



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/UC8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w8w)

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.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR C

29 MAY 2022

Ascension of the Lord, Blessing

Our new Prime Minister Anthony Albanese boldly said, “Now it is a different Australia”. He was referring to the mandate he had for his policies. Until his election a week ago, he would not have dared to say it. What has changed is the blessing he has had through the recent election mandate. With that blessing he has the power and confidence to imagine and announce a change for Australia.



Jesus took his disciples to the top of Mount of Olives, near Bethany, the highest point, and blessed them. He announced that in his name the disciples will preach repentance of sins to all nations. It was an amazingly powerful blessing. But they were to pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit. What we see since then is the amazing transformation of the world because of the disciples of Jesus Christ. Through the history we see the poor and the weak uplifted because of the Church's teaching and mission. The role Church has played in upholding the dignity of life is unparalleled. The widely respected ethics and morals which have helped humanity progress into a better world can be traced back to the mission of the Church. The disciples of Christ offered forgiveness, not revenge, to the past mistakes and sins. In the post-apartheid South Africa, there was a 'Truth and Reconciliation Commission', not a 'search and kill strategy' because of the Christian ethos. If the people in our own country are standing for the right of the workers and dignity of the migrants, they have learned it from the Church. Just as Jesus blessed his disciples, the Church, the Body of Christ, continues to bless the disciples with the power to transform the world. Yet we see “how it is written that Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead” (Ref. Luke 24:46).

I consider myself blessed by Christ to become an instrument of transformation in so many lives. Along with all priests and religious, I too praise God for this great commissioning which as made my life fulfilling. If it was not for the blessing of Christ and the fullness of the Holy Spirit, I, a boy from an Indian village would not have reached out to Berala an agent of transformation. Whilst many are thankful for my ministry, I also receive criticisms that I am failing in some of the priestly duties. Those criticisms inadvertently tell me that, thanks to the Spirit, I am capable for much greater mission and impact than what I have realised so far. Jesus told his disciples, “Stay in the city then until you are clothed with the power from on high.” Just like the early disciples, I too need to pray and discern the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit.

Through the sacraments, especially by the grace of the sacrament of Confirmation, every disciple of Christ is empowered to experience and espouse repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As someone who keeps up Holy Communion with Christ, you are empowered to transform the world. Without your cooperation the transforming work of the Holy Spirit will be stifled. So pray and discern that you will be able to live up to your commissioning.

Change of Mass Times

Saturday, 4 June – Morning Mass of Anointing at 10 AM – (no 8AM Mass)

Pentecost Vigil, 4 June – 6 pm Special Mass – (no 5PM Mass)



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

Parish Priest

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

Assistant Priest

Fr Mirko Integlia
 0466 481 492
 mirko.integlia@gmail.com

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

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. 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 30/5 | 6.45am Mass |
| Tue 31/5 | 6.45am Mass 9.15am Mass (SPC School) |
| Wed 1/6 | St Justin, martyr (Memorial) 6.45am Mass |
| Thu 2/6 | 6.45am Mass 7.00pm Confirmation Class |
| Fri 3/6 | Sts Charles Lwanga & companions, martyrs (Memorial) 6.45am Mass |
| Sat 4/6 | 8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary, Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass |
| Sun 5/6 | 8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass |

5 JUNE 2022**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

| Mass | VIGIL | 8AM | 10AM |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|--|------------------|
| ACOLYTE | Bob KENSEY | William ANDREWS | Dom PANGILINAN |
| MUSIC & SINGING | Parish CHOIR | Liva FUNAKI & Lavinia FIFITA | SALT ENLIGHT |
| POWERPOINT | Parish Choir | Liva or Lavinia | Brewty Family |
| LECTOR/S | Amanda DOWDELL | Robert McGINN | Hilary RIOFRIO |
| | Noeline DONNELLAN | Michael CHOW | Sharon SEBASTIAN |
| CHURCH SHOP | Charlie SCULLY | Jenny MICHAEL | John SHANLEY |
| Cleaners SPC: Uisa Family | | Altar & Sacristy: Group 3 Helen Le Mottee & Jann Rockliff | |

