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-stjosep

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Holy Mass at Berala: Monday to Friday 6.45am, Saturday 8.00am | Holy Hour: Saturday 8.30am-9.30am Lord's Day Mass Berala: Saturday 5.00pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.00am, 9.00am & Sunday 10.00am Reconciliation at Berala: Saturday 8.30am - 9.30am. Or contact the parish office for any other time.

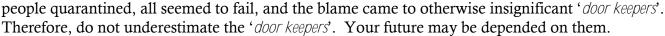
For Baptisms, Weddings, Bible Study and Catholic Enquiry, please contact Fr Thomas or the parish office on 9644 7787.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

29 NOVEMBER 2020

You the Door Keepers

The second wave of COVID in Melbourne brought a heightened sense of insecurity not just amongst the Victorians, but the whole country felt uneasy about it. **Many who scrutinised the cause for the second wave there blamed the '***door keepers***', the** hired security at the quarantine hotels, for the hike in the infection. In spite of the best medical practice, strict quarantine measures and comfortable accommodation for the



Mark's Gospel speaks of another kind of door keepers. This is what Jesus said to those 'door keepers': 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. (Ref Mark 13:33-36). In this allegorical little story, the man gone to return is Christ and the door keepers are his disciples. Therefore, this call to be watchful and good door keepers is a message for all who are Disciples of Christ.

The office parties, house gatherings, home illuminations, decorations in the churches and shopping centres are all anticipating a big feast, Christmas. Unlike the popular understanding, Christmas is not about celebrating the birth anniversary of Jesus in Bethlehem. It is about God coming again. The disciples of Jesus are in anticipation of God, who took flesh, to break into their flesh. The return of God into your lives could be a surprise for you because the how and when of it is beyond human grasp. But it will happen. Then the question is whether you are keeping yourself awake with charity, sacraments, prayer, and the Scripture, ready to greet God into your life when he returns? Are you clean of sin and self-gratification in preparation for God's coming? Bethlehem (means the house of bread) for you is the Eucharistic Bread in your Parish Church. Be 'door keepers' at your 'House of Bread', ready and prepared to welcome God into your flesh, into your life.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Sr Tomsy, Graham Turner, Sr Salve Stuart, Theo Bergstedt, Tony Michael, Rosario Poli, Doreen Stanmore, Tony Draybi, Ann Bechiom, Lourdes Zabala, Grazyna Lukasiewicz, Morris Edward Zamora, Olivia & Andrew Casey, Lourdes Zabala, Margarita Kawada, Ray Jarque

Recently Deceased: Carlito Salar, Francis Wong, Shirley Apelt, Benn Chua, Syd Wells, Lily Morris, George Lattich, Ester Juranic, Milagros Mercado, Evangeline A Aguilar, Celerina B Famador, Rudolfo Macaraeg

Deceased: Peter & Karime Michael, Joan Blefari, Simon Hitti, Joseph & Marion Bahry, Anthony & Hannah Baini, Rey Alinaje, Ellen Alinaje, Shirley Apelt, Bene Chua, Frank Piscek, Filippa Bartolotta

Anniversary: Saturnina Pogasic, Mary Gabrielle

Special Intentions/Thanksgiving: Rima & Roger, Celia & Nane, Cyria & Janie, Sacred Heart of Jesus

Deceased Members and Friends of: O'Dwyer & Erwin Families, Ross & Mitchell Families, Alinson Family, Abellana Family, Yburan Family, Eamiguel Family, Gonzales Family, Mari Family, Michael & Baini Families, Gabrielle Family

Other Intentions: For all those affected by the Corona Virus. Holy Souls in Purgatory. For the intention of the Holy Father.



SUPPORT US

Scan the QR Code to make a donation. Thank you for your generosity!



ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 24:1-3

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.

First Reading Cf. Ps 24:1-3

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, Our Redeemer is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 79:2-3. 15-16. 18-19 R. v.4

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

Second Reading

1 Cor 1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia!

Gospel Mk 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!'

