyer of the church. It is free and you are welcome to take a copy home

Mass Intentions

Pray for the sick: Therese Michael

Death Anniversary: Rafael Arcinue, Patsy Dutton

Deceased: deceased members of Ross & Mitchell families.

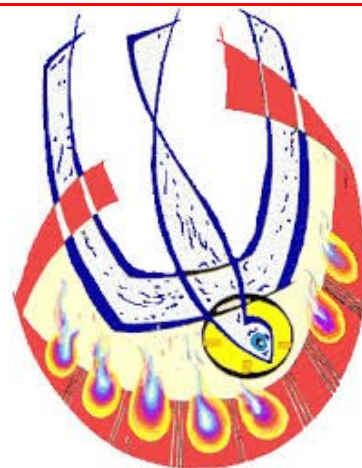
May they Rest in Peace.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2014

This year bishop Terry Brady will be confirming the candidates from the parish on Wednesday, 28 May at St Peter Chanel Church. The bishop will be anointing the candidates with Holy Chrism at this third and last Sacrament of Initiation. By then it is assumed that the candidates are mature enough and ready to be fully participating in Church. It takes many years of learning and spiritual practice to come to this stage. I would like to acknowledge and thank the parents who have been imparting their Catholic Faith to their children and helping them practice their faith. If your son or daughter is preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, help them to join a ministry in the Church.

The immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is about to commence and all eligible candidates should register their names for the program. For the Children at St Peter Chanel School, the registration form will be made available through the School. If your child is from any other school, contact the Parish Office for a Registration Form, and present it at the Enrolment Mass on the last weekend of March.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

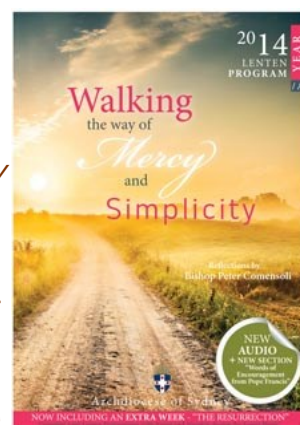


Walking the Way of Mercy and Simplicity: Lenten Groups

Ash Wednesday is on 5th March this year. That means that Lent is only a fortnight away. One of the special spiritual activities for Lent is Lenten Group Prayer and Reflection. This year Bishop Peter Comensoli has written the reflection for groups. Six sessions of Prayer and Reflection, called '*Walking the Way of Mercy & Simplicity*.' Groups may be held in Jubilee Hall (Parish Hall Berala) on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday either at 4 PM or 7 PM or you are welcome to organise groups to meet in your homes, if you wish to do so.

I shall organise all the resources (books and CDs) according to the number of people for each group.

There is a note pad in the foyer of the church for you to write your name to join in any one of the groups. Please do this by the end of the week so resources may be ordered on time.



Lenten Group at Michael's

Jenny Michael is hosting a Lenten Group at her home, 7 Wilson Ave, Regents Park, every Tuesday evenings of Lent at 7.30 PM. Anyone wishing to join this group is welcome to contact Jenny or the parish office or leave a note in the parish letter box.

The Francis Effect

The Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium* has been described as Pope Francis' vision for the Church. This Colloquium will explore this vision and application for the Australian Catholic Church and society. This one-day Colloquium will challenge participants to answer Pope Francis' call to be "missionary disciples" (EG 120). The day will bring together people from across ministries of the Church for a time of formation and professional development. An occasion not to be missed for anyone who is living and leading mission and evangelisation. We invite you to come in groups or as an individual. A copy of the newly released book *The Francis Effect: Living the Joy of the Gospel* will be given to each participant.

DATE: Thursday April 3, 2014

TIME: 8.30am – 4.30pm

VENUE: Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club
24-28 John Street, Lidcombe

CONTACT: Roza Vukovich on 9919 7800
formation@catholicmission.org.au

Check out the picture of our Catechists from last week's Bulletin.
It has been placed in this week's Catholic Weekly.
Only \$2 per copy at the Piety Stall.

Other Notices

The 1000 Norms Project

The 1000 Norms Project is a ground-breaking research project of great national and international interest. An initiative of leading researchers at The University of Sydney, the 1000 Norms Project will improve our understanding of the range of normal variation between healthy individuals.

Join our study and contribute to global healthcare

Are you aged between 3 and 100 years of age?