Saturday 8AM**4 JUNE**

| | |
|-----------------|--------------|
| LECTOR FOR MASS | Joy SKERRITT |
|-----------------|--------------|

*"Family that pray together
 stay together"*

**PILGRIM STATUE**

This week at

**Hazboune & Lopez
 Families**

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, Nadia Draybi, Rusty Lopez, Dorothy Boyd, Lionel Large, Janele Harrington, Wijono Hadikusumo, Rachelle Farrugia, Arthur Doumit

Recently Deceased: Subhash Anand, Anna Maria Roch, Jhon (Juan) Seno

Deceased: Margaret Mary Senogles

Anniversary: Norah Lally, Paddy Lally, Ernesto Martin

Other Intentions: Joseph, Holy Souls in Purgatory

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Acts 1:11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will
return as you saw him go, alleluia.

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-7. 8-9. R. v.6

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth. R

God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise. R

God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your

skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne. R

Second Reading

Eph 1:17-23

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what riches he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 28:20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Next week's Readings:

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11

2nd Reading: 1 Cor 12-3-7, 12-13

Gospel: Jn 20:19-23

REFLECTIONS ON LUKE 24:46-53

Scriptural context – Luke-Acts

The two works of Luke and Acts, ascribed to the same writer, are both addressed to the same person, Theophilus. However, the Greek name, Theophilus, means 'Friend of God' or 'Beloved of God'. Theophilus may have been a particular person or may have been a literary device by the author – using the name to imply that the books were written to any 'Friend of God'. There is a common style employed in the writing of the two works and a common theology runs through both works and it is these commonalities that lead scholars to conclude that the two works share the same author.

Gospel Focus – A message for all people

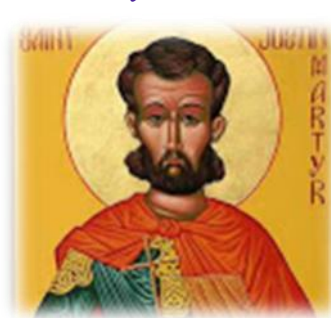
One of the defining features of the Gospel of Luke is the fact that the message preached and practised by Jesus made salvation available to all people. At times in the gospel some of the Jewish audience became quite angry at Jesus because he said that pagans and gentiles were also included in the salvation he promised – something they regarded as exclusive to the 'chosen' people. The two accounts of the Ascension make very clear that the message and ministry of Jesus are to be carried to all nations – even to the ends of the earth!

Living the Gospel – You will be my witnesses

Organisers of the twenty-third World Youth Day hosted by Sydney in 2008 took as its theme verse 8 of the passage from Acts 1 that is today's first reading: 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses.' The choice of this theme for a worldwide gathering of young people of faith is a significant reminder of the call of Jesus to go out to the ends of the earth and to bear witness to his message. These are the final words on earth attributed to Jesus and they echo to us through time.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, 1 June - St Justin, martyr (Memorial)



Born about 100 at Nablus (Palestine). Died about 165 in Rome. After lengthy study of Greek philosophies, he acknowledged Christ as the source of all truth. A lay intellectual, Christian philosopher, and apologist. Remembered for his reasoned defence

of Christian belief and practice and for the ultimate witness given by his martyrdom.

Mass of the Feast at 6.45am



Friday, 3 June - Charles Lwanga & Companions (Memorial)

Charles Lwanga and his companions were African Catholics who died for their faith in Uganda in the 1880s. At the time Uganda was ruled by King Mwanga who persecuted

Christians for their primary allegiance to God rather than their king. Charles Lwanga was the head of the royal page boys, some of whom he had baptised. One day all the pages were assembled and the Christians were separated from the group and arrested. Charles and his companions, many only boys, were martyred for their belief. The example of these passionate young Africans inspired many people who then became converts to Christianity.

