



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.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

9 FEBRUARY 2020

First Reading

Is 58:7-10

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor, clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

Second Reading

1 Cor 2:1-5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about

Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

Gospel

Mt 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon Ps 94:6-7

O come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

R. A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

He is a light in the darkness for the upright: he is generous, merciful and just. The good man takes pity and lends, he conducts his affairs with honour. **R**

The just man will never waver: he will be remembered for ever. He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. **R**

With a steadfast heart he will not fear; open-handed, he gives to the poor; his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory. **R**

Gospel Acclamation Jn 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me

will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon Cf Ps 106:8-9

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: **Sir 15:15-20**

2nd Reading: **1 Cor 2:6-10**

Gospel: **Mt 5:17-37**



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

Justin Tan

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



Parish Priest

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T. (02) 9644 7787

Priest in Residence

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

Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
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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

PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Mon 10/2	6.45am	Mass
Tue 11/2	6.45am 9.00am	Mass Mass (SJW)
Wed 12/2	6.45am 9.15am 7.00pm	Mass Mass Sherry Waddell Parish Program Meeting (Jubilee Hall)
Thu 13/2	6.45am 9.15am 7.30pm	Mass Mass Parish Choir Practice at 8 Wallace St, Sefton
Fri 14/2	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass
Sat 15/2	8.00am 8.30am 9.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena, Adoration, Confession Vigil Mass
Sun 16/2	8.00am 10.00am	Mass Mass

"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE

**FROM ST PETER CHANEL
at Amparo Family
18/57-64 Johns Street, Lidcombe**

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

16 FEBRUARY 2020

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	Roland JAVIER	Mario CAPRA
MUSIC & SINGING	CHANEL SCHOLA		PARISH CHOIR
LECTOR/S	SPC SCHOOL FAMILY MASS	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Latisha ILBOUDO
		Michael CHOW	TBA
COMMENTATOR		Joe MOSES	Rhia VICTORINO
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Hoa NGUYEN
SP. MINISTER	Amanda DOWDELL		Isabella ARAUJO
CHURCH SHOP	Anita YIP	Winnie CHIU	Margaret THAM
GREETER	Children		
HOSPITALITY		Karim & Gloria KASSIS	

Hospital Visitation Sat: Amato Hehea & Bernadette Hawthorn

Altar & Sacristy: Group 5 Carol Mabon, Maria Wood

Hospital Communion Sun: Charlie Scully & Kay Scully

Cleaners SPC: Roland & Aida Javier

Children's liturgy: Sharon Iacono

Saturday 8AM

15 FEBRUARY

LECTOR FOR MASS

Christine KENSEY

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Catherine Coyne, Fr Ray Farrell, Sr Tomsy

Recently Deceased: Marica, Rahmeh Hazboun,

Deceased: Mary Gabriel, Cernon Alinson, Gloria Eamiguel, Nguyen Thi Chi

Anniversary: Les Willoughby (4/2), Felixberto Ibardolaza Sr, Primo Amores, Jovito Amores, Rodrigo Avila, Edgardo Paat, Francesca Broncatisano

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

SACRAMENT DATES	Confirmation	Communion	Reconciliation
Enrolment & Commitment	9/10 May 30 mins before Mass	8/9 February 30 mins before Mass	29/30 August 30 mins 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

You are the Light of the World and the Salt of the Earth

Sienna, Angelina, and Antony Abdallah and their cousin Veronique were killed in an accident a week ago. Our condolences to their parents as they grieve for the loss of their dear children. Leila and Danny Abdallah who lost three of their children were raising three little saints who have joined the ranks of the angels in heaven. These children, as part of Charity Team Jesus, were heavily involved in the group's weekly feeding of the Blacktown area's homeless population. They not only served the food with a smile, they insisted on praying for the people whom they served. Leila and Danny were not raising ordinary children. These children were brought up to live out the beatitudes we read in the Gospel of Matthew. These children showed how to be poor in spirit, how to be gentle, how to be merciful. But what their mother Leila told the media showed the crown of the Gospel values they lived out. She said, *"I can't hate him (the drunken driver). That is not who we are. I forgive him."* These amazing words are such an enlightenment for the world which struggles to fathom the depth of faith real disciples of Jesus have. Jesus said, *"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way, your light must shine in the sight of people, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven."* The Abdallah family, in what they did and said, showed how to be the true light of the world. Saint Paul, in his first Letter to the Corinthians, said that it is not his oratory or philosophical arguments that count, but personal knowledge of Jesus crucified. He went on to say that faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God. (Ref 1 Cor 2:1-5) It is not enough to learn and to speak about the Gospel values; they need to be lived out in the real life. Then you will become the salt of the earth. If you cannot really live out your faith in Jesus, then your life is like salt that becomes tasteless. *"It is good for nothing and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by people."* (Mt 5:13). A true disciple is strong enough, even in the worst of adversities, to be the light to the world and the salt of the earth.



REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 5:13-16

Scriptural context – Following blessings

Today's gospel passage is one that is quite commonly quoted and relatively well known. When it is taken in isolation, it's very easy to forget that these words immediately follow the Beatitudes. The imperative for justice in the images of salt and light of the world becomes even clearer when we remember that these words follow the blessings on those who are poor; who mourn; who are merciful and fight for justice. Jesus has blessed all these who are least in the world and then charges the disciples to be salt and light for them.

Have you thought? – Affirmation or Challenge

The salt and light of the world passage is often used to affirm and encourage, but when Jesus tells his disciples – and us – to be salt and light of the world it is not so that they can draw attention and glory to themselves. The whole purpose of being salt and light is to lead others into right relationship with one another and with God. Whilst the translation we have clearly states that disciples are to be salt and light of the world, it is just as clear that the intention is that they/we be salt and light for the world.

Scriptural context – Following blessings

Gandhi, the great leader of the Indian independence movement, is credited with saying, 'You must be the change you want to see in the world.' He sought a life free from tyranny and violence and so led a movement of non-violent resistance. It's tempting to think that he may have been influenced by some of the teachings of Jesus because so much of his approach reflected Jesus' call for justice. The charge to be the light of the world that shines in the sight of all and sets an example for all is echoed succinctly in Gandhi's words.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Monday, 10 February - St Scholastica (Memorial)



Born at Norcia (Italy) about 480. Died near Monte Cassino in the 540s. Like Saint Benedict (11 July), her brother and by tradition her twin, she dedicated herself to God through the monastic life. Remembered for her part in establishing Benedictine monasticism.

Friday, 14 February - Sts Cyril & Methodius (Memorial)

They were brothers, born in Thessalonika, became priests and in 863 were sent to Moravia as missionaries, where they taught the gospels in the native tongue of the people. Cyril invented an alphabet and translated the liturgy and much of the bible. Methodius was consecrated archbishop of Sirmium, where he was imprisoned for two years by German bishops for his continued use of the vernacular liturgy. Alongside St Benedict, Saints Cyril and Methodius were declared patrons of Europe by Pope John Paul II.



Let us understand the workings of God's grace

An explanation of Paul's letter to the Galatians by Saint Augustine (AD 354-430)

Paul writes to the Galatians to make them understand that by God's grace they are no longer under the law. When the Gospel was preached to them, there were some among them of Jewish origin known as circumcisers – though they called themselves Christians – who did not grasp the gift they had received. They still wanted to be under the burden of the law. Now God had imposed that burden on those who were slaves to sin and not on servants of justice. That is to say, God had given a just law to unjust men in order to show them their sin, not to take it away. For sin is taken away only by the gift of faith that works through love. The Galatians had already received this gift, but the circumcisers claimed that the Gospel would not save them unless they underwent circumcision and were willing to observe also the other traditional Jewish rites.

The Galatians, therefore, began to question Paul's preaching of the Gospel because he did not require Gentiles to follow Jewish observances as other apostles had done. Even Peter had yielded to the scandalised protests of the circumcisers. He pretended to believe that the Gospel would not save the Gentiles unless they fulfilled the burden of the law. But Paul recalled him from such dissimulation, as is shown in this very same letter. A similar issue arises in Paul's letter to the Romans, but with an evident difference. Through his letter to them, Paul was able to resolve the strife and controversy that had developed between the Jewish and Gentile converts.

In the present letter Paul is writing to persons who were profoundly influenced and disturbed by the circumcisers. The Galatians had begun to believe them and to think that Paul had not preached rightly, since he had not ordered them to be circumcised. And so the Apostle begins by saying: I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting him who called you to the glory of Christ, and turning to another gospel.

After this there comes a brief introduction to the point at issue. But remember in the very opening of the letter Paul had said that he was an apostle not from men nor by any man, a statement that does not appear in any other letter of his. He is making it quite clear that the circumcisers, for their part, are not from God but from men, and that his authority in preaching the Gospel must be considered equal to that of the other apostles. For he was called to be an apostle not from men nor by any man, but through God the Father and his Son Jesus Christ.

WHAT'S NEW?

Light Procession at Catechist Sunday

Children and Catechists led the entrance procession at Catechist Sunday on February 2.

They carried candles to celebrate the Feast Day of the Presentation of Our Lord. During the weekend Masses, Catechists from our Parish were commissioned by Father Thomas to continue take the light of Christ into our local schools.

You are invited to join the Catechist team as a teacher or helper. If you are interested, please contact Brenda on 0402 051 365. Training is provided.



Levi, Aubrey and Yves lead the light procession.

