



St Peter Chanel & St Joseph Berala

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

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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) - LiveStreamed, Sunday 8.00am & 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.

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

24 JANUARY 2021

We are to be good news



JobKeeper and JobSeeker payments of the government have helped to contain unemployment during the pandemic. Protecting the employment of the people has always been a very important matter. Wellbeing of the people depends on employment and the income it would generate. Therefore, no one would think of abandoning a well-established income source. Is that the truth always?

Work brings money which in turn can lead into a spending spree. Thus the so called achievers' lives may be revolving around workaholism and the thrill of spending. In the pleasure of doing so, they may not realise that they are in a kind of rut and there is no forward movement in life. Is your life meant to be lost in such a cycle where there is neither any sense of fulfilment nor any joy of a new beginning?

Jesus preached the coming of the Kingdom of God, which could break the cycle of 'earn and spend' in life. Human life is to have a meaning and a purpose designed by God. Repentance or turning to God is the way to achieve it. Jesus "saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him." The call of Jesus brought a realisation for Simon and Andrew that there is more to life than their fishing business. These brothers were prepared to leave their company and parents behind to follow Jesus. Such was their enthusiasm for the new found life, discipleship to Jesus. Can you think of a new beginning in your life which drew you out of the shallowness of 'earn and spend'?

Jesus and his words can transform your lives. This in turn will enable you to be disciples who are capable of transforming the lives of others, especially those in need of purpose and meaning in their lives. Your parish has plans this year to pursue this great mission more powerfully. The "call experience" Jesus provides will lead you to a different style of life. Would you like to be part of this pursuit? If so, let me know. We are here to be good news to humanity.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Sr Tomsy, Graham Turner, Sr Salve Stuart, Theo Bergstedt, Tony Michael, Doreen Stanmore, Ann Bechioni, Grazyna Lukasiewicz, Jill Skerritt, Lydia Amores, Ben Villanueva, Edna Rahmat, Gayle Le, Clarisse Naumanen

Recently Deceased: Fr Isidore Anatharaj, Norm Hutchinson, Domingo Castro, Antonio Javier, Anthony Rodrigues

Deceased: Francis Kong, Robert, Rodrigues, Noel F Gabrielle, Soledad Martinez, Consuelo Capellan

Anniversary: Filippo Manganaro, Bruce McManus, Rahmeh Hazboun, Ivan Buterin, Minh Van Nguyen

Thanksgiving: Divine Mercy Chaplets

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

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

USE QR CODE



Government wants everyone to use NSW QR code to sign in. Therefore, please bring your smartphones (with NSW App) and scan the QR code (provided at the entrance of the church) to sign in. That will make the signing more efficient. For those who do not have a smartphone, you can still sign in using the paper form. But that will be an exception, rather than norm. **It is mandatory to wear face mask in the church.** Therefore, please come prepared. ~Fr Thomas



Please do not put the bulletin back in the church.

SUPPORT US

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



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.

First Reading

Jon 3:1-5. 10

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour. And God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. v.4

R Teach me your ways, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **R**

Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old. In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **R**

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **R**

Second Reading

1 Cor 7:29-31

Brothers, our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel Acclamation

Mk 1:15

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is near: believe the Good News! Alleluia!

Gospel

Mk 1:14-20

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

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: **Dt 18:15-20**

2nd Reading: **1 Cor 7:32-35**

Gospel: **Mk 1:21-28**

Australia Day

Australia Day is a special occasion for us to pray for our nation. Mass will be at 6.45AM on Tuesday 26 January.



It is also the Republic Day of India, an important national Day for people of Indian origin and a very special day for me. May I also invite you to pray for India on this day.



REFLECTIONS ON MARK 1:14-20

Scriptural Context – The Gospel in a hurry.