Mass of the Feast at 6.45am

NEWS

Mass for Sr Tomsy SH



Thanks to all who have prayed with me for my sister. ~Fr Thomas

Pentecost Vigil Mass at 6PM Birthday of the Church

Come prepared for a special Mass to celebrate the Vigil next Saturday. 'Ribbon Scribe' 'Lux Christi', Praying in Jesus' own language (Aramaic), Latin (the official language of the Church), and in other languages of inspiration are part of the planned celebration. Let us celebrate the birthday of the Church.



Mass of Anointing Every Month

Mass of anointing is to resume on **Saturday, 4 June**. Thereafter on the first Saturday of each month there will be Mass of Anointing the sick and the elderly. It will start at 10AM in the Church.

After the Mass, at 11AM, there will be a social gathering in Jubilee Hall. To the gathering all senior citizens, including non-parishioners and non-Christians, are welcome.

You are welcome to invite other friends to the gathering. The social gathering will be done in conjunction with CatholicCare Sydney who will organise wellness presentations at some of the gatherings.

Church Roof

It is time for an update on the roof works for the church. As you are aware, part of the roof collapsed following a storm, earlier this year. Though temporary fixing has been undertaken to avert further danger of ceiling collapse, the water leakage has not been satisfactorily mitigated. Because of the leakage, even after the major repair work undertaken a few years ago, we are advised to change the whole roof of the church.

St Peter Chanel was designed by architect Kevin Curtin who was awarded Papal Medal for architectural work for churches. Considering the social and historical significance, the Cumberland Local Council listed the church and its premises as a local heritage item. Therefore, any work on the church building, especially any consideration to change the roofing material attract a heritage impact report. I have recently received a preliminary report from the heritage architect commissioned earlier this year. The next step is to discuss the matters with the relevant authority in the Local Council which will be undertaken by the project manager, Gary Watman, and a representative from the Parish Finance Committee. After their deliberations, I will have to seek formal approvals from the Archbishop as well as the Cumberland Council. With all these things in place we will be able to call for tenders. As you may suspect, it will not be cheap. Hopefully the work could be done before the end of the year.

A number you have been making special donations to "Church Roof Fund". All such contributions are much appreciated. Please contact the parish office to discuss ways you could contribute towards it.

~Fr Thomas

Congratulations to the Newly Commissioned Altar Servers



New Lectors

There has been some nominations for New Lectors to be trained. If you wish to read at Mass (Lector), please let the parish office know. You will require to present your sacramental credentials, including certificate of baptism. A training will be provided and formally commissioned before the new Lectors are rostered.

Direct Debit Contributions

Now we are in post COVID mood with most of the things. But with the First and Second Collections (your Offerings to the Church) there is a lot to catch up with. Present collections are far below the pre-COVID levels. Your offering to the Church is also your appreciation for your parish. For your convenience you can organise direct debit.

To organise it, please contact the parish office info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au. Lea will help you to set up the direct debit. Considering the difficulties in banking cash these days, Direct Debit is the preferred option. This also will help you keep track of your contribution.

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.

No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven

From a sermon by Saint Augustine

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: *If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth.* For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: *Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?* and when he said: *I was hungry and you gave me food.*

Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope and love that unites us to him? While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again into heaven. The fact that he was in heaven even while he was on earth is borne out by his own statement: *No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.*

These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man by his union with us, and we by our union with him are the sons of God. So the Apostle says: *Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ.* He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head.

Answering the Cry of the Poor (ANCOP)

My name is Joy Skerritt. I am an ambassador for ANCOP, a global network dedicated to helping those who are poor to live with dignity and hope. As an ambassador, my aim is to raise awareness for the work of ANCOP and to rally support for its many programs.



Here is a chance for you to help me, but more importantly, to help the poor. Please visit the link to find out more about the program and for the opportunity to make a difference in other peoples' lives. All donations are tax deductible. I can also be contacted on 0401 353 826.



Thank you and God bless your generous hearts.

<https://ancopambassador-skerritt.gofundraise.com.au>



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - BERALA CONFERENCE

WE NEED YOU!

DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE IS A BERALA CONFERENCE?

