

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: Tuesday 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

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



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

15 JANUARY 2023

Cardinal Pell, Jesus the Lamb



The sudden death of George Cardinal Pell shocked everyone. To most of the media he, more than anything else, was a polarising person. He lived up to his motto, "Be not afraid", and that did not please many. But it does not diminish his great witness to faith and Christ. After all, Jesus himself, through his ministry, polarised the demography, especially between his followers and the Jewish leadership of the time. At the end, Jesus was treated like a criminal by the law enforcement agencies of his time - the Sanhedrin and the Roman Governor Pilate. As a disciple of Christ, Cardinal Pell took his wrongful imprisonment in the spirit of the Lord's passion.



Evangelisation of Sydney was the main agenda of the Cardinal. In bringing the University of Notre Dame to Sydney, he was presenting a higher education facility rooted in Catholic tradition as an alternative to the secular universities which were also excellent otherwise. He wanted the schools in his Archdiocese to be truly Catholic. To affirm proper religious education curricula he prescribed textbooks for religious studies in the schools. Under his pastoral supervision, Sydney schools

were directed to modify their signage to include "*Catholic*" in their names. Though unsuccessful, he wanted the school principals and those in the leadership roles in the Catholic Agencies to formally profess that they will be faithful to the Church's teachings. It was a brave attempt. All these initiatives were pointing to one thing: show the world that Christ is the Lamb of God, our Saviour, and there is no other saviour.

Cardinal Pell cared for his priests also. It was his initiative to establish the Priests' Retirement Foundation to improve the life of the priests on lesser duties. It gave a greater sense of security to the priests retiring from active ministry. Under his watch "*Centacare*" became "*CatholicCare*". He wanted every agency of the church to be explicit about its Catholic identity. As Christians we are to be brave and clear about the Gospel truths.

Church is very keen to profess the faith that Jesus is God's presence to the humanity, and he is the Saviour of the world. Therefore, Bible readings on the feast of Christmas were more about Jesus, Son of God, than about Jesus' birthday. The feasts that followed Christmas, Epiphany and the Baptism of the Lord, were also centred on the theme that Jesus is God's incarnation to save the humanity. This weekend, once again the liturgical readings take up the same theme. The Gospel says: "*Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'*" (Cf John 1:29-34)

Following John the Baptist, we are to profess Jesus *the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world*. We dare to make this profession of faith through the thick and thin of our lives. It is our identity and our mission to acknowledge Jesus as the Son of God and present him as the true saviour to the humanity around us.

Parish Priest

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Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
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 Tue to Fri 9am -3pm
 T. (02) 9644 7787

Sacramental Co-ordinator

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

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Annuncia Sinisa
 0401 291 114
 youth@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Catechist Co-ordinator

Josie Pangilinan
 0406 515 050

Catholic Inquiry—RCIA

Andrew Tham 0403 566 001

Parish Pastoral Council

Karim Kassis (Chair), Robert McGinn (Vice Chair), Renee Salar (Secretary), Julia Babic (Assistant Secretary), Maria Simeone (Co-ordinator, Social Committee, Jenny Michael (Asst Co-ordinator, Social Committee), Amanda Dowdell, Amanda Gahan, Annuncia Sinisa, Dom Pangilinan, Jennifer Makerry, Michael Kim, Natasha Ellis, Susie Mravunac

Finance Committee

Brendon Nazareth (Chair), Joe Moses, Sylvia Jukic, Nader Badra

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
 T. (02) 9644 9083
 Principal—Sr Cecilia Joseph
 Family Educator - Jenny Michael

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
 T. (02) 9646 1434
 Acting Principal - Susie Mravunac
 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 16/1	No Mass.
Tue 17/1	St Anthony, Abbot (Memorial) 6.45am Mass
Wed 18/1	6.45am Mass
Thu 19/1	6.45am Mass
Fri 20/1	6.45am Mass
Sat 21/1	St Agnes (Memorial) 8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary, Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 22/1	8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass

22 JANUARY 2023**3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	William ANDREWS	Jenny MICHAEL	Roland JAVIER
MUSIC & SINGING	N/A	N/A	N/A
POWERPOINT	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
LECTOR/S	Christine KENSEY	Maria SIMEONE	Phirum DUCH
	Katrina YIP	Maris MARSH	Rosalind EVANS
CHURCH SHOP	Anita YIP	Winnie CHIU	Alan THAM

Cleaners SPC: Marica Perica, Teresa Escobar, Kata Jurcic

Altar & Sacristy: Group 4 Gloria De Alkstrandt, Anna Manganaro

Saturday 8AM**21 JANUARY**

LECTOR FOR MASS

Joy SKERRITT

"Family that prays together stays together"

**PILGRIM STATUE**

This week the statue will be with the:

Sitchon & Olie Family

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

MASS INTENTIONS**Sick:**

Doreen Stanmore, Pauline Lian, Gerard Del Rosario, Romaine Cheema, Virginia Naidu, Veronica Jacobs, John Shanley, Nazih Melhem, Danilo Carreon, Fiya Gourani, Zekia Al Asady, Rosario Cruz, Jane Aquino, Graham Turner, Sergio Eamiguel, Arthur Doumit, Patsy Dutton, Joyce McDonald, Aurora Flores, Olive Torino, Michael Swat, Danny Carreon

Recently Deceased: Cardinal George Pell, Kathy Pasternak, Felix Nazareth, Pik Tai Wong

Deceased: Giuseppe Leonardi, Melchor dela Cruz

Anniversary: Antonio Javier

Other Intentions: Holy souls in purgatory.

