



St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala

Streams of living water will flow from within. ~John 7:38

Parish Office: 60 Kingsland Rd, Berala, 2141, **Ph:** 96447787 **E:** info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
Parish Website: www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au, **facebook:** [stpeterstjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterstjoseph)

Holy Mass at Berala: Monday to Friday 6.45am, Wednesday to Friday 9.15am, Saturday 8.00am

Adoration & Novena: Saturday 9.00am

Lord's Day Mass Berala: Saturday 5.00pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.00am & Sunday 10.00am

Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 9.00am - 10.00am. Or contact the parish office for any other time.

For Baptisms, Weddings, Bible Study and Catholic Enquiry, please contact Fr Thomas or the parish office on 9644 7787.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

26 JANUARY 2020

First Reading

Is 8:23 – 9:3

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

Second Reading

1 Cor 1:10-13, 17

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of

philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel

Mt 4:12-23

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him. He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 95:1,6

O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 26:1. 4. 13-14.
R. v.1

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; Before whom

shall I shrink? **R**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long, to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life, to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. **R**

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord! **R**

Gospel Acclamation Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon Cf Ps 33:6

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: **Mal 3:1-4**

2nd Reading: **Heb 2:14-18**

Gospel: **Lk 2:22-40**

Parish Priest

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

Priest in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari, Cor Bishop
T. (02) 8723 9192
M. 0418 459 431

Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm
T. (02) 9644 7787

Sacramental Co-ordinator

Sophia Brewty
sacraments@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Youth Ministry

amanda.gahan@syd.catholic.edu.au
susie.mravunac@syd.catholic.edu.au

Catholic Inquiry—RCIA

Andrew Tham 0403 566 001

Pastoral Council

Karim Kassis (Chair)
T. 0408 404 130
Charlie Scully (Vice Chair, Project Manager)
T. 0402 071 849

Maureen Hynes (Secretary, Parish Choir)
Jennifer Rush (Asst Secretary, Safeguarding)
Anthony Kasule, Arthur Doumit (Retreats),
Brenda Wendt-Hussein (Catechists), Amanda
Gahan (SVDP & Youth), Jenny Michael, Joji
Salar, Micheline Botham, Renee Salar, Rhia
Victorino, Vinita Nazareth, and Principals of
the Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T. (02) 9644 8859
Joe Moses, Sylvia Jukic, Brendon Nazareth
(Finance Controller)

Plenary 2020

Alicia Moore

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
T. (02) 9644 9083
Principal - Phil Townsend
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
T. (02) 9646 1434
Principal - Gai Melville
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

Safeguarding Office. If you – or anyone you
know – have been abused, please contact
the police. Alternatively, you can contact
the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity
Office: Phone (02) 9390 5810

CatholicCare. Provides caring advice and
advocacy to help families . CCareline 13 18
19 | CatholicCare.org

Alcohol & Drug Information Service:

(Confidential) 02 9361 8000

Healing After Abortion: 0400 092 555

Sara's Place: For pregnancy support or
grieving after abortion visit
www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 9699 8190

Happy Australia Day!

PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Mon 27/1	6.45am	Mass
Tue 28/1	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass—SPC & SJW School Staff Mass
Wed 29/1	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass - Trinity Catholic College Welcome Mass
Thu 30/1	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass
Fri 31/1	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass
Sat 1/2	8.00am 8.30am 9.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena, Adoration, Confession Vigil Mass
Sun 2/2	8.00am 10.00am	Mass Mass

*"Family that pray together stay
together"*

PILGRIM STATUE

**FROM ST PETER CHANEL
at Baudille Family
297 Park Road, Berala**



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

**To host the Pilgrim Statue and Rosary
prayer please contact Mona
on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.**

**From Legion of Mary, Berala
at the Skerritt Home
To host the Rosary Statue Legion of
Mary, Berala call
Phil Lopez on 9646 1756.**