The Berala Conference is always looking for volunteers. Whether you would like to do home visits, social visits, help with fundraising, office duties or just join a team of people who are determined to make our community a better place for all - we would love you to join us! The time you contribute is up to you and the rewards are indescribable!

IF YOU ARE OVER 16 AND WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT
AMANDA.GAHAN@SYD.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU

MAKING A DIFFERENCE



WALK *with* CHRIST

2 0 2 2

SUNDAY 19 JUNE

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

CORNER OF MARTIN PLACE AND PITT STREET

Entertainment in Martin Place from 1.30pm

Procession begins at 2.30pm sharp

WWW.SYDNEYCATHOLIC.ORG/WALKWITHCHRIST

OTHER NOTICES

Deeper: Pentecost Intensive

1-5 June 2022, Carmel House, Varroville

Join the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters as we journey together in the experience of Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Come for a five-day intensive retreat in the lead-up to Pentecost and be encouraged in discipleship, activating the charismatic gifts and being equipped for mission through inputs, discussion, prayer and practical workshops. Enquiries: mglisters.sydney@gmail.com
Bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BWMJI>

Emmanuel Community Pentecost Retreat

4-5th June 2022, Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville

Retreat (for those over 18) for Pentecost with the theme "Streams in Dry Land". Time: Starts at 9am on Saturday 4 June and concluding 4pm on Sunday 5 June 2022. Cost \$135 adults, \$100 students - including meals and twin share accommodation. Please register and pay now through this link: <https://www.trybooking.com/BZETG>. Fine out more here: <https://emmanuel.info/en/event-streams-in-dry-land/>

Discernment Retreat for young men

24-26 June 2022

We invite you to immerse yourself in a quiet environment for you to really focus your attention on listening to God. This is a silent retreat weekend for young men 18-35 years old considering a vocation to the Priesthood. The retreat will be led by the Assistant Director of Vocations, Fr Daniele Russo. |Registration: \$75 (includes accommodation and meals) | Online Registration: <https://forms.gle/Wi3Vq63kwBwdHRRv9>
For enquiries, please call 02 9307 8424 or email us at vocations@sydneycatholic.org

Nominate your Parish Hero!

For the past 100 years, our parishes have been the

cornerstones of local Australian communities. It's those special people that help make our nation thrive. As we move into the 21st century, who are the people in your parish that stand out and make our community what it is today? Tell us their story and why they deserve to be recognized as a Parish Hero.

Email: parishhero@catholicweekly.com.au

Campion College Australia

Winter Program | 5-8 July 2022. Experience college life and a taste of Campion's liberal arts degree: History, Literature, Philosophy, Theology, Classical Languages, Bonfire, Sports, Movie Night, Trivia and More! Open to ages 16-20. Free to attend thanks to our generous donors! Register at www.campion.edu.au/event/winter-program

Catholic Help with Alcoholism and Addiction

Do you, a family member, or friend need help with an addiction concern? You can reach out to the Calix Society. Calix is an association of Catholic alcoholics, drug addicts, and family members and friends affected by addiction, who are maintaining their sobriety through participation in their Catholic faith and a 12 Step program. Contact calixsydney@outlook.com for meeting times and resources. Perhaps this could be a crucial step toward recovery and saving a life.

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. Choose any of the coming Weekends: Aug 06-07, Nov 12-13. If COVID-19 restrictions prevent a face-to-face seminar, the CEE weekend will be held via Zoom.



This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

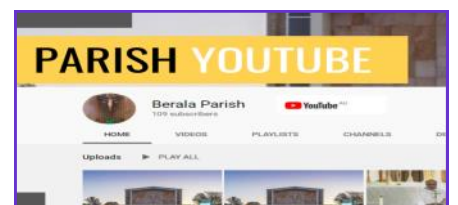
Christian Andrew Ryan

May he always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout his life.

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

@BeralaParish YouTube Channel

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



Just for Laughs

"A duck is standing next to a busy road, cars zooming past while he waits for a break in traffic. A chicken walks up to him and says, 'Don't do it, man. You'll never hear the end of it.'"