One of the features of this week's gospel is the immediate response that Jesus inspires from the fishermen as they give up all that they previously knew to follow him. We will see throughout this year of readings that this is characteristic of the Gospel of Mark. This gospel is sometimes referred to as the gospel in a hurry as the writer uses a lot of language that implies haste – 'straight away'; 'immediately'; 'that day'; 'at once'. Such language is used to describe the movement of Jesus around Galilee but it is also used to describe the powerful reactions people have to him.

Have you thought? Year B.

Although the new liturgical year began with Advent, this week's reading is the first time that we enter into the cycle of the gospel for this liturgical year, the Gospel of Mark. The Church calendar works on a cycle of three years: Year A; Year B; and Year C. Each of the three synoptic gospels is associated with one of the years: Matthew in Year A; Mark in Year B; and Luke in Year C. Throughout this liturgical cycle we will move through the Gospel of Mark from beginning to end – usually in the part of the liturgical calendar known as Ordinary Time.

Living the Gospel – The Good News is here.

This week's gospel marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in the Gospel of Mark. The gospel writer has Jesus clearly announcing his message in plain, simple language: 'The kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' That message is as true for us today as it was when those words were first spoken. The kingdom is still close at hand if we would only recognise it in our midst rather than pinning our hopes on some future reward. The call to repent and believe the Good News is as relevant for us as it was for the first believers.

Devotion must be practised in different ways

by Saint Francis de Sales

January 24th is the feast of St Francis Sales, a great missionary who witnessed to the Gospel in practical ways in 16th century.

When God the Creator made all things, he commanded the plants to bring forth fruit each according to its own kind; he has likewise commanded Christians, who are the living plants of his Church, to bring forth the fruits of devotion, each one in accord with his character, his station and his calling.

I say that devotion must be practised in different ways by the nobleman and by the working man, by the servant and by the prince, by the widow, by the unmarried girl and by the married woman. But even this distinction is not sufficient; for the practice of devotion must be adapted to the strength, to the occupation and to the duties of each one in particular.

Tell me, please, my Philothea, whether it is proper for a bishop to want to lead a solitary life like a Carthusian; or for married people to be no more concerned than a Capuchin about increasing their income; or for a working man to spend his whole day in church like a religious; or on the other hand for a religious to be constantly exposed like a bishop to all the events and circumstances that bear on the needs of our neighbour. Is not this sort of devotion ridiculous, unorganised and intolerable? Yet this absurd error occurs very frequently; but in no way does true devotion, my Philothea, destroy anything at all. On the contrary, it perfects and fulfils all things. In fact if it ever works against, or is inimical to, anyone's legitimate station and calling, then it is very definitely false devotion.

The bee collects honey from flowers in such a way as to do the least damage or destruction to them, and he leaves them whole, undamaged and fresh, just as he found them. True devotion does still better. Not only does it not injure any sort of calling or occupation, it even embellishes and enhances it.

Moreover, just as every sort of gem, cast in honey, becomes brighter and more sparkling, each according to its colour, so each person becomes more acceptable and fitting in his own vocation when he sets his vocation in the context of devotion. Through devotion your family cares become more peaceful, mutual love between husband and wife becomes more sincere, the service we owe to the prince becomes more faithful, and our work, no matter what it is, becomes more pleasant and agreeable.

It is therefore an error and even a heresy to wish to exclude the exercise of devotion from military divisions, from the artisans' shops, from the courts of princes, from family households. I acknowledge, my dear Philothea, that the type of devotion which is purely contemplative, monastic and religious can certainly not be exercised in these sorts of stations and occupations, but besides this threefold type of devotion, there are many others fit for perfecting those who live in a secular state.

Therefore, in whatever situations we happen to be, we can and we must aspire to the life of perfection.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Monday, 25 January - The Conversion of St Paul (Feast)



This date, first linked with the conversion of Saint Paul in the so-called Martyrdom of Jerome (c. 431), became established in the liturgy of Gaul. Celebrates the work of God's grace at a major turning point in the life of Paul himself and in the history of the infant Church.

Tuesday, 26 January - Australia Day



This is the date of the arrival in 1788 of the first European settlers in Australia. The liturgy marks Australia's national day with prayers seeking God's blessing on all its peoples and commending its destiny into God's hands.

