



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/channel/UCB8a1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1)

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, Friday 7.00pm - 8.00pm.

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

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C

27 MARCH 2022

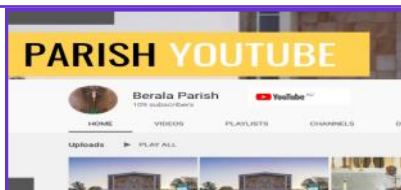
Be Bonded, Not Just Dutiful



The Holy Father consecrated Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the Feast of the Annunciation. It is done 105 years after the Fatima apparitions, and 93 years after Sister Lucia had the message from Our Lady confirmed in 1929. The feast of Annunciation is special. God's angel announcing to Mary the birth of our saviour and she saying "yes" to it was the beginning of our salvation. The relevant part reads: *"To your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine."* Consecration of Russia to Mary on such a great feast has implications you might not be aware of. Russian leader Vladimir Putin is a devout Christian who has full support of the Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirrill. Living and acting according to the precepts of the Russian Orthodox Church, he is like the elder son in the story of two sons told by Jesus (*Luke 15*). Putin might be thinking of himself as the obedient son who fulfils all his religious obligations. But Pope Francis, through the consecration indicate that Russia, in spite of its Orthodox Christianity, along with its leadership, is in need of conversion. They fail to understand and respond to the love of the Father in heaven. Jesus told a story about the love of the father and conversion. Let us look at the story Jesus told.

The story was about a man and his two sons (*Ref. Luke 15:11-32*), which is familiarly known as the story of the Prodigal Son. It in fact is the story of a Loving Father or *"the lost son"*. When his younger son returns home after squandering his share of the patrimony, alienating himself from the society and his religion, and making himself disgustingly unclean by being with pigs, his father ran to the boy, clasped him, and kissed him tenderly. In a patristic culture of Jesus time, it was considered below the dignity of a father to do so. A father who allowed total freedom to his son, even let him do all the wrongs he wanted to do, still loves him, and welcomes him back when he came to his senses and decided to return home. It was beyond anyone's expectation for this father to re-establish this prodigal son in the family. But he did it with full honour. The father's expression of love was very unconventional especially in Jesus' time. It subverted the Pharisaic concept of God, who is rigid and legalistic.

A hard working, law abiding, self-righteous elder son could not understand the love and mercy of his father. Like many of us *'good Christians'*, the elder brother had already disowned the prodigal boy as his brother. He is looking for justice like most of us. Even when the father tells him *"My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours"* (*Luke 15:31*) he is still angry. It is like us Christians who have inherited all the benefits of the Church, like Sacraments, nourishment of the Word of God, Eucharistic Communion but incapable of understanding and living by the love of the father. The elder son is more of a sinner and the younger one! The younger one repented for failing his father love. But the elder one, though very dutiful, failed in the love of the father. Are you bonded with Christ and the Father in Heaven? Not being bonded to the Father in heaven and Jesus Christ, in love, is the sin that requires reconciliation. So do not be satisfied with the confession of a litany of wrong doings. Be bonded with Christ in love, not just dutiful.



If unable to attend Mass in person
Join us on Saturday at 5PM for the Sunday Vigil Mass

[@BeralaParish YouTube Channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCB8a1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1)

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



Scan the QR Code to **DONATE**
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Priest

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Assistant Priest

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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

Community Care Worker

Patricia Lay
 0447 529 122

Catholic Inquiry—RCIA

Andrew Tham 0403 566 001

Pastoral Council

Daniel Boland (Chair), Joe Kristianto, (Vice. Chair), 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

Brendon Nazareth (Chair)
 Joe Moses
 Sylvia Jukic
 Nader Badra

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. Patricia Lay. Provides caring advice and advocacy to help families . 0447 529 122 | CCareline 13 18 19

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

PARISH DIARY THIS WEEK

Mon 28/3	6.45am Mass
Tue 29/3	6.45am Mass
Wed 30/3	6.45am Mass 7.00 pm Pastoral Council meeting
Thu 31/3	6.45am Mass
Fri 1/4	6.45am Mass 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
Sat 2/4	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary, Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 3/4	8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass

3 APRIL 2022**5TH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Roland JAVIER
MUSIC & SINGING	PARISH CHOIR	Liva FUNAKI & Lavinia FIFITA	SALT ENLIGHT
POWERPOINT SLIDES	Parish Choir		Brewty Family
LECTOR/S	Roshan SEBASTIAN	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Hilary RIOFRIO
	Mai NGUYEN	Joe MOSES	Phirum DUCH
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY	Jenny MICHAEL	John SHANLEY

Cleaners SPC: Uisa Family**Altar & Sacristy:** Group 6 Koriina Kinda, Antoinette Boudaher**Saturday 8AM****2 APRIL**

