



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) **YouTube:** [BeralaParish](https://www.youtube.com/BeralaParish)

Holy Mass: Monday to Friday 6.45am, Saturday 8.00am | **Holy Hour:** Saturday 8.30am-9.30am

Lord's Day Mass: Saturday 5.00pm Vigil - LiveStreamed, Sunday 8.00am & 10.00am

Reconciliation: 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 OF LENT

7 MARCH 2021

You Are Part Of The New Temple, The Body Of Christ

Some of the German bishops promoting intercommunion with Protestants have been in the headlines recently. It is a continuing saga including directives from Pope Francis more than a couple of years ago. In 2011 bishop Bill Morris of Toowoomba was asked by the Vatican to retire because of his attitude to some of the Sacraments. Cardinal George Pell was appointed by Pope Francis in 2014 in the Vatican to commence a much needed tidying up of its finances and to alleviate the scandals some of the financial deals produced. Church at all levels has always been in the process of some sort of cleansing or other.



Jesus did some tidying in the Jerusalem Temple (*John 2:13-25*). He cleansed the Temple of all business other than prayer. He told the people doing business there, *"Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market"*. The Gospel of John in its continued narrative shows that Jesus' mission relating to the Temple was much more profound than driving out the vendors from the building. The Temple of Jerusalem does not have any more relevance. The prayers and sacrifices in the Temple of Jerusalem cannot adequately communicate with the Father any more. The Body of Jesus has substituted the Temple. It is the Body that was destroyed and then resurrected after three days that is the way to make your prayers and sacrifices effective. The Resurrection of Jesus has substituted the Temple. The implications for this are very profound.

If you consider your local church as another temple and go there to say a few prayers, that is not good enough. You will need to find and go into the Body of Jesus. You might then ask, *"Where am I to find the Body of Jesus now?"* People with faith receiving the blessed bread and wine at the Eucharist as a Holy Communion with God are making the Body of Jesus. With your own worthy reception of the Blessed Sacrament in the Eucharist, enter into the Body of Christ. That is the Father's House. That is the House of effective prayer. Enter that new temple and make effective prayers.

Before you enter the Body of Christ, the new Temple, you may have to do some tidying up in your own life. Drive out all businesses of vengeance, avarice, malice, deceit, fraud, hatred, fornication, and all that is purely self-centred pleasure seeking from you. Be prepared to make your life a sacrifice for others. Then enter the new Temple, the Body of Christ for prayer. You will then experience the fruits of the prayer and joy of the Kingdom of God. You are part of the newly built Temple, the Body of Christ.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Sr Tomsy, Graham Turner, Theo Bergstedt, Tony Michael, Doreen Stanmore, Ann Bechiom, Grazyna Lukasiewicz, Edna Rahmat, Clarisse Naumanen, John Rodrigues, Joseph Anthony Gabrielle, Zekia Al-Asady, Raymond Kassis, Josephine Attard

Recently Deceased: Br Mark Ryan, Gwen Jago

Deceased: Saturnina A Velasquez, Angelo Attard, Tadeusz Bukala

Anniversary: Rocco Cavaleri, Engracia Amores, Sandy

Amores, Edgardo Paat, Herminio Figueras & Ester Figueras, Rodrigo Avila

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

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

USE QR CODE TO SIGN IN

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.**

SUPPORT US

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



ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

First Reading

Ex 20:1-3. 7-8. 12-17

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul. The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. **R**

The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. **R**

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. **R**

They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb. **R**

Second Reading

1 Cor 1:22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look

for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 3:16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

Jn 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 83: 4-5

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: **2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23**

2nd Reading: **Eph 2:4-10**

Gospel: **Jn 3:14-21**

REFLECTIONS ON JOHN 2:13-25

Scriptural context

This episode of outrage in the Temple is recorded in all four of the Gospels. Interestingly, the three synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke place the event in the final days leading to Passion events while the Gospel of John places the event in the very early days of Jesus' public ministry. While the three synoptics are likely to be more chronologically correct, the Gospel of John uses the event very deliberately to make the point that Jesus is the new Temple – the new focus of God's presence in the world; the Word made flesh.