Communion Antiphon

Ps 84:13

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

Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: Is 40:1-5. 9-11 2nd Reading: 2 Pt 3:8-14 Gospel: Mk 1:1-8

ZOOM Bible Study, the last one for the year Topic: Resurrection Experience in Matthew's Gospel

Time: 7pm-8pm on Tuesday, 1 December. To join send an email request to info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au and the link will be send to you.



REFLECTIONS ON MARK 13:33-37

Have you thought? Beginning Advent

The season of Advent begins this week and continues through the four Sundays of Advent and ends at Christmas Eve. The first week of Advent focuses on the return of the Lord and the following weeks focus more specifically on the anticipation of the birth of Jesus. Rather than simply commemorating an historical event, Advent is a time of preparing our hearts to 'receive' Jesus into the world each year. Advent is traditionally marked by the colour of violet – the same colour as used in Lent. In recent years, some parishes have moved to a more blue/mauve colour for Advent to try to distinguish it from the season of Lent.

By the time the Church begins to celebrate Advent as a period of preparation towards Christmas, the stores have been filling with Christmas paraphernalia for weeks. It starts out small with a few decorations and wrapping paper and eventually takes over every retail outlet. In the midst of this excess of Christmas consumerism, it is often difficult to draw attention to the season of Advent and the need to prepare spiritually for the celebration of Christmas. It is important to stay awake, as we are cautioned in this week's gospel. Awake to what is happening around us in the world and awake to what is happening within us.

Living the Gospel – Stay Awake! Gospel Focus – The Doorkeeper

The image of the doorkeeper from this week's gospel is an interesting one. It is not unusual to hear references to people being 'gatekeepers' today in relation to projects or groups working together. The role of the gatekeeper, or the doorkeeper, is to maintain a watching brief – to be alert to dangers or distractions and to ensure that everyone who is important to the process is invited to participate. Today's gospel reminds us that as believers we are to be the doorkeepers, or gatekeepers, of the Kingdom, watching for dangers and welcoming in all those who wish to enter.

The twofold coming of Christ

St Cyril of Jerusalem (AD 313-386)

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of a divine kingdom.

In general, whatever relates to our Lord Jesus Christ has two aspects. There is a birth from God before the ages, and a birth from a virgin at the fullness of time. There is a hidden coming, like that of rain on fleece, and a coming before all eyes, still in the future.

At the first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels.

We look then beyond the first coming and await the second. At the first coming we said: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*. At the second we shall say it again; we shall go out with the angels to meet the Lord and cry out in adoration: *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord*.

The Saviour will not come to be judged again, but to judge those by whom he was judged. At his own judgement he was silent; then he will address those who committed the outrages against him when they crucified him and will remind them: *You did these things, and I was silent.*

His first coming was to fulfil his plan of love, to teach men by gentle persuasion. This time, whether men like it or not, they will be subjects of his kingdom by necessity.

The prophet Malachi speaks of the two comings. And the Lord whom you seek will come suddenly to his temple: that is one coming.

Again he says of another coming: Look, the Lord almighty will come, and who will endure the day of his entry, or who will stand in his sight? Because he comes like a refiner's fire, a fuller's herb, and he will sit refining and cleansing.

These two comings are also referred to by Paul in writing to Titus: The grace of God the Saviour has appeared to all men, instructing us to put aside impiety and worldly desires and live temperately, uprightly, and religiously in this present age, waiting for the joyful hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Notice how he speaks of a first coming for which he gives thanks, and a second, the one we still await.

That is why the faith we profess has been handed on to you in these words: He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

Our Lord Jesus Christ will therefore come from heaven. He will come at the end of the world, in glory, at the last day. For there will be an end to this world, and the created world will be made new.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Monday, 30 November - St Andrew, apostle (Feast)



Born at Bethsaida (Galilee). A fisherman and perhaps a disciple of John the Baptist (24 June). Introduced his brother, Simon Peter (29 June), to Jesus and became one of the first to follow Christ. Mentioned a number of times in the gospels, for example, in

introducing some Gentiles to Jesus (John 12:20ff.). Widely venerated since ancient times and remembered as one of the twelve who bore witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Thursday, 3 December - St Francis Xavier, priest (Memorial)



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.