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 65:4

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

First Reading

Is 49:3. 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I shall be glorified'; I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord, my God was my strength.

And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, to gather Israel to him: 'It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 39:2. 4. 7-10. R. vv.8. 9

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord and he stooped down to me; he heard my cry. He put a new song into my mouth, praise of our God. **R**

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings, but an open ear. You do not ask for holocaust and victim. Instead, here am I. **R**

In the scroll of the book it stands written that I should do your will. My God, I delight in your law in the depth of my heart. **R**

Your justice I have proclaimed in the great assembly. My lips I have not sealed; you know it, O Lord. **R**

Second Reading

1 Cor 1:1-3

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 1:14. 12

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Jn 1:29-34

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit." Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 22:5

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

Next week's Readings:

1st Reading: **Is 8:23-9:3**

2nd Reading: **1 Cor 1:10-13, 17**

Gospel: **Mt 4:12-23**



A Course by Fr Thomas on reading the Gospel with Historical and Old Testament Background.

Visit the link below to register your name

<https://forms.gle/wg8pGzm72M2AauQz5>

**7-8 PM on Tuesdays
From 7 Feb 2023
At Berala Church & online**

REFLECTIONS ON JOHN 1:29-34

Living the Gospel – Pointing the way

John the Baptist fills the role of 'pointing the way' to Jesus. In our own lives we also have the ability to 'point the way' towards Jesus. It doesn't need to be as blatant as John's 'Look, there he is!' However, the way we choose to live our life can point the way just as powerfully as John did. More often than not, our actions speak much more powerfully than any words we might utter. Consistently treating others with respect, maintaining prayer as a central part of life and working for justice in the world will make an impression on others and point the way to Jesus.

Scriptural context – Baptism of Jesus

Each of the three synoptic gospels (Mark, Luke and Matthew) presents an account of the baptism of Jesus. All three versions record the Spirit descending in the form of a dove. In the fourth gospel, it is interesting that the gospel writer does not actually give an account of the baptism as by the time of this gospel's writing the story is well entrenched in the Christian culture. Instead of a baptism account, John the Baptist appears to recall the event. Rather than needing to describe the event, this gospel writer treats it as a given and simply refers to it.

Gospel Focus – Ranking

There is an odd line in today's passage. John reminds the crowd that he had said 'A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me.' In Jewish tradition, the prophets and patriarchs who came earlier in their history ranked higher than those who came later. They believed that the history of salvation was at its pinnacle with God's self-revelation to Abraham. Successive episodes and characters were regarded as lesser. But John affirms that Jesus ranks before himself because Jesus existed before John. He is saying that Jesus is more than simply the latest in a long line of prophets.

FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, 17 January - St Anthony, Abbot (Memorial)



Born in 251 in upper Egypt. Died in 356. At an early age he gave away his possessions and sought the austere life and solitude in the desert. Yet he remained involved in the theological controversies of his day, defending the divinity of Christ. He attracted disciples who formed communities of hermits. The account of his life by Saint Athanasius (2 May) was extremely influential in the development and spread of monasticism. Remembered as the father of monasticism.

Saturday, 21 January - St Agnes (Memorial)



Died at Rome, perhaps in the early fourth century. One of the most widely venerated of the Roman martyrs. She was a young Roman girl who promised her life to God. Because of her beauty many men wanted to marry her, but she always refused, saying "Jesus Christ is my only Spouse." One of them became so angry when she refused him, he turned her in for being a Christian. She was then tortured and killed for refusing to deny her faith. She was only thirteen years old when she was martyred. She is the patron of young girls. Remembered in Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon)

NEWS

Sacraments 2023

Registrations for sacraments 2023 are now open. Please use the QR Code or link under the respective sacrament for further information and registration.

Reconciliation



<https://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/reconciliation/>

First Holy Communion



<https://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/holy-communion/>

Confirmation



<https://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/confirmation/>

If for any reason you do not have access to the above options or are having difficulty with the above process, please do not hesitate to contact our office via email.

Sophia Brewty | Sacramental Coordinator | sacraments@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

ST PETER CHANEL &
ST JOSEPH PARISH
BERALA
INVITE YOU TO JOIN:

KIDS PARISH CAMP



**FUN GROUP GAMES AND
ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES
OVER 3 DAYS!**

WHEN?	AGES?	WHERE?	COST?
January 19, 20 & 21, 2023 10am-2pm	5-12 year olds	Parish Hall 62 Kingland Rd	1st child: \$30 \$25 for each consecutive child

Provided:

- ✓ Lots of Fun
- ✓ Lunch
- ✓ Morning Tea
- ✓ Prayer
- ✓ Activities for all ages

Registration Link
shorturl.at/bfiH1



More Information info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au

Parish & School Picnic Day

JOIN US TO WELCOME THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR
Bring your family and a picnic lunch and be ready to enjoy a day of fun activities and family games. This is a wonderful way for our parish and school communities to get to know each other, and especially for families who are new to our parish and school.



