



## 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](mailto:info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au)  
**Parish Website:** [www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au](http://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au), **facebook:** [stpeterstjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/stpeterstjoseph) **YouTube:** [BeralaParish](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8)

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

**25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**19 SEPTEMBER 2021**

### It is Great to be a Servant



“Taliban denies two leaders are dead after going missing from public view” was the headline in New York Post, a few days ago, on 15 September. It was all about the fight for superiority and leadership. It is important to be strong and victorious to be accepted as leader. Nobody likes to be vulnerable. In a world so crazy for power and prestige imagine someone asking you to go easy or be vulnerable. Can you handle that?

The disciples of Jesus saw opportunities for position and power as they were in the Jesus movement. Now who has the favour of their master to be the greatest among them? Jesus’ answer to their question was something they least expected. Jesus said, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all”. A disciple of Jesus is to be vulnerable like a child. The disciples had to wait till the death and resurrection of Jesus to understand the depth and width of Jesus’ teaching. Then the disciples saw the vulnerability of God manifested in Jesus. Our Lord was so vulnerable that he was beaten up, humiliated and hanged on a tree of shame. It is after this submission to vulnerability that the Father raised Jesus to the glory of resurrection. Anyone who wants to be a disciple of Jesus is to attain the glory of life through their submission to service and vulnerability.

Now recollect your own experience. Isn’t it when you showed service-mindedness that you won the favour and admiration of people? Isn’t it when you were aware of your vulnerability that God’s grace abounded in you? In our lowliness, human beings relate better with one another and with God. Nothing can be as great as a life of service.

### MASS INTENTIONS

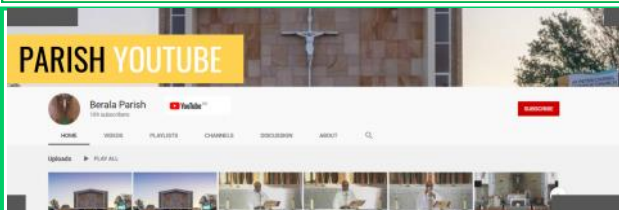
**Sick:** Graham Turner, Theo Bergstedt, Tony Michael, Doreen Stanmore, Sally Castell, Mamerto Bolonia Jr, Josephine Laing, Dominic Rodrigues, John Moore, Sandra Feliciano

**Anniversary:** Mark Man Wah Chiu , Joseph Jason Nguyen

**Recently Deceased:** Maria Loan Vu, Violeta Carpenter, Sr Fidelma Hogan, Rev Fr Max Barrett, Enid Snedden

**Deceased:** Santina Baudille

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



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

**@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!**

## NEWS

### Parish Priest

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam  
info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au (Office)  
pp@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au (for confidential)  
T. (02) 9644 7787

### Priest in Residence

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

### 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/](http://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/)  
retreats Ph: 4236 0533

**Carmelites Varroville** -  
[www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au)  
Ph: 8795 3400

**Healing After Abortion:** 0400 092 555

**Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby** -  
[www.divineretreatcentre.org.au](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org.au)  
Ph: 4372 1598

**Sara's Place:** For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit  
[www.sarasplace.org.au](http://www.sarasplace.org.au) Ph: 9699 8190

## Berala Community Care Worker

Patricia, a community care worker has joined the parish for help and referral services concerned with relationships, parenting, aging, disability, addiction, and mental health. She is employed by CatholicCare and sponsored by the Parish. When the lockdown is lifted, Patricia will be working one day each week from St Joseph House (next to the church carpark). From now on, Patricia can be contacted on 0447 529 122.

The parish is providing the office facilities including telephone, internet, and meeting space. In addition the parish will also share 50% of the wages. This service is a much needed one in our area. Therefore, it is included in our outreach and pastoral care plan. You are welcome to refer people and cases to Patricia. You may also like to share this message with others so that those who need this service will get to know about it.



**For help finding help in Berala**

Connect with the community care worker for help with counselling, ageing or mental health.

131819

 CatholicCare

## Online Retreat

Women of all ages are invited to join us for an online retreat into silence, 24-26 September.