Historical Context

In Jewish tradition, the Temple marked the point of physical connection between God and humankind and between the past and the present. It was where God's story and humanity's story met. However, in the year 70 C.E. – some 40 years after Jesus – the Temple was destroyed by the Romans. The gospel of John is written another 20+ years later and so the reality of the Temple's destruction is still trying to be absorbed by the people. It was a very powerful image for the gospel writer to suggest that Jesus was the new Temple – the new point of connection.

Different View – Just like Jesus

This gospel passage must be one of the most commonly misused passages in the Bible. So often it is used as justification for someone losing their temper, or worse, an outrageous temper tantrum, or 'dummy spit'. People will declare in their defence, 'Well, Jesus lost his temper and got angry in the Temple!' They fail to appreciate the difference between their own hot-headedness and the outrage against injustice that was being expressed by Jesus. They also seem to miss the significance of the fact that this was a 'one off' for Jesus!

Called and chosen for the glory of the Lord

From the story of the death of the holy martyrs of Carthage

The day of the martyrs' victory dawned. They marched from their cells into the amphitheatre, as if into heaven, with cheerful looks and graceful bearing. If they trembled it was for joy and not for fear.

Perpetua was the first to be thrown down, and she fell prostrate. She got up and, seeing that Felicity was prostrate, went over and reached out her hand to her and lifted her up. Both stood up together. The hostility of the crowd was appeased, and they were ordered to the gate called Sanavivaria. There Perpetua was welcomed by a catechumen named Rusticus. Rousing herself as if from sleep (so deeply had she been in spiritual ecstasy), she began to look around. To everyone's amazement she said: "When are we going to be led to the beast?" When she heard that it had already happened she did not at first believe it until she saw the marks of violence on her body and her clothing. Then she beckoned to her brother and the catechumen, and addressed them in these words: "Stand firm in faith, love one another and do not be tempted to do anything wrong because of our sufferings."

Saturus, too, in another gate, encouraged the soldier Pudens, saying: "Here I am, and just as I thought and foretold I have not yet felt any wild beast. Now believe with your whole heart: I will go there and be killed by the leopard in one bite." And right at the end of the games, when he was thrown to the leopard he was in fact covered with so much blood from one bite that the people cried out to him: "Washed and saved, washed and saved!" And so, giving evidence of a second baptism, he was clearly saved who had been washed in this manner.

Then Saturus said to the soldier Pudens: "Farewell, and remember your faith as well as me; do not let these things frighten you; let them rather strengthen you." At the same time he asked for the little ring from Pudens's finger. After soaking it in his wound he returned it to Pudens as a keepsake, leaving him a pledge and a remembrance of his blood. Half dead, he was thrown along with the others into the usual place of slaughter.

The people, however, had demanded that the martyrs be led to the middle of the amphitheatre. They wanted to see the sword thrust into the bodies of the victims, so that their eyes might share in the slaughter. Without being asked they went where the people wanted them to go; but first they kissed one another, to complete their witness with the customary kiss of peace.

The others stood motionless and received the deathblow in silence, especially Saturus, who had gone up first and was first to die; he was helping Perpetua. But Perpetua, that she might experience the pain more deeply, rejoiced over her broken body and guided the shaking hand of the inexperienced gladiator to her throat. Such a woman – one before whom the unclean spirit trembled – could not perhaps have been killed, had she herself not willed it.

Bravest and happiest martyrs! You were called and chosen for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PARISH NOTICES

Pastoral Council Met

At its meeting last Thursday, the Pastoral Council elected the following people to the leading roles. Daniel Boland (Chair Person), Joe Kristianto (Vice Chair), Alicia Moore (Secretary) and Rosalind Evans (Assistant Secretary). Other members of the Council includes Rene Salar, Katrina Yip, William Andrews, Jenny Michael, Tom Nguyen, Natasha Ellis, Jenny Makerry (Representing SJW). SPC School Principal put in an apology.

At the meeting Tom Nguyen and Rosalind Evans made short presentations on Pastoral and Evangelisation plans for the parish based on the document 'Go Make Disciples'. Another topic of discussion was the Year of St Joseph and a number of ideas were put forward for discussion. The benefits and practicality of a media team was also discussed. The deliberations will be continued in the next meeting which is only three weeks away.

