



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)

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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1 AUGUST 2021

The Healthy Food that Makes You Live Forever



Just any food on the table is not good enough. We need to eat healthy food. Sometimes it is a challenge. Now in this lockdown, people are choosing to cook more healthy meals, thanks to health awareness; with some it even could be fitness fanaticism.

In the Gospel of John (6:24-35) there is a story of the people who, after eating to their satisfaction, went looking for Jesus in his home at Capernaum. Jesus told them, 'you are happy because I gave you plenty to eat. Now I can tell you about healthy eating and it is a God given gift.' In the mind of the people the food that was a gift from God was manna. They told Jesus, 'you know "our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as Scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat". Jesus said, "It was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my father who gives you bread from heaven". Have you noticed the grammatical error there? It **was** not Moses who **gave** – (*past tense*); but it **is** God who **gives** – (*present tense*). It is not an error; it is deliberate. Though manna is history, God continues to feed us. We are not interested in the past story here. Our God is feeding us with special and healthy food in the present time. That is what Jesus spoke about. The food that Jesus is offering interests us. The food that makes your life and mine really healthy is the Eucharist, the Body of Christ. We become what we eat. By eating the Body of Christ, you and I become the Body of Christ. A body that will bring about all that is good and healthy in life – joy, peace, compassion, hope, and freedom to enjoy human and divine company. To make the best of our life we need to count more than calories, or the sugar and fat content of what we eat. The Body of Christ is the food that can make our life really healthy now and keep it healthy always, even after death. In this lockdown time you may be realising how much you are missing the Eucharist, the Holy Communion. But it is creating a greater hunger for the Eucharistic food. A time will come we will be celebrating the Eucharist with much renewed enthusiasm.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Graham Turner, Theo Bergstedt, Tony Michael, Doreen Stanmore, Sally Castell, Mamerto Bolonia Jr, Lily Bykowski

Recently Deceased: Mr James, Anne Nguyen

Deceased: Peter Joshep Nguyen, Fatima Bolonia, Mamerto Bolonia Sr, Gloria Bolonia, Astrid Bolonia,

Wennie Guillena, Chona Victorino

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



Join us on Saturday at 5PM
for the Sunday Vigil Mass

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

Don't forget to subscribe & switch the notification bell on.

DONATE

Scan the QR Code to make a
donation.

Thank you for your generosity!



**Church is Closed During
Lockdown Period
STAY SAFE!**

Parish Priest

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 T. (02) 9644 7787

Priest in Residence

Mgr Michael Barbari, Cor Bishop
 T. (02) 8723 9192
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Parish Secretary

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

Sacramental Co-ordinator

Sophia Brewty
 Tue & Wed 10am-3pm
 sacraments@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Catholic Inquiry—RCIA

Andrew Tham 0403 566 001

Pastoral Council

Daniel Boland (Chair), Joe Kristianto, (Vice. Chair) Alicia Moore (Sec), Rosalind Evans (Asst Sec), Gai Melville (SJW), Jenny Makerry (SJW), Jenny Michael, Katrina Yip, Nathasha Ellis (SJW), William Andrews, Amanda Gahan, Susie Mravunac, Phil Townsend

Finance Committee

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

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 - Natasha Ellis

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

Alcohol & Drug Information Service:
 (Confidential) 02 9361 8000

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats Ph: 4236 0533

Carmelites Varroville -
 www.carmeliteretreats.com.au
 Ph: 8795 3400

Healing After Abortion: 0400 092 555

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby -
 www.divineretreatcentre.org.au
 Ph: 4372 1598

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

Family/Group Mass

Lockdown is extended which means it will be a long time to go without being able to gather for Mass. Sunday Masses are available on the YouTube channel BERALA PARISH. Should anyone would like to offer a Mass and attend it alone or with others, it is possible using ZOOM platform.

Please contact me on info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au to organise special group Masses.

**Clergy Remuneration**

The lockdown has impacted the income of the parish collections, including 1st collection which pays for the priest's remuneration. The number of people who have committed to direct debit is very small. The reserve fund of the parish is used only for church expenses other than priest's remuneration. Priest's expenses are met solely from 1st collection and donations for baptisms and weddings. Considering the big drop in income for the clergy remuneration fund, Parish Priest's stipend is reduced by 40% effective from 11 July. From 12 July, the use of housecleaners are not permitted by NSW regulations. That is also helping to reduce the domestic expense of the priests.



Should you wish to set up periodic deduction, send an email and Lea will help you to organise it. You can always make one off payment using **MAKE A PAYMENT** button on the parish website.