2 FEBRUARY 2020		THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	
Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
MUSIC & SINGING	PARISH CHOIR		Salt enLight
LECTOR/S	Mai NGUYEN	Ken HARTMAN	Amanda GAHAN
	Flavia NARAYAN	Joe MOSES	Susie MRAVUNAC
COMMENTATOR	Katrina YIP	Maris MARSH	Rhia VICTORINO
SP. MINISTER	Warren RYAN		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Phirum DUCH		Isabella ARAUJO
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY	Jenny MICHAEL	Winnie CHIU
GREETERS	Roshan & Sharon SEBASTIAN	Joe MOSES	Mervin VICTORINO
HOSPITALITY		Monica Nazareth & Family	
Hospital Visitation Sat: Christine Parish		Altar & Sacristy: Group 3 Helen Le Mottee, Jann Rockliff	
Hospital Communion Sun: Joy Skerritt & Roland Javier			
Cleaners SPC: Uisa Family		Children's liturgy: Anna Facer	
Saturday 8AM		1 FEBRUARY	
LECTOR FOR MASS	Christine KENSEY		

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Fr Ray Farrell, Fr Emmanuel Seo, Dr Peter Kong, Sr Tomsy, Tony Draybi

Recently Deceased: Daniel Bagalay, Rahmeh Hazboun, Minh Van Nguyen, Patsy Gore, Nancy Urch, Bill Williams

Deceased: Sylvia Portelli, Joseph Portelli, John Ryan, Betty Portelli, Carmen Portelli, Bert Portelli

Anniversary: Salvatore Capra, Filippo Manganaro (22/1), Nellie Lim, Charlie Portelli (13/1), Frane Baraba, Ivan Buterin

Deceased Members and Friends of: O'Dwyer & Erwin Families

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord; and let the perpetual light shine
upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of
God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Make Your Life the Fulfilment of God's Word



French President Emmanuel Macron visited Saint Anne's Church in Jerusalem's Old City last Wednesday. This Catholic church is located at the start of the Via Dolorosa in the Old City's Muslim Quarter. An altercation broke out when security personnel pushed past the French detail and were first to enter the Church of Saint Anne, which is French state property! Yes, in the Israeli ruled Muslim quarters of the disputed Old City of Jerusalem, a church compound is French Territory, though it is impractical to exercise French sovereignty there. But this little place, way out of France, has symbolic importance to the French President because of the promise made by the Ottoman Empire to France in 1856.

Jesus went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali, according to the Gospel of Matthew. Like the church of St Anne, Zebulun and Naphtali also have historical significance. It was given to the one who brings enlightenment to those who live in darkness. Jesus coming to live in Capernaum by the side of the Sea of Galilee is fulfilling this prophecy. Through the entry into the seaside town, Jesus is asserting his claim to the provinces offered according to the prophecies of Isaiah. In this way, the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled. Jesus fulfils the prophecies of the Old Testament.

The evangelist Matthew has interpreted Jesus and his actions as the fulfilment of the prophecies. That interpretation shows the significance of Jesus and his mission. As disciples of Jesus, your life is to be interpreted by Jesus and his words. Just as Jesus' every move was intentional, make each step in your life intentional also. Make your life meaningful in all you do. Think of a Bible verse that can interpret what you do each day. For example according to the Letter to the Romans 12:4-6, the life of Christians is to be lived as One Body in Christ. Similarly, let the Word of God interpret your relation to your spouse, your children, your parents, the authorities. Let the Word of God interpret your attitude to money and work. Make yourself the fulfilment of God's Word.

REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 4:12-23

Historical Context – Repent

Throughout the Old Testament, the people of Israel repeated a cycle of behaviour. When their relationship with God was strong, they upheld the covenant and they prospered. They would forget that their prosperity lay in being in right relationship with one another and with God and so they would neglect those relationships. They would turn so far away that some tragedy or oppression would befall them. Out of their despair they would recognise their need for God and they would 'repent' and re-establish their relationship with God. Jesus' call to repent is a call to looking at the relationship with God in a whole new way.

