

ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA



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First Sunday of Advent

- Year B

30 November 2014

Parish Priest

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Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari
Cor Bishop
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Fr Mark Spora
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Parish Secretary

Marisa Squadrito
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
T. 0402071849
Karim Kassis(Vice Chair)
T. 0408404130
Joji Salar (Secretary)
Pat Kavanagh(Asst
Secretary), Jenny Michael,
Joe Moses, Arthur Doumit,
Afiafi Alai, Micheline
Botham 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

Be a Surprise Gift to Someone

Everyone is getting ready for Christmas. It is around the corner. The mood of the world is that of great blessings where symbols of joy are displayed at the entrances, meeting places, shopping centres, and work places. Business is booming because it is the season everyone gives gifts to others. The Church announces the second coming of Christ and the hope attached to it as the theme for reflection in the first two weeks of Advent. But the world around us is behaving as if there is no need to look forward to His second coming, because we have all that we need. It is a blessed time for everyone. But it is not the case all over the world. Christians in middle eastern countries could be wondering why there is such a delay for the Lord to come again. In the face of Islamic atrocities the faithful Christians in these areas fear for their lives and livelihood. Many are killed and many others are driven out of their home land. Unfortunately we do not hear of many Muslim leaders condemning such atrocities against Christians. The developments we see in some parts of the Middle East should lead us to expect more far reaching consequences. As world citizens we should be conscious of this dichotomy as we prepare ourselves for Christmas.

A Prayer for Peace by Saint Ephraim the Syrian is appropriate for this season. Melkite Catholic Bishop Robert Rabbat has been promoting this prayer. Let us also join with Christians of Middle Eastern traditions to recite this prayer every day at least till Christmas as part of our preparation.

Prayer for Peace

Almighty God and Creator, You are the Father of all people on the earth. I beseech you to guide all the nations and their leaders in the ways of justice and peace. Protect us from the evils of injustice, prejudice, exploitation, conflict, and war. Help us to put away mistrust, bitterness, and hatred. Teach us to cease the storing and using of implements of war. Lead us to find peace, respect, and freedom. Unite us in the making and sharing of tools of peace against ignorance, poverty, disease, and oppression. Grant that we may grow in harmony, and friendship as brothers and sisters created in your image, to your honour and praise. Amen.

We shall also observe next weekend as a Day of Prayer for the persecuted Christians of the Middle East. There will also be a collection at the door next week as a financial assistance to these Christian Communities.

Walking the talk and capturing the spirit of the prayer, let us also make our lives a gift to others. The Gospel today tells us that the next coming of the Lord will be a surprise to everyone. There will not be any time to for quick preparation. Therefore be ready always for the unexpected appearance of the Lord. At your baptism you were anointed (Christened) to be another Christ. Now in this time of Advent let us make our life be a surprise gift to others. Making our lives gifts will be harder than buying something from a shop shelf. It needs more deliberation and commitment. And that is what is required of us to be ready for Christmas. So use your imagination, time, and your sense of duty to others, to make your life a gift. You be the surprise gift to someone.





This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

Malakai Kupu

May he always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout his life

Christmas Mass Roster

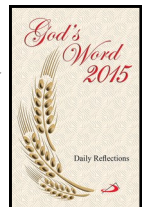
The Liturgy Committee are currently drawing up a roster for all Christmas Masses. Please let us know if you will be in the parish for Christmas and are available to fulfil your ministry at any of the Vigil, Midnight or Christmas Day Masses. This includes Acolytes, Readers and Commentators, Ministers of Holy Communion and Piety Stall volunteers. Please contact Anna Manganaro on 9649 9725 or Jenny Michael on 0413 679 931. Together we can make our Christmas Liturgy joy filled!

Florists Required

St Peter Chanel is in need of volunteers who have talent for arranging flowers. This would normally take place at 10am on Saturday after the Novena. Flowers are often donated and left in the Sacristy and it would enhance the altar if they could be arranged artistically. This is especially significant for major feasts. We are most grateful to those who currently provide this service, but more help is needed. Please give of your time and talents to your parish family. Many hands really do make light work! Contact Anna Manganaro on 9649 9725

God's Word 2015

This book is a Daily Reflections Liturgical Diary and is designed to help you to keep the Word of God close to your heart in your daily life. It includes Liturgical readings of the day, Inspiring reflection of the Gospel of the day and space to note down important events and reflections of the day. It is now available at the Piety Stall for \$15.95



Book of Remembrance

The names of the departed souls of parishioners are written in the Book of Remembrance, which is placed permanently in St Peter Chanel Church. In this month of all souls, it is placed in front of the Altar. But the Book is incomplete and there are a lot of names to be added. Therefore the parish is looking for a volunteer with calligraphy skills to add other names. Fr Thomas would love to hear from any volunteer.