Parish Family Worker

After the lockdown is eased, the Parish is planning to employ a Parish Family Worker in conjunction with CatholicCare. The PFW is to assist individuals to improve their well-being and access to support services. The program is to provide advice and referral service offering advocacy, support and referral to help people with relationships, parenting, disabilities, ageing, addictions, mental health and adjacent concerns.

Plenary Council of Australia

The fifth Plenary Council of Australia is to take place in October. It would have been ideal to prepare a response as a parish for the Council. Unfortunately, it is not possible in this lockdown situation. Therefore, I invite you to make your responses directly to Sr Jo Brady. Please see the related document to help you formulate and convey the response. God bless you!

Fr Thomas

Response to the Agenda for Assembly in October

FIFTH PLENARY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

AGENDA

As children of God, disciples of Jesus Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit, the Members of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia are called to develop concrete proposals to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia at this time.

'I dream of a "missionary option", that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channelled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation.'

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium 27



Review the questions under the headings and then select the three most important areas from your perspective or from that of your parish group. You may respond to each area if you or your group wish to do so. In providing your responses within the boxes below, we encourage you to consider this question:

What concrete proposals do you suggest at this time?

Please email your response as soon as possible to: Sr. Jo Brady, [Plenary Council Working Group Liaison Support Officer](mailto:jo.brady@sydneycatholic.org), Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney - jo.brady@sydneycatholic.org

Name:

Parish.....

Conversion

Prayer

Governance

Formation

Structures

Institutions



FOOD FOR FRIENDS

Feeling unwell?
Short on cash?
Busy juggling work and
remote learning?

If you need a home cooked
meal for any reason please
contact the school or
Parish. No explanation
needed.

Your choice of yummy
dishes for the family

To organise your meal or for donations contact

St Peter Chanel Catholic Primary School - 96449083 or amanda.gahan@syd.catholic.edu.au

St Peter Chanel & St Joesph Parish - 96447787



ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 69:2,6

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading

Ex 16:2-4, 12-15

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our hearts content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your hearts content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God." And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 77:3-4, 23-25, 54. R. v.24

The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

The things we have heard and understood, the things our fathers have told us, we will tell to the next generation: the glories of the Lord and his might. **R**

He commanded the clouds above and opened the gates of heaven. He rained down manna for their food, and gave them bread from heaven. **R**

Mere men ate the bread of angels. He sent them abundance of food. He brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won. **R**

Second Reading

Eph 4:17, 20-24

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught

what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 4:4

Alleluia, alleluia!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 6:24-35

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat. Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'

'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

Communion Antiphon

Wis 16:20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: **1 Kgs 17:7-16**

2nd Reading: **Col 3:12-17**

Gospel: **Mt 6:25-34**

REFLECTIONS ON JOHN 6:24-35

Scriptural context – Bread that endures

Jesus says, 'Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life.' The reference to food that cannot last relates to today's first reading about manna. In the full account of Exodus 16 you will see that the manna that fell on the first five days had become rotten by the next day and could not be eaten. However, the manna that fell on the sixth day was 'food that endures' so that it could be eaten the next day – the Sabbath day, when the work of gathering the manna was not allowed.

Living the Gospel – The Body of Christ

Christ is present in the Eucharist in many forms: in the people gathered; in the celebrating priest; in the Word proclaimed; and in the consecrated bread and wine – the Body and Blood of Christ. In relation to receiving Christ through the reception of communion, St Augustine wrote, 'Be what you see, and receive what you are.' We not only receive the Body of Christ through Eucharist, we are called to be the Body of Christ because of what we have received; and we receive the Body of Christ because we are already part of the Body of Christ.

Historical Context - Bread

For thousands of years, bread has been a staple part of the human diet in many cultures. It is no accident that the image of Jesus as bread makes such a significant appearance in the gospel of John. For the Jews, like other Ancient Near Eastern cultures, bread was a vital mainstay of their diet. In the Bible, the word 'bread' often simply means all food – it was that important! For many, regular access to bread did equate to life. Bread also played a crucial role in religious practices, especially the Passover meal.

FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, 3 August - St Dominic (Memorial)



Born at Calaruega (Spain) about 1170. Died at Bologna (Italy) on 6 August 1221. An Augustinian canon noted for prayer, penance, and an exemplary life. In a time of violent crusades he sought the reconciliation of Albigensian heretics through instruction and

prayer. Established the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) to revitalize the Church through study, teaching, preaching, and prayer. Remembered as a preacher, organiser, and patron of learning.