Have you thought? People in darkness

The passage from Isaiah that is quoted in the gospel, speaks of the people who dwell in darkness. The passage is addressed to the Jewish tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali – two of the twelve tribes. These two tribes lived in the northernmost part of Palestine and their lands were surrounded by Gentiles. Any non-Jew was regarded as living in darkness because they did not have the light of 'truth', but these two tribes also dwelt in darkness because they were surrounded by it. Regardless, the passage asserts that all who dwell in darkness (Gentile and Jew alike) will receive a great light.

From the perspective of ... The first called

What must it have been like for those first four disciples Jesus called? The fact that they were fishing means that they had not been chosen to continue studying the Torah beyond childhood and had not been chosen by a rabbi to be his followers. Even as young men, these four were has-beens and had no hope of a rabbi asking them to be his disciples. Suddenly, Jesus appears and calls them to follow him. A life that had passed them by suddenly opened up before them! Of course they dropped everything and followed.

SVDP Bushfire Appeal Special Collection This Weekend

BUSHFIRE APPEAL

CALL 13 18 12 OR DONATE IN-STORE NOW



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Thank you for your generosity!

For love of Christ, Paul bore every burden

Saint John Chrysostom (4th Century)

Paul, more than anyone else, has shown us what man really is, and in what our nobility consists, and of what virtue this particular animal is capable. Each day he aimed ever higher; each day he rose up with greater ardour and faced with new eagerness the dangers that threatened him. He summed up his attitude in the words: I forget what is behind me and push on to what lies ahead. When he saw death imminent, he bade others share his joy: Rejoice and be glad with me! And when danger, injustice and abuse threatened, he said: I am content with weakness, mistreatment and persecution. These he called the weapons of righteousness, thus telling us that he derived immense profit from them.

Thus, amid the traps set for him by his enemies, with exultant heart he turned their every attack into a victory for himself; constantly beaten, abused and cursed, he boasted of it as though he were celebrating a triumphal procession and taking trophies home, and offered thanks to God for it all: Thanks be to God who is always victorious in us! This is why he was far more eager for the shameful abuse that his zeal in preaching brought upon him than we are for the most pleasing honours, more eager for death than we are for life, for poverty than we are for wealth; he yearned for toil far more than others yearn for rest after toil. The one thing he feared, indeed dreaded, was to offend God; nothing else could sway him. Therefore, the only thing he really wanted was always to please God.

The most important thing of all to him, however, was that he knew himself to be loved by Christ. Enjoying this love, he considered himself happier than anyone else; were he without it, it would be no satisfaction to be the friend of principalities and powers. He preferred to be thus loved and be the least of all, or even to be among the damned, than to be without that love and be among the great and honoured.

To be separated from that love was, in his eyes, the greatest and most extraordinary of torments; the pain of that loss would alone have been hell, and endless, unbearable torture.

So too, in being loved by Christ he thought of himself as possessing life, the world, the angels, present and future, the kingdom, the promise and countless blessings. Apart from that love nothing saddened or delighted him; for nothing earthly did he regard as bitter or sweet.

Paul set no store by the things that fill our visible world, any more than a man sets value on the withered grass of the field. As for tyrannical rulers or the people enraged against him, he paid them no more heed than gnats. Death itself and pain and whatever torments might come were but child's play to him, provided that thereby he might bear some burden for the sake of Christ.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

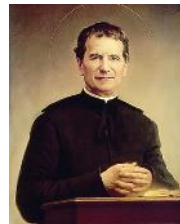
Tuesday, 28 January - St Thomas Aquinas (Memorial)



Born near Aquino (Italy) about 1225. Died on his way to the Council of Lyons in 1274. Educated at Monte Cassino, Naples, Paris, and Cologne, he became a Dominican in 1244. Regarded as one of the greatest

theologians in the history of the Church. Despite ecclesiastical opposition at the time, the substance of his life's work has endured as an authentic exposition of Christian teaching and carries unique official approval. Remembered for his modesty, the prayerfulness of his personal life, and the abiding influence of his thought.