WHAT'S NEW?

Max Barton - RIP



Max passed away at Berala on the Park Nursing Home on Monday morning, 23 November, aged 93. A resident of the Parish with his wife Eileen (now deceased), since 1953. All of Max's children and grandchildren were baptised at St Peter Chanel Church and attended St Peter Chanel Catholic School.

A private funeral will be held on Monday, 30 November at 11AM. Live streaming of the service will be available via:

https://www.oneroomstreaming.com/view/authorise.php?k=160622196087300

Christmas Lunch Donation & Volunteers

On Christmas Day, 25 December, there will be a Luncheon at the Jubilee Hall, from 11AM-2PM, for all those who would like to participate. To book yourself for the lunch please contact the Parish Office on 9644 7787 or email info@stpeterstjoseph.org.au.

You can help with the Luncheon either by donating food, drinks or cash. Should you wish to donate, kindly complete the Luncheon Donation form at the back of the church.

Volunteers are needed to help on the day. A meeting for the volunteers will be held this coming Thursday, 1 December at 1.00pm in the Parish Office.



Christmas Pageant

Christmas Vigil Mass at 7 PM on 24 December will have a special focus on families with children. It will be celebrated outdoors (weather permitting) this year. There will be a Christmas Pageant as part of the Mass. All children are invited to dress up as characters in the nativity scene. Options are to dress up as angels, shepherds, wise men, Joseph, Mary, and infant Jesus. There will be a parade of the Characters at the Vigil.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

Marilyn Christina Ann Mafi

May she always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout her life.



Christmas in Covid



Unless the COVID rules are relaxed to 2 square meter distancing, our church will not be able to meet the demands of the devotees. But I am happy to make alternative arrangements to accommodate all demand. It means some of the Masses will be outdoor. To

plan the Masses, especially venues for the Masses, I need to have an indication of the attendance at each of the four scheduled Masses for Christmas. Therefore, please book your Mass on the paper provided at the entrance of the Church. Some of the Masses will be celebrated in the Church and for them the number restriction will be 100, which would fill in very quickly. Be quick to book your family in for the Christmas Masses, so as not to miss out!

Christmas Schedule

Thursday, 18 December7.30pm Second Rite of Reconciliation

Saturday, 19 December 7.00pm Carols Night

7.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass, 12.00 midnight Solemn Mass

Friday, 25 December 8.00am Christmas Mass, 10.00am Christmas Mass

Christmas Giving Tree

As in the past years, the Parish will be working with Vinnies to distribute Christmas gifts. To ensure safety due to Covid, this year Vinnies will be holding a toy drive for their clients where they can come and pick up a present using a voucher from the school on a weekend. Vinnies would love your support by donating toys for children of all ages this Christmas. Please label wrapped gifts with whom they may be most appropriate for (boy or girl and age). Any food donations this year will be delivered to Vinnies office for distribution. Alternatively, you can donate gift cards for distribution to the needy. Your generosity will help bring a smile to those less fortunate. Thank you!



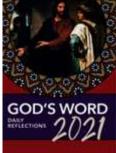


Carols 2020 and Singing at Christmas Mass

Our first practice will be on this coming **Thursday**, **3 December** at 8 Wallace Street, Sefton beginning at 7PM. Come along and prepare the singing for this beautiful Feastday! Keep in mind the Midnight Mass as the Parish Choir is responsible for the music there.

The Parish Carols this year will be held on **Saturday, 19 December** at 7PM. To join the Parish Choir and sing at the Carols as well as Christmas Mass, contact me on maureen.hynes@bigpond.com or on 96445818 or 0407268180. *~Maureen Hynes*





Available Now for only \$20.00!

Bible readings and reflections for each day of the Liturgical Year. These daily reflections are prepared by a group of eminent spiritual guides and are the fruits of their personal reflection and prayers.