Berala Young Catholics

Many people, especially around the Berala/Auburn area are often retired, their children have grown up and moved away or tragically their spouse has died ...and sometimes all they need is to be able to be part of a community that cares. St Vincent De Paul runs, once a month a Dinner with the local community with the purpose of fostering fellowship and providing that added support to people. Where: Saint John of God Church, 2 Alice Street Auburn, once a month on a weekday from 7-9pm. BYC will then meet up at Lidcombe Dooleys 9:15pm and onwards for dessert, socialising and maybe some snooker!

For more details please contact Katrina: 0407101810 or LIKE us on facebook: Berala Young Catholics

A Novel Christmas Gift

If you believe in the spirit of Christmas, Caritas Australia has a novel way for you to offer Christmas Gifts to your friends. You can choose a global gift of Water for \$10, Food for \$25, sustainable agriculture for \$50, healthcare for \$70, Education for \$100, or Emergency relief for \$250. You can order them online at www.caritas.org.au/globalgifts. If you do not work with the internet, you can contact the parish office and we can assist you. Let us keep the spirit of Christ this Christmas

Rest In Peace

Eileen Barton, a long time parishioner of St Peter Chanel, died on Tuesday 25 November. Her funeral will be held at 10.30am on Tuesday 2 December at Mary, Mother of Mercy Catholic Chapel at Rookwood. May God grant her eternal repose.

Prayer and collection for Middle East

Sunday 7th December will be a day of prayer for the persecuted Christians of the Middle East. A special collection will be taken next week so that financial assistance can be provided to Catholic communities in this area. A delegation of Australian Bishops will visit the Middle East to offer prayerful and financial support prior to Christmas.

Christmas Luncheon

The Parish is organising a Christmas Celebration on 25th December 2014 at 64 Kingsland Road Berala. Those who wish to join the celebration are welcome to come along at 12 noon for a Christmas Lunch. There will be carol singing as well in the Jubilee Hall. The celebration will conclude at 3 PM. Anyone wishing to help with food, drinks, or donation is invited to contact the parish office. If you are available to help on the day please let the Parish Office know.



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

Wednesday, 24 Dec

7 PM Mass at SPC Berala with children and families. Children are invited to dress up as shepherds, Magi (kings), angels.

Wednesday, 24 Dec

11 PM-11.45 PM Carols by candle light at SPC Berala

Thursday, 25 Dec

0 hours Solemn Midnight Mass at SPC Berala

Thursday, 25 Dec

8 AM Mass at SJW Auburn South

Thursday, 25 Dec

10 AM Mass at SPC Berala

Thursday, 25 Dec

11 AM – 3 PM Christmas Lunch at Jubilee Hall

Boxing Day, Friday, 26 Dec

10 AM Mass celebrating 30 anniversary of Fr Thomas' Ordination.



Other Notices

St Mary's Cathedral—Lights of Christmas 2014 The unique and spectacular Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral will this year be launched on Tuesday 9 December and run through to and including Christmas Day night. The projections begin at 8.30pm and go to midnight. Hosted by the Archdiocese of Sydney the presenting partner this year is PAYCE and the theme is service – giving what we can to our family, friends and the community.

The Christmas Story - Catholic students art exhibition. Open to the public from Monday, 1 December in the Crypt of St Mary's Cathedral. Over 90 inspired artwork pieces showcasing the creative talent of young Catholic students from Years 5 & 6 presented in an exhibition . Monday to Thursdays: 10am - 4pm

“Putting Rungs in the Ladder”: a Social Justice Twilight Reflection: 10 December, 6.30pm - 8.30pm at Caroline Chisholm Centre, Building 2, 423 Pennant Hills Rd, Pennant Hills. An evening of prayer for those seeking asylum in Australia and refugees in our communities. Listen to stories of people working and serving in this area, share experiences, reflect and pray. RSVP 5 December by email to gwayne.guevara@sydneycatholic.org or phone the Parish Office.

2014 Advent Calendar and App now available The Archdiocese of Sydney social network Xt3.com has released its 2014 Advent Calendar. The online calendar, also available as a free App for iPhone, iPad & Android devices, features daily reflections and multimedia resources to help you make the most of the season. View it online at www.xt3.com/advent or search "xt3 Advent" in the Google Play or App Store.

2014 Fourth Day of Xmas Feast: Catholic Youth Services invites you on Sunday December 28 , 6.30pm at 108 The Crescent, Homebush West to a traditional Xmas Feast. All young adults are invited to share delicious food and lots of Christmas cheer. Cost \$40 Dinner and drinks To book simply go to <http://www.trybooking.com/109348>. Bookings are essential, due by 19 December 2014.

iWitness 2014 :As the year draws to close, hundreds of young Catholics come to together for a weekend of fun, relaxation and enrichment – all while soaking up by the sun by the beautiful Collaroy beach! There will be a range of outdoor activities and hundreds of joyful, exuberant young adults. Be inspired. Be challenged. Go to www.lifetothefull.com.au for more details and to register! Dec 11th – 14th !

Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45 AM Mass.	
Tuesday	6.45 AM Mass 7.00 PM	NO MASS
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass 7.00 PM Group 2 Singing at Maureen's house	
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass, 9.15 AM Mass 7.30 PM Liturgy Committee Meeting	9.00 AM - 10.00AM Playgroup in the Mark Spora Room.
Friday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass	
Saturday	8.00AM Mass 9 -10 AM Adoration & Novena & Reconciliation 5.00 PM Mass Second Sunday Advent	
Sunday	10.00 AM Second Sunday Advent 5.00 PM Choir practice for Christmas in the church	8.00 AM Second Sunday Advent

Mass Intentions - May they Rest in Peace

Recently Deceased: Aleksander Jarczewski, Simon Hitti, Raymond Pye, La Torre Vincenzo, Afita & Dey, Fatima Bolonia, John Brown, Eileen Barton

Anniversaries: Nicola Conte

Deceased: Aloysius Chong, Mei Kwan Chiu, Dominic (Snr) Botham, Michael Costa, Vimala Botham, Krupaiah Botham, Elias Costa, Ivan Vrzina, Marta Vrzina, Anita Vrzina, John Pemasi, Alosina Telea, Uisa Telea, Peter Hoc, Vincent Ring, Peter Vien, Maria Linh, Maria Nu, Maria Oanh, Maria Van, Vincent Ly, Peter Thay, Maria May, Dominique, Joseph, Maria, Martha, Francis,

Deceased members and friends of the following families: Ross & Mitchell Families, Guanzon Family, Dequilla Family, Do-Oma Family, Serano Family, Monfort Family, Hautea Family

Feasts of the Week.

3 December - St Francis Xavier Born in 1506 in Navarre (Spain). Died on this day in 1552 off the coast of China. Met Saint Ignatius of Loyola (31 July) while studying in Paris, became one of the first Jesuits, and went to Goa (India) as a missionary. Travelled extensively through southeast Asia to Japan, winning many converts and leaving behind organised Christian communities. Remembered for the witness of his poverty and for his tireless efforts as a missionary.



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)

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 Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
shine forth from your cherubim throne.

O Lord, rouse up your might,

O Lord, come to our help. **R**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it,
the vine your right hand has planted. **R**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.

And we shall never forsake you again:
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

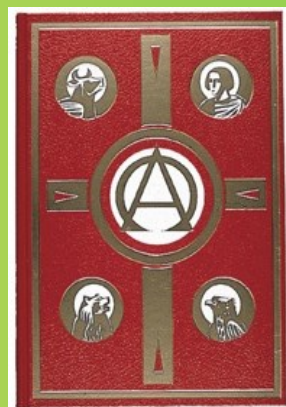
The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase .

Today's Readings

Is 63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8

1Cor 1:3-9

Mk 13:33-37



Next Sunday's Readings

Is 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Pet 3:8-14

Mk 1:1-8

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

7 DECEMBER 2014		2 ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	Joseph MARMAN	Roland JAVIER
ORGAN	Maureen Hynes		SAMOAN
CANTOR	Group 2		CHOIR
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Micheline BOTHAM
	Noeline DONNELLAN	Maris MARSH	Pam SNELL
COMMENTATOR	Katrina YIP	Karim KASSIS	Fatima BOLONIA
GIFTS	Anita YIP Family		Roland JAVIER Family
PIETY STALL	Stefanie YIP		John SHANLEY
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Phirum DUCH		Pam SNELL
HOSPITAL: Phirium Duch & Elizabeth Chia		ALTAR: Group 3 C Estrada; H Le Mottee; J Rockliff	
SPC CLEANERS: Samoan Youth Group		COUNTERS: Group 1 John Le Mottee; John Shanley	
SJW CLEANERS: Maronite Group		CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Joji Salar & Renee	
HOSPITALITY: This week Phil Lopez will be hosting morning tea after 10.00am Mass. Next week Vinita Nazareth will be hosting .Thank you to our hospitality team for providing this very important ministry			

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Scully home, 13 Kingsland Rd, Berala

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

To host the Pilgrim Statue contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

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



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

Saturday 8 AM, 9 AM Adoration & Novena. **Lord's Day Mass:** Saturday 5 PM (Vigil), Sunday 10 AM.

Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tuesday 9 AM (school term only); **Lord's Day Mass:** Sunday 8 AM.

Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.00 AM - 10 AM.