Friday, 31 January - St John Bosco (Memorial)



Born in Piedmont (Italy) in 1815. Died at Turin on this day in 1888. Grew up in extreme poverty and, after ordination, devoted his whole life to educating young people, especially the poor. Founded the Salesians, men and women who

continue this work with youth throughout the world. Remembered – like the order's patron, St Francis de Sales (24 January) – for his cheerfulness and total trust in the providence of God.

SACRAMENT KEY DATES 2020	Confirmation	Communion	Reconciliation
Enrolment & Commitment	9/10 May 30 Minutes before Mass	8/9 February 30 Minutes before Mass	29/30 August 30 Minutes before Mass
Parent Meetings	Wednesday, 20 May Wednesday, 1 July	Wednesday, 19 February	Wednesday, 9 September
Celebration Dates	Sunday, 16 August	30/31 May	22 November

WHAT'S NEW?

Kids Camp 2020



About 50 kids attended the three day Kids Camp 2020. (The picture does not show all the participants.) This year's campers already wanted to book for the next one in 2021! Thanks to all organisers and other volunteers who have made it something memorable for the children. Special thanks to Angela Finnane, Barbara Mucha, Ivica Kovac, Amanda Dowdell, Gloria and Karim Kassis who have taken leadership in planning and running the camp. They made it a fun-filled spiritual retreat. Through what they have done, they have been participating in the evangelisation ministry of the Parish with me.

~Fr Thomas

See Through Bible

Ever wondered what the relevance the Bible has in your personal life in this day and age? Join Fr Thomas as he presents a special Bible Study programme commencing Tuesday, 3 March at 7.30pm-8.30pm at St Peter Chanel Church. To secure your spot, you can book online: <https://www.trybooking.com/BHQTO>. Alternatively, contact the Parish Office by phone or email. Registration Fee: \$5.

Grace Lenten Program - Updated

A Lenten Programme will be held in the Michael home on the Wednesday nights of Lent at 7.30pm. The first session will be the evening of Tuesday, 25 February at 7.30pm. Please contact Jenny on 0413 679 931 to express your interest so that programme booklets can be ordered. If you wish to form your own group, please contact the Parish Office to organise the resources.



Jubilee Hall

The Jubilee Hall, adjacent to St Peter Chanel Church is available for hire. The fee for hiring is \$400. Members of the Planned Giving Program of the parish receive a 25% discount. For more info contact the parish office. Visit <http://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/> to download a copy of the contract and conditions for hire.

Planned Giving Request Form

Your financial contribution to the Planned Giving of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the financial year you will receive a receipt for your contributions. 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, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent)



Saint Therese of Lisieux

Pilgrimage of The Relics of Saints Therese, Louis & Zelig Martin

The family of St Therese is coming to Berala. It is the first time a couple and their daughter are all canonised saints. Saintly couple Louis & Zelig Martin are patron saints of married couples.

The Relics of Saints Therese, Louis & Zelig Martin are coming to St Peter Chanel Church on Monday 16 March 2020. The relics will arrive at 8.30 AM.



Saint Zelig Martin

We need 6 strong people to be pall bears for the relic of St Therese and 4 volunteers for the relic of Saints Louis and Zelig. The weight of St Therese's reliquary is 132 kgs and that of her parents is 90 kgs. The Procession also requires, a processional cross bearer, Acolytes, 2 torch bears, and a thurible bearer. The relics will be processed into the church with hymns. It will be followed by prayers and reflections. It will also offer opportunity for the faithful to venerate them.

A Holy Mass will be celebrated at 9.00 AM. The liturgy also requires Acolytes and Altar Servers. After the Mass, there will be more opportunity for veneration of the Relics. The Parish Primary Schools will also be conducting prayer services till 1.00 PM.



