

ST PETER CHANEL & ST JOSEPH BERALA



Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141

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Third Sunday of

Advent Year C

13 December 2015

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

Parish Secretary

Marisa Squadrito
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
T. 0402071849
Karim Kassis (Vice Chair)
T. 0408404130
Maureen Hynes
(Secretary)
Joji Salar (Asst Secretary),
Micheline Botham (Social
Committee) Jenny Michael
(Liturgy Committee)
Pat Kavanagh (Social
Justice), Jann Rockliff,
(Hospital Visit) Sam Duch,
Joe Moses, Rhia Victorino,
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.

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel
Regents Park
Principal - Phil Townsend
T. 96449083

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

Mercy and Justice, not Hate, is needed

Trump, presidential aspirant in the United States, is in the news these days for all the wrong reasons. He wants to ban Muslims from the USA. The majority of people in his own country and all over the world strongly condemned his comment. Why? Because, while citizens want their political leaders to ensure security of their country, they do not support any hate based strategies. All good people of the world want to base their life on principles of mercy and justice, not hate. For the same reason, the recent comments by Tony Abbott on Muslims also attracted a lot of criticism.

In this year of Mercy, our Holy Father is calling all to enter into God's mercy. In the face of the refugee crisis, terrorist attacks, and economic insecurity, trying for a life of mercy, justice, and charity can be challenging. Yet that is what the Gospel is demanding from the people preparing for the coming of God into their midst. Christmas is not just the birthday of Jesus, it is the celebration of God being with us - Emmanuel.

John the Baptist, preparing the way for Christ, asked the seekers of Christ to be just and merciful in their dealings. John told that the Messiah is about to appear, and people should be ready for God by putting their lives in order. It was time for them to put their faith into practice. This means their socio-political life should reflect their faith. It is time to work on a God centred life-style.

Tax collectors were told not to charge excess. But their agreement with the Roman authorities was to collect a given quota; whatever they could exact above the quota supplemented their normal pay. Their pay apparently was not much. That meant following John's advice would drive them into poverty.

Soldiers who did not use their armoured muscle were in danger of not being accepted by their colleagues on whom they depended in the battle. Their pay was low, their rations were poor and their morale shattered. To such a people John was telling them "no intimidation, no extortion. Be content with your pay." True discipleship of Christ is more than customs and rituals: it is a moral challenge, even at the expense of personal cost.

There are a number of people who have stepped out of the comfort zone to live a life worthy of their Christian faith in our time. One such example is Dorothy Bayliss, a Sister of Charity from our parish community who opted to go to South Sudan, taking God's mercy and charity to the downtrodden in one of the poorest and violent part of the world.

For many of us, it may not be practical to be that radical in their Christian life commitment. But we all need to make sure our life is fundamentally based on principles of mercy, justice, and charity. Prepare to receive Emmanuel, our God with us.



Christmas Schedule 2015

Wednesday 23 Dec

7 PM 2nd Rite Reconciliation at SPC Berala

Thursday 24 Dec

7 PM Mass at SPC Berala with children and families.

Children are invited to dress up as shepherds,

Magi (kings), angels.

11.00 PM - 11.45 PM Carols by candlelight at SPC Berala

12.00 AM Solemn Midnight Mass at SPC Berala

Friday 25 Dec

8 AM Mass at SJW Auburn South

10 AM Mass at SPC Berala

11.30 AM – 2.30 PM Christmas Lunch in the Jubilee Hall



Christmas Giving Trees

At SJW Church: Parishioners are invited to take a gift card from the Christmas Tree at St Joseph the Worker and then bring a present and place it under the Tree. The presents will be given to those in need in our community.

At SPC Church: The Tree has been erected on the side altar and all parishioners are invited to leave a gift. Please label wrapped gifts with who they may be most appropriate for (i.e. child, man). Your generosity will help bring a smile to those less fortunate. Thank you



Holy Family for Christmas

We need a BABY JESUS, Mary, and Joseph to dress up for Christmas Vigil at 7 PM. Any parents wishing to dress up their baby to be Jesus, and any teenager wishing to be either Mary or Joseph at the Vigil Mass is welcome to contact Fr Thomas or the parish office. Parents also may start planning to dress up your children as shepherds or angels, or kings for the Vigil Mass.