Do you consider yourself healthy for your age?

Can you participate in the usual activities that other people your age do? (e.g. go to work, visit friends etc)

If you answered "Yes" to all the above questions you may be eligible to participate.

If you are eligible you will be invited to attend The University of Sydney Cumberland Campus for a once-only assessment. The assessment will take approximately 2-3 hours and includes performing basic physical assessments and completing questionnaires. You will also be invited to provide a saliva DNA sample.

Reimbursement for travel will be provided. Your participation in this project will be greatly appreciated and your contribution to the world of healthcare will be valued for many years to come. *(see flyer on Noticeboard)*

To register for the project please contact:

Jennifer Baldwin on 9036 7435 or E-mail 1000.norms@sydney.edu.au

Lenten Retreat for Young Adults

Catholic Youth Services invites all young people between the ages of 18 and 35 to a silent retreat to be held at the newly constructed Benedict XVI Retreat Centre in Grose Vale from 21-23 March. Conducted by the popular and engaging Fr David Callaghan from the Missionaries of God's Love, this will be an opportunity to step back from your busy life and reflect on what brings true peace and joy. There are limited places so for more information or to book, email events@catholicyouthservices.org or call 9764 4357. And don't forget connect with *Catholic Youth Services* at www.facebook.com/catholicyouthservices.

RETREAT DAY FOR FATHERS

All fathers are warmly invited to attend a day of spiritual reflection on their roles as husbands and fathers. The retreat will be led by Bishop Terry Brady and will feature guest speaker Mr Robert Falzon (menALIVE). The day begins with Mass, includes a BBQ lunch, and confession and spiritual guidance will be available. **WHEN: Saturday 15 March, from 8:45am till 3:00pm**

WHERE: Marymount Mercy Centre, 36 David Road, Castle Hill.

COST: \$10. All RSVPs and inquiries to LMEvents@sydneycatholic.org or phone (02) 9390 5290

GRACE & SILENCE RETREAT DAYS.

We would like to invite young women aged 17-30 yrs who are discerning their vocation to marriage, single or consecrated life or who would like to have a day of recollection to the Schoenstatt Shrine in Mulgoa for a **Grace & Silence Retreat Day on Saturday 8th of March; 12 April; 24 May; 28 June**; 9.30am-4.30pm; 230 Fairlight Road Mulgoa. Grace & Silence commences with a short impulse followed by Eucharistic Adoration; silent prayer and reflection and concludes with a group rosary and afternoon tea. Cost \$20 which includes lunch. For further information and registration contact: Sister M Julie 0408 738 334 or juliebrcar@gmail.com

SISTERHOOD NATIONAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE.

"An Australian Movement of Catholic Women living life to the full." Sisterhood is a national Catholic women's movement of all ages. We would love for you to join us for what will be an incredible weekend of dynamic talks, quality sisterhood time and most importantly an encounter with an amazing God who loves us beyond measure. 7-9 March at The Tops Conference Centre, Bendena Garden Rd, Stanwell Tops. Cost \$225 includes meals & accommodation. Register online: www.sisterhood.org.au For more info e-mail: info@sisterhood.org.au or phone 0420 541 772.

JOURNEY WITH XT3 THIS LENT

The Archdiocese of Sydney social network Xt3.com, in partnership with the University of Notre Dame Australia, **will be releasing the 2014 Xt3 Lent Calendar at the end of February!** Journey though Lent with daily videos, podcasts and reflections with this online resource, also available as a FREE App for your iPhone, iPad and Android devices. The first calendar feature will be available on Ash Wednesday, 05 March 2014. Visit www.xt3.com/lent, or search for "Xt3 Lent" in your App store.

Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45AM Mass.	
Tuesday	6.45AM Mass.	9.00 AM Mass
Wednesday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass. Secretary available	
Thursday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass. Secretary available 7.30 PM Finance Committee Meeting	
Friday	6.45AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass.	
Saturday	8.00 AM Mass & Rosary; 9AM-10AM Adoration, Novena & Confessions 5.00PM Vigil Mass	
Sunday	10AM Mass	8.00AM Mass

Hospitality

At St Peter Chanel - This week Ann Marie is hosting Morning Tea after 10.00am Mass. Next week Alex Baldoria will be hosting morning tea after 10.00am Mass.