Wednesday, 4 August - St John Vianney (Memorial)



Born near Lyons (France) in 1786. Died at Ars on this day in 1859. Overcame various obstacles, including little education and lack of means, to be ordained a priest. Served in a remote parish as the Curé of Ars, where his sanctity attracted thousands of visitors.

Remembered for his preaching and confessional counsel and is honoured as a model for parish clergy.

Friday, 6 August - The Transfiguration of the Lord (Feast)



This feast had its origin in the East in the fourth century as the commemoration of the dedication of the church of the Transfiguration on Mount Tabor. It was observed in the West from the eighth century and extended to the entire Western Church in the fifteenth century. The feast celebrates the divine radiance shining in Christ's human flesh and God's glory shining forth in the lives of Christians.

On the love of Christ

From a sermon by Saint Alphonsus Liguori

All holiness and perfection of soul lies in our love for Jesus Christ our God, who is our Redeemer and our supreme good. It is part of the love of God to acquire and to nurture all the virtues which make a man perfect.

Has not God in fact won for himself a claim on all our love? From all eternity he has loved us. And it is in this vein that he speaks to us: "O man, consider carefully that I first loved you. You had not yet appeared in the light of day, nor did the world yet exist, but already I loved you. From all eternity I have loved you."

Since God knew that man is enticed by favours, he wished to bind him to his love by means of his gifts: "I want to catch men with the snares, those chains of love in which they allow themselves to be entrapped, so that they will love me." And all the gifts which he bestowed on man were given to this end. He gave him a soul, made in his likeness, and endowed with memory, intellect and will; he gave him a body equipped with the senses; it was for him that he created heaven and earth and such an abundance of things. He made all these things out of love for man, so that all creation might serve man, and man in turn might love God out of gratitude for so many gifts.

But he did not wish to give us only beautiful creatures; the truth is that to win for himself our love, he went so far as to bestow upon us the fullness of himself. The eternal Father went so far as to give us his only Son. When he saw that we were all dead through sin and deprived of his grace, what did he do? Compelled, as the Apostle says, by the superabundance of his love for us, he sent his beloved Son to make reparation for us and to call us back to a sinless life.

By giving us his Son, whom he did not spare precisely so that he might spare us, he bestowed on us at once every good: grace, love and heaven; for all these goods are certainly inferior to the Son. He who did not spare his own Son, but handed him over for all of us: how could he fail to give us along with his Son all good things?

OTHER NOTICES

Feast of Mary Mackillop Sun, 8 August

No Masses will be celebrated at Mary Mackillop Place. The Chapel remains closed, Prayer resources are available on the website – <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/feast-day-resources/>

Aid to the Church in Need Australia

Especially in remote and non-Christian areas, the faith is often nurtured via faith-based TV and radio programs. For over thirty years ACN has supported the *Catholic Radio* and *Television Network* which provides programming to networks in developing countries which do not have the means to buy or produce Catholic content. These programs are seen and heard by about 36 million people worldwide every day. Can you help ensure that the faith is available in every corner of the world? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/media

A Mind at Peace: An Online Book Study with Discussion and Sharing

Life, Marriage and Family team member Chris Da Silva facilitates, over ZOOM, an in-depth study of a book which will help those who are feeling especially anxious during this time of uncertainty and trial | Wednesdays 14, 21, 28 July and 4, 11, 18 August 7:30 PM. Online via ZOOM Register here - <https://bit.ly/3kti2vF>
To register go to <https://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/> or for more information contact Tania Rimac at tania.rimac@sydneycatholic.org.

The 2021 Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation course, Of Life and Love

Saturday 14 August commencing at 10 am and then Thursday evenings 19, 26 August & 02 September 2021. To Book Online - <https://www.trybooking.com/BMTLF>

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. www.engagedencounter.org.au. Aug 7-8, Nov 13-14 2021; Feb 19-20 2022.

If COVID-19 restrictions prevent a face-to-face seminar, the CEE weekend will be held via Zoom.

Catholic Mission: India COVID-19 Appeal

The aid agency, Catholic Mission, has launched an urgent appeal to provide immediate help for vulnerable communities devastated by COVID-19 in India. Well over 300,000 people have died from the illness in India and hospitals have been struggling to cope. Through donating to Catholic Mission, you will be playing a key role in supporting the valuable work of mission hospitals in the country. Donate online via the Catholic Mission website here: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/donate/your-donation?id=covid-19-india>.

Just for Laughs

Yesterday I did nothing and today I'm finishing what I did yesterday.