**The Catholic Parish of
St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala**
Invite all who wish
to share the joy of Christmas with others
to a Christmas Lunch
Food and drink provided
Date: 25 December 2014
Place: Jubilee Hall,
64 Kingsland Rd Berala (next to church)
Time: 11.30am to 2.30pm
RSVP for lunch and transport: Please phone
Anne or Christine no later than
Friday 11 December on 96437794
Further details contact Evelene Safadi on 0416140378

Christmas Lunch Donations

Donations are needed for our luncheon on Christmas day to ensure it is a success. We require donations of salads, desserts, meat, hot food and drinks. If you can help please fill in the Christmas Lunch Donation Sheet located at the rear of the church. Together we can bring some joy to many. For more details contact Evelene Safadi on 0416140378

**Volunteers
Thanksgiving
Gathering
2015**



Fr Spora's Birthday Celebration, 6 December 2015 at SJW Church



SPC - SJW KIDS CAMP 14-16 JANUARY 2016

We are proud to present our parish's very first kids camp -

GOD IS LOVE: CELEBRATING WITH FRIENDSHIP, FAITH AND FUN!

To be held over three amazing days over the summer holidays, this will be a day camp (no sleepover required!) on the grounds of St Peter Chanel for all 7-12 year olds.

Filled with fun activity and teaching based on our Catholic faith, it is an event not to be missed.

Cost is \$15 per child (with concessions for siblings - \$25 for two children and \$30 for 3 children)

Please register your interest now as places are limited.

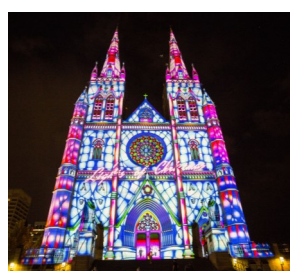
Please contact Rhia Victorino (SPC) on 0420 966 463 or Karim/Gloria Kassis (SJW) on 0408 404 130/0414 493 154.

Kids Camp 2016

The SPC-SJW Kids camp organisers are looking for volunteers - both adults and high school/uni students. If you are available for any or all of the days of the camp and are interested in sharing your friendship, faith and fun with our kids, please contact Rhia Victorino on 0420 966 463.

Other Notices

Holy Family Sunday - Pilgrimage of Families to Door of Mercy (27 Dec 2015) For the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has invited the faithful to obtain a plenary indulgence by making a brief pilgrimage to the Door of Mercy in their diocese. Families in the Archdiocese of Sydney are invited to enter the Door of Mercy at St Mary's Cathedral prior to the 10.30am Solemn Mass on Holy Family Sunday, 27 December. To fulfil the conditions of obtaining the indulgence, each family member must be in a state of grace, receive the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist within several days, recite the Profession of faith and say a prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father. E: lifemarriagefamily@sydneycatholic.org or Ph: 9390 8400



Lights of Christmas 2015 will illuminate St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney's oldest and grandest Cathedral. An open and encompassing event for the whole community. Lights of Christmas presented by PAYCE will run from December 10 - 25, 2015. Starting each evening at 7:30pm with a choir performance. The light show comes on just after dusk and stays on until midnight. The event is presented by PAYCE and hosted by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, with the support of our education partner the Australian Catholic University and supporting partners Catholic Cemeteries and Crematoria, and TDC.

Parish Diary This Week!

	St Peter Chanel	St Joseph the Worker
Monday	6.45 AM Mass	
Tuesday	6.45 AM Mass 7.30 PM GEM Meeting in the Jubilee Hall	9.00 AM End of School Year Mass 7.45 PM Legion of Mary (SJW Hall)
Wednesday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass	
Thursday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass 7.30 PM Group 2 singing practice at 8 Wallace St Sefton – All welcome	9.00 -10.00 AM Playgroup in Mark Spora Room
Friday	6.45 AM Mass 9.15 AM Mass	
Saturday	8.00 AM Mass 9.00 - 10.00 AM Adoration, Novena, Reconciliation 5.00 PM Mass	
Sunday	10.00 AM Mass 4.45 PM Christmas Singing Practice in the Church-Note slightly earlier time	8.00 AM Mass