Designed to guide you to keep the Word of God close to your heart and be nourished by the life-giving Word, to help you to meditate, to pray and to grow in God's love in all circumstances.

Liturgical readings of the day from the Jerusalem Bible | Liturgical information for the day | Prayer for Healing | Prayer for Covid19 | Prayer for Plenary Council | Prayer Before Communion | Chaplet to the Divine Mercy | Space to note down important events and reflections of the day | Produced in the popular flexi-cover format, full colour throughout.

Catechists' Final Meeting for the Year

The ministry of Catechists is coordinated for the Parish by Brenda Wendt-Hussein and is happy to welcome new volunteers. Confraternity of Catholic Doctrine provides training and inductions programs for the new recruits each year. Catechists Sunday in February 2021 will be running a drive for new members. The parish is grateful to the committed team of catechists who teach scripture in the three Public Schools, Berala, Regents Park and Auburn West.





Josie Pangilinan and Sister Tam Bui, CMR were awarded certificates of different levels of accreditation course completed.



Our parish is blessed to have Religious Sisters with evangelisation ministry.



Mary and Tam are Missionary Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of the World.

Their convent is in Granville.

CHURCH CLEANER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Looking for volunteers to help clean church once a month starting December. If you are able to help, please contact the Parish Office.



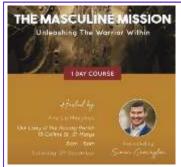
St Vincent de Paul Society - Berala Conference

The Berala Conference is always looking for volunteers. Whether you would like to do home visits, social visits, help with fundraising, office duties or just join a team of people who are determined to make our community a better place for all - we would love for you to join us! The time you contribute is up to you and the rewards are indescribable! For more information, email amanda.gahan@syd.catholic.edu.au.

Nun Run

The University Catholic Chaplaincy is organising a Nun Run for young women aged between 18-30. The Nun Run originated in America, where groups of young women would visit several convents during their university holidays to discover how religious sister's really live. This is a great opportunity to visit sisters from different Charisms in their homes and experience how they live their vocations day-to-day. There will be time for adoration, divine office with the Sisters, rosary, visits to Shrines and more! When: 4th – 6th Dec 2020 | Women aged 18-30 are welcome but registrations are necessary! Sign up here: https://unicatholics.org.au/nun-run | More information: unicatholics@sydneycatholic.org | Cost: \$150





Masculine Mission 1-day Course for Men

Join Simon Carrington of Fire Up Ministries for a 1-day course on the Masculine Mission!

Date: 12 December from 8 am − 5 pm

Registration price: \$99 (includes a PDF and studyguide)

Email simon@fireupministries.com to register

Registrations close 10 December

*Course limited to 20 men in-person. Also available via Zoom.



Lebanon Update: Immediately following the Beirut explosion, ACN provided an initial emergency grant of \$400,00 AUD for food. ACN has hurch in Need just announced a further commitment of \$8 million for the repair and reconstruction of churches and convents. ACN thanks everyone who has already donated to their national appeal and welcomes any further support.

Visit www.aidtochurch.org/Lebanon or call 1800 101 201.

Reaching Beyond 2020

People of all trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. Restrictions this year have made communities' needs acute, but your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. Palms Australia will provide you with thorough preparation to ensure your readiness as travel resumes, and support on assignment.



See www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0431 995 058, or email palms@palms.org.au

Planned Giving R	lequest Form
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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

Collection plate.	
Your Name:	
Telephone No	.Email
Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.	Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent)

OTHER NOTICES

Lourdes Day Mass for the Sick at St Mary's Cathedral

Saturday 5 December | Time: 10am | Celebrant: Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP. Those attending this Mass, hosted by the Order of Malta, will be blessed with Holy Water from the Grotto of Lourdes in France. Attendance at the Mass is limited to 300 people. It will also be livestreamed via the St Mary's Cathedral You Tube channel at this address: https://bit.ly/3fxlbGf

Launch of 2020 Lights of Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral

St Mary's Cathedral is again hosting the magnificent lights of Christmas with the event officially being launched on 10 December with the lights display commencing at 8:30pm. The lights will be displayed each night until 11pm, concluding on Christmas Day.