Thursday, 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.

PARISH NOTICES

Mass Live Stream on YouTube

Vigil Mass (Saturday 5 PM) continues to be live-streamed and the mass will be available on demand thereafter on the Parish YouTube channel.

For the latest videos, please subscribe to our YouTube Channel Berala Parish and feel free to share to family and friends.



Zoom Bible Study

An introduction to Bible

2, 9, 16 February 2021

The Gospel of Mark Today

20 April to 31 August 2021 (20 weeks)

Zoom Lectures will be on Tuesdays at 7PM to 8PM.

Contact the Parish Office for Registration Forms.

PROPOSED SACRAMENT KEY DATES 2021	Reconciliation 1	Communion	Confirmation	Reconciliation 2
Commitment Mass	7 Mar 10AM Mass	9 May 10AM Mass	11 Jul 10AM Mass	10 Oct 10AM Mass
Classes (7-8PM)	10, 17, 24 Mar	12, 19, 26 May & 9 Jun	14, 21, 28 Jul & 5 Aug	13, 10, 27 Oct & 10 Nov
Celebration Dates	31 Mar at 7PM	19 Jun at 11AM	August	13 Nov at 10AM

Attendance is compulsory for each of these dates as part of the preparation process. Watch this space for more information in the following weeks!



New Direction for Ash Wednesday

Last Tuesday, 12 January, The Congregation for Divine Worship (Rome) has issued a directive concerning the Imposition of Ashes in this time of pandemic. Accordingly Ash Wednesday, 17 February 2021, Ash ceremony in our parish will be modified. Instead of the normal practice of daubing the ashes on the forehead, the minister with mask on, will sprinkle the ashes on the head of the faithful. That will ensure a contact free and COVID safe practice.

Fr Don Richardson, Liturgy Office Director of Sydney Archdiocese, has made the following comments.

- a. The act of putting on ashes symbolizes fragility and mortality, and the need to be redeemed by the mercy of God. Far from being a merely external act, it symbolizes that attitude of internal penance to which all the baptized are called during Lent.
- b. The placing of ashes on top of the head is the more ancient practice; It is the common method in many parts of the world;
- c. In time of Covid-19 it has the advantage of not requiring the priest to contact the skin of many people one after another, risking inadvertent infection;
- d. The fact that the ashes are not readily visible to others is of no concern, since they are principally intended as a sign for the person receiving them and not for others.

Be COVID Safe

Following is an excerpt from NSW Health Department.

All religious services

- The person leading the wedding, funeral or other religious service does not need to wear a mask. This is because they need to be clearly understood by congregants.
- The congregation needs to wear masks indoors, unless exempt.
- The congregation must not exceed one person per 4 square metres of publicly accessible space.

Weddings

- During a wedding service, the person leading the service does not need to wear a mask, nor does the wedding party. This includes the wedding couple whilst they say their vows.
- If a wedding occurs in a place of worship as part of a religious service, attendees at the service need to wear a mask indoors, unless exempt.
- Up to a maximum of 100 people can attend a wedding.

Funerals

- The person leading the funeral service does not need to wear a mask, nor does anybody while delivering a eulogy or similar as part of the funeral service.
- Attendees at the service need to be wearing a mask indoors, unless exempt.
- Up to a maximum of 100 people can attend a funeral.

Music performances during religious services, weddings and funerals

- Where music performance is part of a service (religious, weddings or funerals), masks do not need to be worn by the performer if impractical for the performance such as wind instruments or singing.

Singing and chanting advice

- No more than 5 performers should sing indoors, with 1.5 metres between performers and 5 metres between performers and the audience.
- In indoor areas, audience members and congregants should not participate in singing or chanting.