Mass Intentions

Anniversaries: Eddie Leonardi, Gloria Bolonia

Deceased: Fatima Bolonia

Deceased members and friends of : Ross & Mitchell Family, Irwin & O'Dwyer Families, Elek & Blazevic Families & Friends

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration St. Joachim's Parish, John Street, Lidcombe will start their Adoration program from 8 December 2015. The Church will provide access to allow parishioners and visitors to spend one hour each week in Adoration. This will be available 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. If you would like to commit to one hour on a full time basis please contact the Parish Office on 9649 7030 or Trevor Brewty on 0429777518. Casual visitation would also be welcome."

The Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP Syrian Refugee Appeal. The Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP Syrian Refugee Appeal is the official appeal of the Archdiocese of Sydney. It's an opportunity for all Catholics to respond generously to the needs of Syrian refugees fleeing persecution. If you can offer support, large or small, please call the appeal hotline on 1800 690 302 or visit catholiccare.org/Syria.

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries offers a confidential voicemail number: 0400 092 555. There are healing retreats regularly in the Sydney area that offer women and me a spiritual way through grief and loss. Contact them for a non judgemental listening ear through one on one support or a referral to a trained counsellor or a trained, compassionate priest. Visit www.rachelsvineyard.org.au

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

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

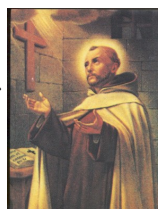
Carmelites Varroville E: retreats@carmelite.com;

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby E: clary.antaog@gmail.com

Sara's place: For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 96998190

Feasts of the Week.

14 December - St John of the Cross Born in 1542 at Fontiveros (Spain). Died on this day in Ubeda. A Carmelite priest who joined Saint Teresa of Jesus (15 October) in the work of Carmelite reform and, despite opposition and imprisonment, organised the disalced Carmelites. Remembered for his mystical writings, which combine theology and poetry to describe the spiritual journey through darkness to union with God.



Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

Responsorial Psalm:

R. Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation. **R.**

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name. **R.**

Sing a psalm to the Lord
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel **R.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Today's Readings

Zeph 3:14-18

Phil 4: 4-7

Lk 3:10-18

Next Sunday's Readings

Micah 5:1-4

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-44



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

20 DECEMBER 2015		4 TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	Joseph MARMAN	Robert JAKSIC
ORGANIST	YOUTH	SJW	SAMOAN
CANTOR	GROUP	YOUTH CHOIR	CHOIR
LECTOR/S	Joy SKERRITT	Ken HARTMAN	Micheline BOTHAM
	Pam SNELL	Joe MOSES	Monica SMITH
COMMENTATOR	Jann ROCKLIFF	Maris MARSH	Jenny MICHAEL
GIFTS	Helen LE MOTTEE		Robert JAKSIC Family
PIETY STALL	Margaret HEYS		Jenny MICHAEL
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Micheline BOTHAM
SP. MINISTER	Sam DUCH		Hoa NGUYEN
HOSPITAL: Bob & Christine Kensey		ALTAR: Group 3 Helen Le Mottee; Jann Rockliff	
SPC CLEANERS: Roland & Ava Javier		COUNTERS: Group 3 K Hartman; A Tham; R Cheema	
SJW CLEANERS: Maronite Group		CHILDREN'S LITURGY: School holidays	
HOSPITALITY SPC:: V Nazareth			



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel at the Yip home,

184 Nottingham Rd, Berala. Please join 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.

Holy Mass at Berala: Monday to Friday 6.45AM & Wednesday to Friday 9.15 AM

Saturday 8.00AM, 9.00AM Adoration & Novena. **Lord's Day Mass:** Saturday 5.00PM (Vigil), Sunday 10.00AM.

Holy Mass at Auburn South: Tues 9.00 AM (During school term only) **Lord's Day Mass:** Sunday 8.00 AM

Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.00AM - 10.00AM.

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

☐ Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

YES/NO Tax deduction (*please circle*)

☐ Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (*An authority form will be sent for completion*)