LECTOR FOR MASS

Joy SKERRITT

*"Family that pray together
 stay together"*



PILGRIM STATUE
 This week at

*Chiu Family
 & Langi Family*

**To host the Pilgrim Statue and
 Rosary prayer please contact
 Mona
 on 9709 8701 / 0417 282 603.
 or
 Phil Lopez on 9646 1756.**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sick: Graham Turner, Theo Bergstedt, Doreen Stanmore, Judith Anderson, John Rodrigues, Sr Tomsy, Nadia Draybi, Josephine Laing, Rusty Lopez, Dorothy Boyd, Siobhain Power

Deceased: Mary Mamo, Joseph Mamo, Anthony Mamo, John Mamo

Anniversary: Alex Jarczewski

Other Intentions: Holy Souls in Purgatory

Recently Deceased: Chinnamma Paremackal, George De Leon

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading

Jos 5:9-12

The Lord said to Joshua, ‘Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.’

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. **R**

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress. **R**

Second Reading

2 Cor 5:17-21

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God’s work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men’s faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ’s name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Lk 15:1-3. 11-32

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the

company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. ‘This man’ they said ‘welcomes sinners and eats with them.’ So he spoke this parable to them:

‘A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, “Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.” So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

‘When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, “How many of my father’s paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.”’

Communion Antiphon

Lk 15: 32

You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.

Next week's Readings:

1st Reading: **Is 43:16-21**

2nd Reading: **Phil 3:8-14**

Gospel: **Jn 8:1-11**

REFLECTIONS ON LUKE 15:1-3, 11-32

Historical Context – Customs and culture

The parable of the lost son is a fascinating study of Jewish culture and purity laws. The son could not have distanced himself more from Jewish custom. Firstly, he demanded his inheritance, effectively treating his father as dead. Secondly, he travels to a pagan land and then in despair finds himself feeding pigs – animals whose meat was forbidden to Jews. He knows that his actions have alienated him from his family and culture and yet when he returns, his father gives him a fine robe and a ring to wear – signs of a father claiming a son as his own.

Have you thought? The Prodigal

Because the only context in which most people ever hear the word prodigal is in relation to this parable, there is a common misunderstanding of the word. Because the parable is also referred to as the parable of the lost son, many people think prodigal means lost. However, to be prodigal means to be wastefully extravagant. When the son took his father's money he adopted a prodigal lifestyle. However, the irony of the story that is often lost is that the father too was prodigal in the extravagant welcome he gave. The father's extravagance echoes God's extravagant and abundant grace and love.

From the perspective of ... The Older Brother

We might have a little sympathy for the position of the older brother who has stuck by his father and done all that was required of him. All of a sudden his wayward brother returns and his father pulls out all the stops to welcome him home. The older brother is like the Pharisees and scribes who criticised Jesus for dining with sinners. They were sticklers for the rules and had no sense of compassion if it involved moving outside the requirements of Law. Like the older brother, they could not comprehend a God who could be extravagant in expressing his love.

NEWS



Thanks to the 90 participants in the survey.
Your observations help the pastoral organisation very much.

~Fr Thomas

Church Roof Repair

The roof over the Altar, where there was much leakage, is repaired for now. Before we proceed with further action on fixing the problem, a heritage impact statement is to be obtained. A heritage architectural company is commissioned to prepare a report. We already have an Inspection Report prepared by Sedgewick Building Consultancy, which demands replacement of the roof. The progress on the work will be reported in the Bulletin regularly. Meanwhile I would like to thank a number of generous donors who have made a contribution to Church Roof Fund. So far we have received about eight thousand dollars. Considering that we have exhausted the insurance claims, it is a help in need. To make donation you may use the "Make a Payment or Donation" button on the parish website or scan the QR code in this bulletin.

New Acolytes

Women and Men are invited to register for Acolytes training.

Contact Fr Thomas or the Parish Office.



Some of the new acolytes Fr Thomas commissioned at Cronulla.
Fr Isidore Anandaraj (Assistant Priest) with them.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

Ashton Jeremiah Quinoy & Gavin Xavier Fabian

May they always know the love of God
and feel His guiding hand throughout their lives.





Sign for Crosses

These crosses have been hand made.

Please purchase one and place a donation in the Project Compassion box in the Piety Store.

All money from the sale of these crosses will go towards Project Compassion.

SPC Playgroup

A playgroup for babies, toddlers and children to Kindergarten age will be held at the Donovan Room (Jubilee Hall) school every Thursday morning starting 28 April from 9.00am to 10.30am.

Cost of \$1 donation to cover some costs. Please bring one piece of fruit to share and a drink for your child. Children will play, enjoy stories, music, craft activities and develop social skills. Please tell your family and friends about the playgroup.



JOIN US AT BARM!



Berala Association of Rosary Makers (BARM) Invite you to join us in Rosary Making for the Missions.