In our Church, St Peter Chanel, as good citizens, we too shall comply with the regulations. We do it for the good of the community at large. To assist with protocols, we have five volunteers acting as COVID Marshals. The parish is grateful to Joseph Lahoud, Robert McGinn, Solomone Funaki, Charlie Scully, and William Andrews for volunteering. They will be encouraging the use of QR code to sign in as you arrive. Therefore, please remember to bring your smartphone with you. If you are not equipped to use the QR code, you can sign on the paper form at the door. Should you forget your face mask, (which can easily happen) there will be a few spare ones available at the entrance for your use. The dispenser on the wall is to help you with touch free sanitisation of your hands before Mass.

The doors of the Church will be closed at the start of the Mass so that the Marshals can also join the congregation to celebrate Mass. Unattended doorway will risk people wandering in without complying with the protocols. We shall all consider the care for each other as our Christian charity and do it seriously.



OTHER NOTICES



Ash Wednesday is just over a month away (17 February) so don't delay in placing your order for our Comfort—Lenten Program 2021 containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) and longer-form Sunday reflections, questions and prayer—perfect for Lenten groups and individual devotional reading. Bulk pricing starts from only \$5 per copy!

MP3 digital download version of the Triple CD Resource is now available to purchase. Comfort is a 68-page full colour book (240x170mm) containing short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) perfect for individual devotional reading in addition to the longer-form Sunday Scripture readings and reflections, prayers and questions that traditionally form part of Lenten group gatherings.

The program is sourced from Monsignor Graham Schmitzer reflecting on the Sunday Gospels (through the beautiful art of the Masters including: Le Brun, Duccio, El Greco, Gaiquinto, Veronese, van Dyck and Burnand.) and the wisdom and talents of Sr Susanna Edmunds OP (from our parish). To order call Diocese of Wollongong on (02) 4222 2411 or Email. orders@dow.org.au

Thinking About Priesthood?

A Seminary Open Day will be held on **Sunday 14 Feb, 9AM** at the Good Shepherd Seminary, 52-58 Abbotsford Road, Homebush. The day will include prayer, conversations with seminarians and priests, talks with information about the studies required of men training for the priesthood and a guided tour around the Seminary. Brunch will be provided. To register or for more info visit vocationcentre.org.au | 02 9307 8424 or email vocations@sydneycatholic.org.

Festival of Beauty, St Peter's Surry Hills: 31 January-21 Feb

St Peter's parish in Surry Hills is hosting a Festival of Beauty, celebrating the relationship between God and Beauty which is such a crucial means of Evangelisation. Leading theologians, architects and musicians will lead four talks across four Sundays, each exploring aspects of beauty in our Catholic tradition, whether in art, music, liturgy or architecture. Places are limited due to COVID-19 restrictions. Register online - www.stpeterssurryhills.org.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. Home Care Team 13 18 19 | connect@catholiccare.org.

CatholicCare outreach to the lonely and isolated

CatholicCare, through its CCareline 13 18 19 number and the Parish Volunteer Program is working together as the 'hands and feet of Christ in the community'. If you are struggling and need help or support, or you are worried about someone else, please call CCareline on 13 18 19.

31 JANUARY 2021

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Dom PANGILINAN	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
LECTOR/S	Katrina YIP	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Joshua LU
	Lawrence LOPEZ	Joe MOSES	Sharon IACONO
CHURCH SHOP	Anita YIP	Jenny MICHAEL	John SHANLEY
Cleaners SPC: Marian Rosary Group		Altar & Sacristy: Group 3 Helen Le Mottee & Jann ROCKLIFF	
Saturday 8AM		30 JANUARY	
LECTOR FOR MASS		Jann ROCKLIFF	

Are you struggling financially?

If you or you know anyone needing financial assistance during this time may contact Fr Thomas. He may be able to help you. Send a confidential email to pp@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au.

Church Shop

Drop by our Church Store and grab a gift for that special someone. We have 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

My husband purchased a world map and then gave me a dart and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands—that's where I'm taking you when this pandemic ends." Turns out, we're spending two weeks behind the fridge.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney | Child abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you – or anyone you know – have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org or (02) 9390 5810. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