*Alone with Christ Alone*

An online retreat for women with the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia

24-26 September

Register at [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com)

nashville@dominican.org - sydney@op-trn.org - melbourne@op-trn.org

You will provide the silent times and spaces over the course of the weekend. The sisters will provide common times for Mass, communal and private prayer, and talks that delve deeper into the theme of silence. For more information or to register: <https://www.trybooking.com/BTYGD>

## ANTIPHONS & READINGS

### Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

### First Reading

**Wis 2:12: 17-20**

The godless say to themselves,

‘Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.’

### Responsorial Psalm

**Ps 53:3-6. 8. R. v.6**

### **The Lord upholds my life.**

O God, save me by your name; by your power, uphold my cause. O God, hear my prayers; listen to the words of my mouth. **R**

For proud men have risen against me, ruthless men seek my life. They have no regard for God. **R**

But I have God for my help. The Lord upholds my life. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart and praise your name for it is good. **R**

### Second Reading

**Jas 3:16-4:3**

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.

Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting

inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

### Gospel Acclamation

**See 2 Thes 2:14**

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

**Mk 9:30-37**

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, ‘The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.’ But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him.

They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, ‘What were you arguing about on the road?’ They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, ‘If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.’ He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, ‘Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.’

### Communion Antiphon

**Ps 118:4-5**

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

### Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: **Nm 11:25-29**

2nd Reading: **Jas 5:1-6**

Gospel: **Mk 9:38-43. 45. 47-48**

## FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

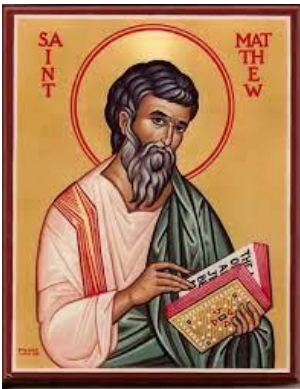
**Monday, 20 September - Saints Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chông Ha-sang & Companions, Martyrs (Memorial)**



Andrew Kim Taegon was the first Korean presbyter and Paul Chong Hasang a catechist and lay apostle. After more than two centuries of lay leadership, the Church in Korea was subject to fierce persecutions between 1839 and 1867.

This commemorates 103 of the numerous Korean martyrs, representatives from all walks of life: men and women, married and unmarried, the elderly, teenagers and children, missionary bishops and presbyters. Remembered for their fearless witness in the face of torture and death.

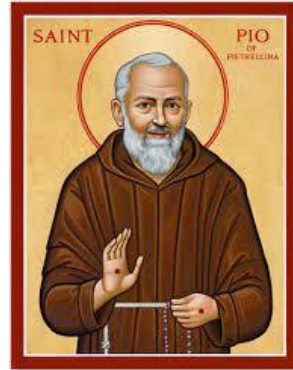
**Tuesday, 21 September - St Matthew (Feast)**



Matthew, also known as Levi, was a Jew who collected taxes for the Romans at Capernaum in Galilee. Here Jesus met him and called him to be an apostle (Luke 5:27-28). Venerated as the author of the gospel which highlights Jesus' role as Messiah and

underlines the presence of the kingdom of God in the Church.

**Thursday, 24 September - St Pius of Pietrelcina (Memorial)**



Born on 25 May 1887 in Pietrelcina (Italy). Died on this day in 1968 at San Giovanni Rotondo (Italy). Raised in a deeply religious rural home, Francesco Forgione became Padre Pio when he was ordained in the Capuchin order in 1910. A mystic who received the marks of the stigmata in 1918, a renowned holy man, and a charity worker who

founded a hospital (the House for the Relief of Suffering). His ascetic life of pain led to special compassion for the suffering. Remembered as an extraordinary confessor and spiritual director.

## REFLECTIONS ON MARK 9:30-37

### Historical Context - Messianic expectation

The term Messiah means anointed one. In the era of the Kings of Israel, quite literally someone was designated King by being anointed – having oil poured over their head. It's easy to see that when the people of Israel spoke about a 'Messiah' (an 'anointed one') who would restore justice and peace, they had in mind a great King. They even expected that the new king would come from the line of David, the line of the great kings of their history. Jesus was working against centuries of tradition when he tried to get the disciples to see that the Messiah could be something else.