Saint Louis Martin

In Venerating the relics, you can also bring small towels to touch the reliquary and take home as a third class relic. Many people did that with the relic of St Peter Chanel at the Dedication of the Church last year. The Relics will be departing our Church at 12.30 PM. Pall bears (10) are required again to process the Relics out. Once again the torch bearers and cross bearer are required. We also require one person to take the role of coordinating the events of the day. Volunteers can register their interest with the parish office now.

Volunteers Needed

Altar Linen

Jenny Michael has been washing and ironing the altar linen. It involves collecting used purifiers, altar cloth and other linen used for mass once a week and washing them at home. They also require ironing. It would be good to have a few volunteers to share this job and a roster perhaps once a month.

Altar Society

Altar Society is a group of Volunteers who clean the Sacristy, Sanctuary and the sacred vessels once a month. Each weekend they work as a team. We need some more volunteers to join the roster.

Hospital Visitation Saturdays

We are in need of a couple of people to join our Pastoral Care Team who looks after the hospital visits on Saturdays. One person will be teamed up with John Le Mottee and the other with Christine Parish. The role will require you to visit, once a month for a couple of hours, patients in Auburn Hospital to determine those who are Catholic and who would like Communion brought to them on the Sunday.

Please contact the Parish Office know if you are interested and available to volunteer for any of the above. Thank you!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

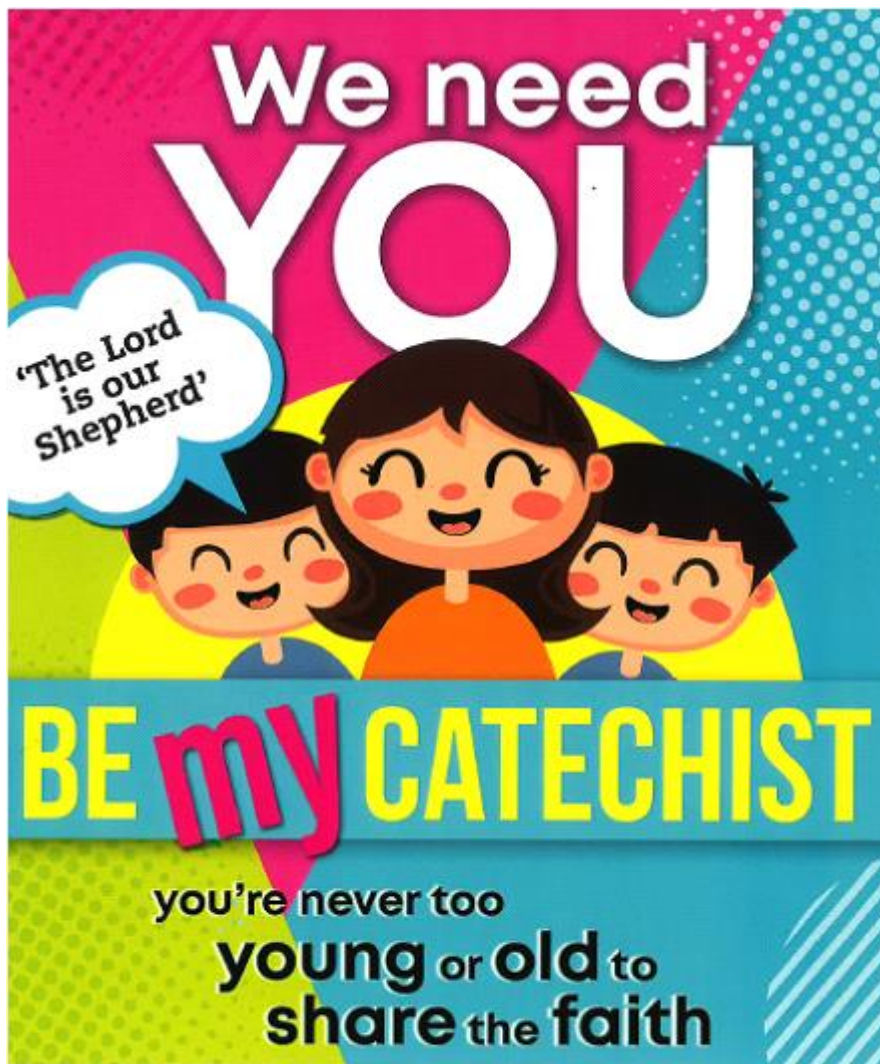
8 & 9: First Communion Registration & Commitment
12: Making Intentional Disciples Program
19: First Communion Parents Meeting
21: Parish Volunteers Gathering
26: Ash Wednesday