Commencing Singing

Now that the COVID restrictions are eased, we can start planning returning to some kind of normality, the new norm. The Parish Choir and the Tongan Choir are commencing to sing at weekend Masses. Others also may follow soon. At this stage only a reduced version of the choir will sing parts of the Mass and some of the other hymns. But the congregations is not allowed to sing with them. For that we need to wait for further easing of the restrictions.

The Church will be left open during the day for personal prayer. You are welcome to come and pay a visit to the Blessed Sacrament during daytime.

Year of St Joseph



Pope Francis on December 8, 2020 published an Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* (With a Father's Heart), commemorating the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a "Year of St Joseph", running from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021.

There are two great feast days of St Joseph coming soon; March 19 is the Solemnity of St Joseph and May 1 is the Feast of St Joseph the Worker.

May 1st is the major celebration for our parish as one of our patrons. We shall have a solemn consecration of the Parish to St Joseph on a day closer to the 1st May. Next week a Novena will be launched to be prayed from March 19 till the Consecration. In our consecration we will be joining a world-wide initiative of consecration.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 7PM in church. After the prayers, at about 7.30 PM I will also be available in the confessional for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Absolution from sins will be a good way of observing Lent. A proper Lenten observance with renewal of the Parish as the intention can work miracles.



Zoom Bible Study

The Gospel of Mark Today Bible Study will be held from 20 April to 31 August 2021 (20 weeks). Zoom Lectures will be on Tuesdays at 7PM to 8PM. Please contact the Parish Office for Registration Forms.

Planned Giving Request Form

our 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 please contact the Parish Office on 9644 7787 or email info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au to obtain the Parish Census Form & Direct Debit Form (for those who are opting to donate automatically by credit card) so that your details can be added in our system.

Third Sunday of Lent 7 March

PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE



Oliva, 22, could not read, write or count, and her business was losing money. Then she attended Caritas Australia-supported literacy and numeracy classes, and set up a home classroom to teach her neighbours. Now her classes, business and family are thriving, and she aims to become a pastor and run for local leadership.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or call 1800 024 413.



We invite you...

Called & Chosen

Fellowship, prayer, and learning for the whole family

.....

When: 11 March 2021, 6PM - 8PM
Where: St. Peter Chanel & St. Joseph Parish, Beralda
RSVP: sacramentsstpeter-stjoseph.org.au (by 8 March)

We hope your whole family can join us for this event. The evening will consist of dinner (6PM), breakout faith formation sessions (6:30-7:15), and Eucharistic Adoration.

A graphic with the text "be still & know THAT I AM GOD" in a stylized font, with a sunburst design behind it.

Lenten Penance Explained

THE Church's Canon law reaffirms the obligation to do penance – to interrupt the usual comforts of life, to rediscover in prayer the saving love of God, and to practice charity and justice towards those in need. During Lent and on the Fridays of the year, we do penance, not only on our own account, but also in the name of the Church and of the world. We must take seriously our penitential obligations and be sure to carry them out. The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference has not restricted our penance to fast and abstinence in all cases, it has left room for our own responsible choices. We should carefully select the form of penance that we consider most appropriate for our own circumstances and growth in the Christian life.

Days of Penance

1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain.
2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:
 - (a) prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.
 - (b) self-denial – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.
 - (c) helping others – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday (February 17) to the Mass of the Lord's Supper (April 1) exclusive. On Good Friday and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the Easter fast is observed.

Paschal Precept

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday, February 17 and Trinity Sunday, May 30, 2021 unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

OTHER NOTICES

Position Vacant: Administrative Assistant- Ryde Gladesville Catholic parish

Ryde Gladesville parish is looking to recruit a part-time Administrative Assistant, working 20 hours per week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. For more information, contact Mrs Judy Raumer, Executive Assistant to Fr Greg Morgan fmvd by email: judy.raumer@rgcp.org.au by 8 March 2021.

Vinnies call for volunteers at Matthew Talbot Hostel

The St Vincent de Paul Society is looking for volunteers to help establish a conference at one of Sydney's most well recognised homeless shelters for men, the Matthew Talbot Hostel. For more than 80 years the centre has been offering accommodation and support to people who are homeless or at risk of it, and Vinnies is now looking at increasing their support.