### Scriptural context - Three predictions

This gospel event is the second of three occasions in the gospel of Mark when Jesus clearly makes a prediction about his death and subsequent resurrection. They occur in chapters 8, 9 and 10 of the gospel and all three are associated with the disciples' lack of understanding about the mission and fate of Jesus. In each case, Jesus could not speak more plainly about what will happen to him and yet the disciples fail to understand. These three chapters have an overarching image of the disciples' 'blindness' to the truth of Jesus' message.

### Have you thought? Last of all?

Jesus tells his disciples that if anyone wants to be first, they must make themselves last of all and servant of all. This is as challenging to us today as it was to the disciples and early Christians. Our world seems to revolve around position, status and power – whoever has the most toys wins! But what Jesus advocated was a leadership based on being of service to others. Being powerful simply means you are in a position to help even more people. Putting yourself last, instead of first, gives respect, dignity and power to others rather than to yourself.

## On Weak Christians

*St Augustine's sermon on Pastors*

*You have failed to strengthen the weak*, says the Lord. He is speaking to wicked shepherds, false shepherds, shepherds who seek their own concerns and not those of Christ. They enjoy the bounty of milk and wool, but they take no care at all of the sheep, and they make no effort to heal those who are ill. I think there is a difference between one who is weak (that is, not strong) and one who is ill, although we often say that the weak are also suffering from illness.

My brothers, when I try to make that distinction, perhaps I could do it better and with greater precision, or perhaps someone with more experience and insight could do so. But when it comes to the words of Scripture, I say what I think so that in the meantime you will not be deprived of all profit. In the case of the weak sheep, it is to be feared that the temptation, when it comes, may break him. The sick person, however, is already ill by reason of some illicit desire or other, and this is keeping him from entering God's path and submitting to Christ's yoke.

There are men who want to live a good life and have already decided to do so, but are not capable of bearing sufferings even though they are ready to do good. Now it is a part of the Christian's strength not only to do good works but also to endure evil. Weak men are those who appear to be zealous in doing good works but are unwilling or unable to endure the sufferings that threaten. Lovers of the world, however, who are kept from good works by some evil desire, lie sick and listless, and it is this sickness that deprives them of any strength to accomplish good works.

The paralytic was like that. When his bearers could not bring him in to the Lord, they opened the roof and lowered him down to the feet of Christ. Perhaps you wish to do this in spirit: to open the roof and to lower a paralytic soul down to the Lord. All its limbs are lifeless, it is empty of every good work, burdened with its sins, and weak from the illness brought on by its evil desires. Since all its limbs are helpless, and the paralysis is interior, you cannot come to the physician. But perhaps the physician is himself concealed within; for the true understanding of Scripture is hidden. Reveal therefore what is hidden, and thus you will open the roof and lower the paralytic to the feet of Christ.

As for those who fail to do this and those who are negligent, you have heard what was said to them: *You have failed to heal the sick; you have failed to bind up what was broken*. Of this we have already spoken. Man was broken by terrible temptations. But there is at hand a consolation that will bind what was broken: *God is faithful. He does not allow you to be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it*.



### Couples for Christ - Handmaids of the Lord (CFC - HOLD)

***Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised (Proverbs 31:30)***



Christian renewal and support ministry for mature women, such as:

- \*single parents and widows
- \*separated women
- \*unmarried mature women
- \*married women whose husbands are working in another state or country or are not willing nor able to participate in any religious affiliation.

**Come and join us in our Christian Life Program (CLP)  
An integrated course intended to lead the program participants into a renewed understanding of God's call to them as Christian women.**

26<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
2:00 -4:00 PM  
Via BlueJeans Virtual Meeting

For more information please call:

Joy Skerritt	0401 353 826
Shirley Loseby	0424 808 713
Grace Mateo	0422 661 142
Josielyn Dunshea	0431 870 733
Tey Tenorio	0425 208 645

## Just for Laughs

Why did Cinderella get kicked off the football team? Because she kept running from the ball!