16: Relics of St Therese and Her Parents Veneration
17: Seeing Through Bible
24: Seeing Through Bible
26: Ordination Anniversary of Mgr Berbari
31: Seeing Through Bible

MARCH

1: Rite of Election (at Cathedral)
3: Seeing Through Bible – Bible Study
14: Mass of Anointing of the Sick
8: FHC Classes Commence (8, 15, 22 & 29)
10: Seeing Through Bible





Become a catechist
For more information, please speak to your
Parish Priest or Parish Catechist Coordinator

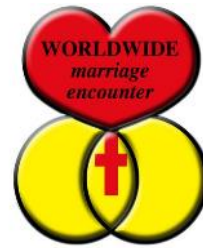


Supporting
Parish Catechists

You can also contact the CCD office at office@ccd.sydneycatholic.edu.au
or on 9307 8330 www.ccd.sydneycatholic.org



Marriage Enrichment Weekend



*Take the time to
step back from
everyday
distractions and
rediscover your
relationship!*

17th – 19th April, 2020 at Mt Carmel
Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW

Book online at www.wwme.org.au
Alternatively contact Adrian and
Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or
adrian.janet1@bigpond.com
Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Church Shop

Drop by our Piety Stall and grab a gift
for that special someone. The shop is
filled with a range of religious items
perfect as presents for those celebrating
the Sacraments of Holy Communion,
Baptism, Reconciliation and
Confirmation.

The Church Shop is open on weekends
before and after the 5.00pm Saturday
Vigil and Sunday 8.00am & 10.00am
masses. If you have any product
enquiry, please contact the Parish Office.



Just for Laughs

Early one morning, a mother went in to
wake up her son. 'Wake up, son. It's
time to go to school'
'But why, Mom? I don't want to go.'
'Give me two reasons why you don't
want to go.'



'Well, the kids hate me for
one, and the teachers hate
me, too!'
'Oh, that's no reason not to
go to school. Come on
now and get ready.'
'Give me two reasons why
I should go to school.'
'Well, for one, you're 52 years old. And
for another, you're the Head teacher!'

OTHER NOTICES

VACANT POSITION

Part Time Position Available At St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

Please see the attached job description for more information. Email Fr Andrew (Xiang) Feng at stchris@tpg.com.au to obtain a job description by 7th February, 2020 and the closing date for applications for the position is 24th February, 2020.

EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & RETREATS

English Classes

You are welcome to join every Monday morning from 9.30am to 12:00pm at 25 Helena Street, Auburn. We are a small group of women who knit small items for those who spend time in Ronald McDonald House. We also refresh our English skills for about half an hour and finish with morning prayer. English Classes every Monday at 1:15pm to 2:30pm and Thursdays at 9:30am to 11:00am. Contact Sr Elaine Walker on 9649 9635 for more info.

Red Mass

The Red Mass will be celebrated at 9am on **Monday 3 February** at St Mary's Cathedral by Bishop Richard Umbers. Judges and counsel may robe in the Crypt below from 8.30am. The Red Mass has been celebrated since the Middle Ages (in Sydney since 1931) and invokes the grace of the Holy Spirit on lawyers-parliamentarians, judges, barristers, solicitors, students, law lecturers-and all whose lives are touched by law. Inquiries: Anthony Herro 9247 0100.

Gregorian Schola of Sydney.