NEXT DATE: THURSDAY 31ST MARCH
WHERE: IN THE PARISH HALL
TIME: 9AM FOR TEA AND CAKE
OR
10-11:30AM FOR ROSARY MAKING

NO SKILL IS REQUIRED!
JUST A LOVE OF SHARING THE ROSARY WITH OTHERS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JENNY MICHAEL
JENNY.MICHAEL@SYD.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

ENTERING INTO HOLY WEEK

A WOMENS RETREAT DAY WITH THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF SAINT CECILIA



9TH APRIL 2022 | 10AM - 4PM
ST. PETER CHANEL, BERALA

REGISTRATION: TRYBOOKING.COM/BXLBZ
QUESTIONS: SYDNEY@OP-TN.ORG

@dominicansistersaustralia | nashvilledominican.org



Fourth Sunday of Lent 26 & 27 March

From her life as a child soldier in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rosalie is now a business owner, a community leader and a role model for other ex-combatants seeking to readjust to civilian life.

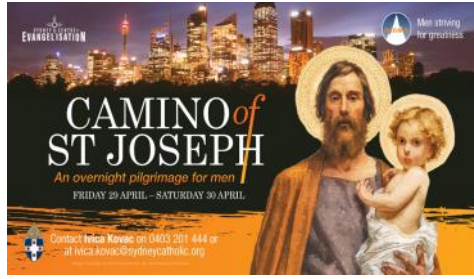
Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help people living with disabilities in India gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to build a better future.



Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Two Pilgrimages at Berala

Camino of St Joseph: An Overnight Pilgrimage for Men



Friday 29-Saturday 30 April.

Join in this challenge in honour of our Spiritual Father for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker! The Camino will begin with 9pm Mass on Friday April 29 at St Jerome's, Punchbowl with Bishop Richard Umbers and conclude on Saturday April 30 with 5.30am Mass at St Michael's, Meadowbank followed by a hearty bbq breakfast.

The entire walk from start to finish will include 7 locations with 6 churches: from St Jerome's – Punchbowl, to St Felix – Bankstown, Immaculate Heart of Mary – Sefton, **St Peter Chanel – Berala**, St Joachim's – Lidcombe, Sydney Olympic Park and St Michael's,

Meadowbank. Each location will feature a reflection on St Joseph and a short time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Register at - <https://www.trybooking.com/BXRIT> - Cost is \$15!

Sign up and share the Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/528752638482107>

World Meeting of Families

The 2022 World Meeting of Families will be marked in the Archdiocese of Sydney with a local diocesan celebration. This local gathering will take place from Friday 24 June to Sunday 26 June. Initiatives will include a celebration at **Berala on Saturday 25 June, 8 AM—2 PM**, an opportunity for families to make pilgrimage to the relics of **St Peter Chanel and Dominican Saints** and will culminate with a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP with an associated Sunday afternoon 'Festival of Families'.

For more detailed information: Contact Steve Buhagiar, Team Leader of Life, Marriage and Family at steven.buhagiar@sydneycatholic.org / Ph: 0415-600-290

Christ is the way to the light, the truth and the life

From a treatise on John by St Augustine

The Lord tells us: *I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.* In these few words he gives a command and makes a promise. Let us do what he commands so that we may not blush to covet what he promises and to hear him say on the day of judgement: "I laid down certain conditions for obtaining my promises. Have you fulfilled them?" If you say: "What did you command, Lord our God?" he will tell you: "I commanded you to follow me. You asked for advice on how to enter into life. What life, if not the life about which it is written: *With you is the fountain of life?*"

Let us do now what he commands. Let us follow in the footsteps of the Lord. Let us throw off the chains that prevent us from following him. Who can throw off these shackles without the aid of the one addressed in these words: *You have broken my chains?* Another psalm says of him: *The Lord frees those in chains, the Lord raises up the downcast.*

Those who have been freed and raised up follow the light. The light they follow speaks to them: *I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness.* The Lord gives light to the blind. Brethren, that light shines on us now, for we have had our eyes anointed with the eye-salve of faith. His saliva was mixed with earth to anoint the man born blind. We are of Adam's stock, blind from our birth; we need him to give us light. He mixed saliva with earth, and so it was prophesied: *Truth has sprung up from the earth.* He himself has said: *I am the way, the truth and the life.*

We shall be in possession of the truth when we see face to face. This is his promise to us. Who would dare to hope for something that God in his goodness did not choose to promise or bestow?

We shall see face to face. The Apostle says: *Now I know in part, now obscurely through a mirror, but then face to face.* John the Apostle says in one of his letters: *Dear beloved, we are now children of God, and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be. We know that when he is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.* This is a great promise.

If you love me, follow me. "I do love you," you protest, "but how do I follow you?" If the Lord your God said to you: "I am the truth and the life," in your desire for truth, in your love for life, you would certainly ask him to show you the way to reach them. You would say to yourself: "Truth is a great reality, life is a great reality; if only it were possible for my soul to find them!"

"Lent is a time of renewal for the whole Church, for each community and every believer. Above all it is a "time of grace" (2 Cor 6:2). God does not ask of us anything that he himself has not first given us. "We love because he first has loved us" (1 Jn 4:19)." ~Pope Francis