Mass for Expectant Mothers

This year the Mass for Expectant Mothers will be celebrated on Saturday the 12th of December at 12 noon and will be celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers at St Mary's Cathedral. Each expectant mother and her unborn child will receive a blessing from Bishop Umbers, as well as a small gift from the Life, Marriage & Family Team. Registrations: sydneycatholic.eventsair.com/smcmass/massformothers/Site/Register

Leading U-S theologian Dr Scott Hahn to speak at Sydney Catholic youth virtual event

PDMKK Sydney, an Indonesian Catholic Charismatic Youth Group, is hosting a virtual event, with popular US-theologian Dr Scott Hahn who is credited with helping thousands of lapsed Catholics and Christians from other faiths embracing the Catholic faith. Saturday 11 December | 11am | Admission: \$20 per person. Register online: https://pdmkksydneyshine.eventbrite.com.au

Home Care Services for Seniors

CatholicCare's Home Care Services for seniors can support you or a loved one to live at home independently with comfort and confidence and to remain connected to your parish community. To learn more call our Home Care Team 13 18 19 or connect@catholiccare.org

CatholicCare outreach to the lonely and isolated

CatholicCare, through its CCareline 13 18 19 number and the Parish Volunteer Program in partnership with the

Archdiocese of Sydney, is working together as the 'hands and feet of Christ in the community' reaching out to those most in need in our parishes and beyond. To register or learn more about the Parish Volunteer Program call CCareline on 13 18 19. If you are struggling and need help or support, or you are worried about someone else, please call CCareline on 13 18 19 today.

Got your wedding plans under control?

How prepared are you for marriage? Engaged Encounter provides you with deeper insights into each other and into married life. We give you a chance to spend time together to strengthen and enrich your relationship. For further information visit: www.engagedencounter.org.au. Choose any of the coming weekends: Nov 7-8, Feb 20-21.

Parent Line: 1300 1300 52

Many families are in the midst of or are facing serious challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and need extra support but don't know where to start. Parent Line can help parents by providing support and strategies to manage. Call us 7 days a week on 1300 1300 52.

Can you picture yourself being a foster carer?

Children and young people in our communities need support now more than ever. To learn more about becoming a carer register for Family Spirit's next online information session by registering here - https://bit.ly/2ESeRL4 | Call 13 18 19 or email connect@familyspirit.org for more information

JRS Appeal for Foodbank Donations

The Jesuit Refugee Service mobile food bank is a huge and growing operation. Since 1 April, they have collectively fed more than 5,000 women, children, and men who have lost jobs, been excluded from Federal Government financial support and cannot return home. Their stocks of rice, pasta, oil, tuna, and long life milk are RUNNING LOW. If you can donate these items we have drop off spots around Sydney here. In the absence of Federal Government support for people in need, we continue to need your help. Please visit: https://aus.jrs.net/en/jesuit-refugee-service/ and learn how you can support people who have no other means to buy these basics for their families.

6 DECEMBER 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT				
Mass	VIGIL	8AM	9AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Dom PANGILINAN	William ANDREWS	Charlie SCULLY	Roland JAVIER
LECTOR/S	Katrina YIP	Jenny MICHAEL	Hilary RIOFRIO	Maureen HYNES
	Lawrence LOPEZ	Daniel BOLAND	Latisha ILBOUDO	Amanda DOWDELL

Cleaners SPC: UISA Family	Altar & Sacristy:	Group 6 Korina Kinda, Antoinette Boudaher
Saturday 8AM		5 DECEMBER
LECTOR FOR MASS		Christine KENSEY

Just for Laughs

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The 6-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up; stood beside the little boy and said quietly, 'Good morning, Alex.'



'Good morning, Pastor', he replied, still focused on the plaque. 'Pastor, what is this?'. The pastor replied, 'Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.'

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked, 'Which service, the 8:00 or the 10:00?'