An information session is being held on Sunday 14 March at 9.30am beginning with a Mass celebrated by Fr Danny Meagher followed by morning tea, a tour and information session. Location: Entry 22, Talbot Lane, Woolloomooloo. For more information, contact Tony Cranney 0419-255-943 or to RSVP contact Joy Bowen 0447636619 or Joy.Bowen@vinnies.org.au.

CatholicCare Sydney Hiring Community Support Workers

CatholicCare Sydney is seeking Greek or Italian speakers to join the team as Community Support Workers. For more information please call 13 18 19.

2021 St Patrick's Day Mass Invitation

You are invited to join Bishop Terry Brady for the Annual St Patrick's Day Mass on 17 March 2021. The Mass will take place at St Mary's Cathedral, commencing at 10.30am. RSVP Email: kym.newman@sydneycatholic.org

Remembering Holy Saturday

This retreat will be made available during the Holy Week. It explores the mystery of Holy Saturday, on what it means to live in "in-between" times, liminal times. There will be video talk everyday starting from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. This retreat will be given by an oblate of Jamberoo Abbey, Rev Catherine Eaton. For more information, go to our website: <https://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats/online-retreats/holy-week-retreat/>

MenAlive Men's Parish Retreat

This is a fantastic opportunity for men to have their faith ignited or reignited. Venue: John the Baptist Church, 45 Mount St, Bonnyrigg Heights | Registration: www.trybooking.com/BNMJB | Contact: Branko Poljak on 0411 281 299 for further information.

Day of the Unborn Child – 21 March

The Day of the Unborn Child is an annual Mass and procession for the dignity of every human life! Each year we hold this special event as a witness to the sacredness of life and especially as a voice for the unborn! 10.30am Mass | 12.00pm Angelus and Procession for more information: www.lifeandfamily.com.au

Maximus Men's Breakfast—St Joseph & the Masculine Genius

Our first men's breakfast this year will celebrate the Year of St Joseph as a model of the Masculine Genius. Join us for a fantastic morning of prayer, formation, fellowship and food! 13 March from 8:00 am – 12:00 pm | Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard Umbers | Presentation by Steven Buhagiar | Register: www.sydneycatholic.org/maximus1 | All Enquiries: chris.dasilva@sydneycatholic.org

Weekly Online Lenten Group - Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples: A Lenten Companion

Join Fr Noel Custodio, host of The Furnace podcast, as he leads an online Lenten Group which will use Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples: A Lenten Companion. Dates: Wednesdays of Lent | Time: 7:30pm – 8:15pm Register: www.gomakedisciples.org.au. For more information: contact the Parish Renewal Team at parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org or on (02) 9390 5330

JRS Lenten Program – 400 minutes 4 Refugees

This Lent, join JRS Australia in our Lenten challenge by offering moments of your day to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in solidarity with refugees. Starting on Ash Wednesday, February 17, the goal is to reach 400 minutes of solidarity by Easter Sunday, April 4. That's 10 minutes each day for the 40 days of Lent. Pope Francis has called us to encounter those who have been forcibly displaced, but what does that mean as we all continue to social distance? Why not use these minutes as moments of solidarity with refugees? For more details, please visit: <https://aus.jrs.net/en/news/lenten-prayer-program/>

Marriage Enrichment Weekend

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of yourselves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on April 16-18, 2021 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on the edge of Sydney. Book online at www.wwme.org.au or contact Christine & Terry Mahony on 0490 774 419 or nswbookings@wwme.org.au

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.

14 MARCH		4TH SUNDAY OF LENT	
Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	William ANDREWS	Charlie SCULLY	Trevor BREWTY
LECTOR/S	Mai NGUYEN	Jenny MICHAEL	Katrina YIP
	Joy SKERRITT	Rosalind EVANS	Amanda DOWDELL
CHURCH SHOP	Joseph LAHOUD	Catherine MCGINN	John SHANLEY
Cleaners SPC: Marian Rosary Group		Altar & Sacristy: Group 3 Helen Le Mottee, Jann Rockliff	
Saturday 8AM		13 MARCH	
LECTOR FOR MASS		Jann ROCKLIFF	