You are cordially invited to an Open Night to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of *The Gregorian Schola of Sydney*. The evening will begin at 6.30pm on **Thursday, February 13, 2020** at St Bede's Church, 43 Pyrmont Rd, Pyrmont. The programme will include singing by the schola. Bookings are essential and recommended early. Email Stephens.harry@gmail.com. Entry by voluntary donation. Enquiries 0418 230 322.

Vocation Discernment Weekend Run By The Capuchin Friars 15-16th February 2020

Come away for a couple of days to consider vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This weekend retreat is for men aged 18-35. Begins 9am Saturday and concludes 4pm Sunday at the Marymount Mercy Centre, Castle Hill. The cost is only \$50. Registrations required by 6th February. Contact Fr Thomas: 0432 362 052 or email vocations@capuchinfriars.org.au or <https://www.capuchin.org.au>.

Mass to launch the Cause of Beatification and Canonisation of Servant of God, Eileen O'Connor Thursday 20 February, St Mary's Cathedral at 5:30pm
Celebrant: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP. All Welcome!

11th Annual Youth Retreat 21-23 February 2020 by Croatian Catholic Youth

Inviting all Aussie Croats to spend a weekend away uniting in the spirit of faith, culture and friendship. Meet new people, discuss hot topics and learn more about your faith. Register by 5th February 2020 at <https://www.trybooking.com/BGNHK> Cost is \$250 includes 2 night accommodation & meals Location: Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, Grose Vale. Arrival & check in on Friday 21st Feb 10am -12pm Start time 12pm | Retreat ends

Sunday 3pm. Contact crocatholicretreat@gmail.com or Anita on 0411 285 308 or Antonia 0432 660 855. Youth retreat is in English. Please note due to unforeseen circumstances, the retreat guest Don Damir, will no longer be coming. Other speakers will be lined up.

St Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park Retreats Gift of Ageing Awakening to God's Surprising Gifts 6 Day Retreat 6-12 March 2020

\$750 or \$250 for the weekend 6-8 March: Sr Kerin Caldwell sgs who has a background in education and this interest strengthened her commitment to adult growth and development. Themes: Less doing and more being; Surprising spiritual growth and new life; Retirement Today – is there such a thing? How am I coping with change? Living now. Come, relax and enjoy God in tranquillity at St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, 02 4630 0233 or contact@towersretreat.org.au website: <https://towersretreat.org.au>.

Mindfulness and the Presence of God – Retreat Weekend 13-15 March

\$250: Presenters: Michelle Vass & Mr Lou Nulley. Topics include: Being Mindful in the Christian Tradition; Mindfulness practices; The effect of mindfulness on the brain; Mindfulness meditation; Using the body to help us to be mindful. Come, relax and enjoy God in tranquillity at St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, NSW Ph: (02) 46300233 or email contact@towersretreat.org.au website: <https://towersretreat.org.au>.

SUPPORT & SERVICES

Are you getting married soon?

We offer group or one-on-one courses to prepare couples for marriage. Call CCareline to find out more 13 18 19 or email connect@catholiccare.org

PILGRIMAGE & TRAVEL

Holy Land Pilgrimage with Fr Thomas

Would you like to join Berala Parishioners for a Pilgrimage to the Holy Lands? Dates will be between mid September – mid October 2020 (including school holidays).

COST: From AUD \$3890 PP (All Inclusive Land Package)
Please contact the Berala Parish Office by Email info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au or by telephone 96447787, to register your interest or obtain more information.

MISCELLANEOUS

Plenary Council

Have you been a part of the Plenary Council process of listening, prayer, dialogue and discernment? Do you feel called to express your interest in being a delegate from our archdiocese to participate in the plenary council general assembly held in Adelaide in October? If so, speak with your Parish Priest or Barbara Perry (Sydney Plenary Council Working Group) on 0438 012 964, barbara.perry@sydneycatholic.org for more details. All applicants must fill in and submit an application form found here: <https://sydneycatholic.org/plenary-council.pdf>.