Thank you to all our hospitality team for providing this very important ministry.

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

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

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo T/F: (02) 4236 0533

E cottageretreats@bigpond.com ; Carmelites Varroville E retreats@carmelite.com;

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby E clary.antaogmail.com T: 0434099088

Murphy showed up at Mass one Sunday and the priest almost fell down when he saw him. He'd never been to church in his life.

After Mass, the priest caught up with him and said, "Murphy, I am so glad ya decided to come to Mass. What made ya come?"

Murphy said, "I got to be honest with you Father. A while back, I misplaced me hat and I really, really love that hat. I know that McGlynn had a hat just like mine and I knew he came to church every Sunday. I also knew that he had to take off his hat during Mass and figured he would leave it in the back of church. So, I was going to leave after Communion and steal McGlynn's hat."

The priest said, "Well, Murphy, I notice that ya didn't steal McGlynn's hat. What changed your mind?"

Murphy replied, "Well, after I heard your sermon on the 10 Commandments, I decided that I didn't need to steal McGlynn's hat after all."

With a tear in his eye the priest gave Murphy a big smile and said; "After I talked about 'Thou Shalt Not Steal' ya decided you would rather do without your hat than burn in Hell?"

Murphy slowly shook his head. "No, Father, after ya talked about 'Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery' I remembered where I left me hat."



Planned Giving Program Request Form

Your contribution to the Planned Giving Program of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the Financial Year you will receive a Receipt for your contributions which will enable you to claim Tax deduction. To join the Planned Giving Program fill this form, tear this part off and place it in the Sunday Collection plate

Your Name:

Telephone NoEmail ID

☐ Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

YES/NO Tax deduction

☐ Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions.
(A credit card authority form will be sent to you for completion)

Four
inspiring
sessions
that take
you on
a life
changing
journey



*If you want to have a fire lit in your faith, in a totally non-threatening way,
come and listen and laugh and pray with the Catholic Guy.*

Chris

*There is nothing that would come close to providing such a good Mission
experience like this available in Australia at the moment.*

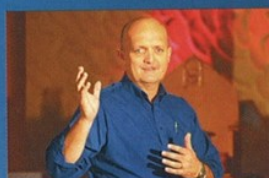
Fr Michael McLean, Bonnyrigg Heights Sydney

*It is clear to me that the Catholic Guy Ministry has clearly come from God.
It surpassed my expectations, was moving for me and I know for my people.*

Fr Andrew Keswick, Ringwood Melbourne

*My experience of the Catholic Guy Event was uplifting, inspiring and enriching.
I have since changed career into an area I prior did not think I was capable of.*

Michelle



4 Inspiring Sessions:

Session One

Thursday 20th March
9:45am or 7:30pm

Session Two

Friday 21st March
9:45am or 7:30pm

Session Three

Sunday 23rd March
11:00am or 7:30pm

Session Four

Monday 24th March
9:45am or 7:30pm



Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. **R.**

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **R.**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **R.**

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **R.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,
grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

Today's Readings

Leviticus 19:1-2. 17-18

1Corinthians 3:16-23

Matthew 5:38-48

Next Sunday's Readings

8th Sunday in Ordinary

Isaiah 49:14-15

1Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew 6:24-34



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

2 ND MARCH 2014		8 TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Edward DUFFY	William ANDREWS	Robert JAKSIC
ORGANIST	Maureen Hynes		SAMOAN
CANTOR	YOUTH		CHOIR
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ken HARTMAN	Micheline BOTHAM
	Lawrence LOPEZ	Joe MOSES	Sharon IACONO
COMMENTATOR	Patricia DUFFY	Maris MARSH	Fatima BOLONIA
GIFTS	Moya LEWIS & Helen LE MOTTEE		Robert JAKSIC Family
PIETY STALL	Moya LEWIS		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Ann DUFFY		Rita JAKSIC
SP. MINISTER	Phirum DUCH		Romaine CHEEMA

HOSPITAL

Joyce MacDONALD & Anna MANGANARO

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

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

SPC CHILDREN'S LITURGY - Kimberley Pangillinan & Catherine.

Volunteers
The HEART Of The
COMMUNITY

Church Cleaners: Mar 1 Samoan Youth Group. **SJW:** Maronite Group.



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Nazareth home, 2 Dawn Cres, Berala. Please join them any evening at **7.30pm** 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.