CAMPBELL HILL PIONEER
RESERVE
LARGE CAZEBO
67 CAMPBELL HILL RD
GUILDFORD, NSW, 2161

When? **JANUARY 29TH, 2023**
10AM - 2PM

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AND
ENJOYING A FUN DAY TOGETHER**



The harmony of unity

From St Ignatius of Antioch's letter to the Ephesians

It is right for you to give glory in every way to Jesus Christ who has given glory to you; you must be made holy in all things by being united in perfect obedience, in submission to the bishop and the presbyters.

I am not giving you orders as if I were a person of importance. Even if I am a prisoner for the name of Christ, I am not yet made perfect in Jesus Christ. I am now beginning to be a disciple and I am speaking to you as my fellow-disciples. It is you who should be strengthening me by your faith, your encouragement, your patience, your serenity. But since love will not allow me to be silent about you, I am taking the opportunity to urge you to be united in conformity with the mind of God. For Jesus Christ, our life, without whom we cannot live, is the mind of the Father, just as the bishops, appointed over the whole earth, are in conformity with the mind of Jesus Christ.

It is fitting, therefore, that you should be in agreement with the mind of the bishop as in fact you are. Your excellent presbyters, who are a credit to God, are as suited to the bishop as strings to a harp. So in your harmony of mind and heart the song you sing is Jesus Christ. Every one of you should form a choir, so that, in harmony of sound through harmony of hearts, and in unity taking the note from God, you may sing with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father. If you do this, he will listen to you and see from your good works that you are members of his Son. It is then an advantage to you to live in perfect unity, so that at all times you may share in God.

If in a short space of time I have become so close a friend of your bishop – in a friendship not based on nature but on spiritual grounds – how much more blessed do I judge you to be, for you are as united with him as the Church is to Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ to the Father, so that all things are in harmony through unity. Let no one make any mistake: unless a person is within the sanctuary, he is deprived of God's bread. For if the prayer of one or two has such power, how much more has the prayer of the bishop and the whole Church.

Just for Laughs—Lord Help Me!



Dear Heavenly Father,
So far, today, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped or lost my temper. I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, or self centered. I'm really happy about that so far. But in a few minutes I'm going to be getting out of bed and then I'm going to need a lot of help. Thank you! Amen



CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE
OF SYDNEY

MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday, 11 January 2023

DEATH OF HIS EMINENCE GEORGE CARDINAL PELL

A Statement from the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP

Today we have lost a Cardinal of the Church, a former Archbishop of Sydney, a fine priest, a good Christian soul.

The Church in Australia and around the world is deeply saddened at the sudden passing of Cardinal George Pell, the former Archbishop of Sydney and of Melbourne.

Cardinal Pell's episcopal motto was 'Be Not Afraid' and through good days and bad, he lived up to these words as a man of courage and with a big heart, who trusted in divine providence.

He fearlessly proclaimed the Gospel and worked to explain the teachings of the Church. He spoke truth as he found it, however difficult or unpopular. He was also a man of prayer, of deep Christian faith and a loving shepherd to his flock in parishes, schools, hospitals and throughout his dioceses.

I was in Rome last week for the funeral of another great churchman and close friend of Cardinal Pell, Pope Benedict XVI. The Cardinal and I did not know it would be the last time we would see each other in this life, but he was in good spirits and his regular, witty self, and I am thankful that we shared this time together.

Cardinal Pell was a proud Australian who loved this country and its people and he was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia in 2005.

The Archdiocese of Sydney thrived under his leadership. He saw great promise in youth, and his vision in bringing World Youth Day 2008 to Sydney saw a whole generation of young Catholics respond to Christ's call. Our community as a whole was uplifted by this colossal event and moved by the testimony it offered.

His Eminence was an author of books and a regular newspaper columnist, a lecturer and leader in Catholic education, and a scholar in his own right. He served the broader Church as a member of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Vox Clara Commission, the Pontifical Council for the Family and the Congregation of Bishops.

As Prefect for the Secretariat of the Economy, member of Pope Francis' Council of Cardinal Advisors and one of the highest-ranking church officials in the world, the Cardinal's work for openness in Church affairs was hugely important.

His final years were marked by his wrongful conviction and imprisonment, but he bore this with grace and goodwill and gave us all an example of how to accept suffering with dignity and peace. His words of reconciliation with his detractors and concern for survivors increased in authenticity as he steadfastly and successfully maintained his innocence.

He will be remembered as a courageous leader who inspired so many clergy and lay faithful around the world to proclaim Christ crucified, risen and with us still.

For audio and video news grabs from the Catholic Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP [click here](#).

For images of His Eminence George Cardinal Pell [click here](#).

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