Coronavirus

Archdiocesan Office has communicated with parishes the following message in relation to the current health emergency caused by the Coronavirus.

At this point, health authorities have said that the risk of exposure to the public is low, especially if they have not travelled to one of the affected areas, nor had contact with someone who has." Across the Church in Australia generally, and in the Archdiocese of Sydney in particular, there are as yet no mandated precautions beyond the common sense rule that people should stay home if they think they might be sick or infectious. Ministers of Holy Communion should wash their hands with soap or hand wash before distributing the Body of Christ.

Parishioners who wish further to minimise the risk of transmission are free not to put their fingers in the holy water stoop, not to shake hands at the Sign of Peace, not to receive Holy Communion on the tongue (but only in the hand), and/or not to receive Holy Communion from the chalice.

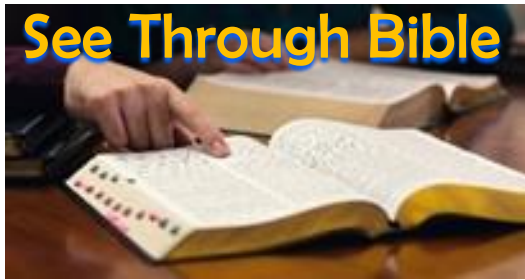
Air Conditioning



The Church is going to be air-conditioned. We are also installing solar panels so that the air-conditioning will work on green energy. The system will include ducted split system air conditioning (\$34,800) and solar panning (\$42,000). The total cost of the

project is \$76800. We have applied for a grant from MP's fund for part of the cost, though the success of the application is uncertain. Donations towards funding the project will be of great assistance. Anyone wishing to contribute towards the project may speak with Fr Thomas or one of the Finance Committee: John Le Mottee, Brendon Nazareth, Joe Moses, Sylvia Jukic.

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.

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

The Parish is getting ready to receive the relics of Saint Therese and her parents, on Monday 16 March morning.



Saint Therese of Lisieux

- 8.30 AM reception of the Relics
- 9 AM -10 AM Mass (SPC School)
- 10 AM – 11 AM Veneration the relics (Trinity College)
- 11 AM – 12 PM Mass (SJW School)
- 12 PM -12.30 PM Veneration and farewell Relics (Trinity College)

Parishioners and other faithful are welcome to join any time and any of the services. 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. Volunteers are required to be pall bearers and ushers.

Holy Land Pilgrimage



A number of people have expressed their interest in joining a Pilgrimage to the Holy Lands.

To explain the details of the Tour, Rajesh from Magi Tours will be available in the Jubilee Hall on Tuesday 25 February at 7 PM. All interested people are invited to

attend the information session. For any further information contact Fr Thomas.



Appeal for Additional Singers

Appeal for additional singers to assist the Parish Choir in leading the singing for the Relics Mass, 9.00am, Monday, 16 March. Because this special Celebration will be held on a weekday there are not many members of the Parish Choir available. We would be grateful to anyone who could assist us with this special occasion. We will hold 2 practices in the church on Sundays 8 & 15 March. Please reserve the dates in your diary. Many thanks in anticipation!

~Maureen Hynes (Coordinator Parish Choir)

OTHER NOTICES

EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & RETREATS

Bushfire crisis and Laudato Si meeting

We are a nation in mourning. The bushfire emergency has taken the lives of 33 people and over a billion animals, it has destroyed over 3000 homes and farms, feed and the futures of many Australian families. Everyone is invited to join the Justice and Peace Office, Pacific Calling Partners and a number of other speakers to reflect on these extraordinary times, to ask what Laudato Si has to offer in hope and strength and faith, and finally, what we are called to do as stewards of this extraordinary country. **Thursday 13 February**, 6-7.30pm, Level 8, Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney. Fr Peter Smith, Promotor of Justice and Peace, Felicity Wade, Pacific Calling Partners, a member of the RFS, other speakers to be confirmed. Please RSVP to jpointo@sydneycatholic.org or 0400 925 217.

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.

SUPPORT & SERVICES

Family Spirit

Family Spirit are urgently seeking safe, loving homes for three individual children who are unable to live with their birth families. Joshua 14, Henry and Joey, both 11, are keen sportsmen who need a stable home where they can thrive and grow into happy young men. If you think that you might be able to help, or would like further information, please call CCareline on 13 18 19.



Our school Fete is only 3 weeks away!

When: Sunday March 1st

Where: St Peter Chanel School Grounds

Time: 11am-3pm

What: Enjoy entertainment, food stalls, a number of multicultural stands as well as games & rides!

All are welcome! Bring your families along for a fun filled day.

*Have something you can sell at our Fete?
Have a business you would like to promote?*



Just for Laughs

An employee complains to his boss, "Sorry boss, but the salary doesn't even remotely match the effort I put into my work." Boss nods, "I know, but we can't let you starve to death."

