



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/UC...)

Holy Mass: Tuesday-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.

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

25 JUNE 2023

Your Faith Your Strength



Manipur state of India is burning with violence now. Taking advantage of the conflict between Meitei and Kuki people, Hindus are attacking Christians and burning churches. At least 80 Christians have been reported killed since the violence started on 3rd of May. (The real number may be higher). To make things worse, the Prime Minister of India has not said a thing until now though the persecution is continuing. The same Prime Minister was complaining about the lack of religious freedom for Hindus in USA. In this bleak political situation and physical persecution what do you think would be the response of the Manipuri Christians?

"We believe that God is with us in this battle," says a local Kuki believer. *"Though the churches don't function as normal, the church is open for the believers to come and pray, and many believers are praying. We believe that the prayers from Christians all over the world have kept the tribal believers safe until now. Pray with us that God will strengthen Christians to be on their knees to pray and seek God."*

The steadfastness of their faith amid such an adversity is simply inspirational! They trust in the Gospel words, *"Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered."* Our Lord said, *"Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell."* (Mt 10:26, 28). Ask yourself whether your faith is strong enough to believe in the Gospel promises, as the persecuted Christians demonstrate.

Loss of faith in Jesus makes a person sinful, which no faithful would want. Out of our frail human nature, we all fail in our love for one another and for God. Sometimes it may even lead to doing evil things. That makes us, all of us, sinners. God forgives sinners. But when you turn your back to God, showing no trust and faith in Jesus, you become sinful. Even God cannot forgive sinfulness. Such outright rejection of the love of God will end up in eternal damnation. May the love of God help you to face any challenges the world might throw at you, even persecutions and lead you to the fruits of the Kingdom of God, peace, joy and fellowship. Your faith is your strength.

Mass of Anointing

When :

Saturday, 1 July at 10 AM

Where:

St Peter Chanel Church

Elderly and Sick are specially invited to the Holy Mass of the Anointing of the Sick. It will be followed by morning tea.



Parish Priest

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

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

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), Jenny Michael (Asst Co-ordinator, Social Committee), Amanda Dowdell, Amanda Gahan, Jennifer Makerry, Michael Kim, Natasha Ellis, Susie Mravunac, Sr Cecilia Joseph, Sophia Brewty

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.jamberoobbbey.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 26/6	No Mass.
Tue 27/6	6.45am Mass
Wed 28/6	St Irenaeus (Memorial) 6.45am Mass
Thu 29/6	Sts Peter & Paul (Solemnity) 6.45am Mass 7.00pm RCIA
Fri 30/6	6.45am Mass
Sat 1/7	10.00am Anointing Mass 5.00pm Vigil Mass (<i>Sacrament of First Holy Communion</i>)
Sun 2/7	7.45am Morning Prayer 8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass (<i>Sacrament of First Holy Communion</i>) 2.00pm Malayalam Mass & Eucharistic Procession

2 JULY 2023**13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	Charlie Scully	Dom PANGILINAN
MUSIC & SINGING	N/A		SALT ENLIGHT
POWERPOINT	Need Volunteer	Liva or Lavinia	Brewty Family
LECTOR/S	Mai NGUYEN	Michael CHOW	Roshan SEBASTIAN
	Joy SKERRITT	Maris MARSH	Sharon SEBASTIAN
CHURCH SHOP	Joseph LAHOUD	Charlie Scully	Roland JAVIER

Cleaners SPC: Uisa Family**Altar & Sacristy:** Group 3 Korina Kinda, Antoinette Boudaher**Saturday 8AM****1 JULY**

LECTOR FOR MASS

Christine KENSEY

*"Family that pray together
 stay together"*

Pilgrim Statue

This week at

**D'Souza & Skerritt
 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: Doreen Stanmore, Pauline Lian, Gerard Del Rosario, Romaine Cheema, Virginia Naidu, Veronica Jacobs, Nazih Melhem, Danilo Carreon, Fiya Gourani, Zekia Al Asady, Graham Turner, Aurora Flores, Maureen Hynes, Giovanni Simeone, Richard Langford, Mark Agravail, Hoa Thi Vu, Marilyn Tangonan, Tony Rodrigues, Jane Aquino, Josephine Laing

Recently Deceased: Olive Torino, Peter Kennedy

Deceased: Rocco Cavaleri, Domenico Romeo, Giuseppe Leonardi, Eddie Leonardi, Maria Nguyen

Anniversary: Ted Duffy, Ray Mills

Other Intentions: Holy souls in purgatory.

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 27:8-9

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

First Reading

Jer 20:10-13

Jeremiah said:

'I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, "Perhaps he will be seduced into error.

Then we will master him and take our revenge!" But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you.

Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 68:8-10. 14. 17. 33-35. R. v.14

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame covers my face, that I have become a stranger to my brothers, an alien to my own mother's sons. I burn with zeal for your house and taunts against you fall on me. **R**

This is my prayer to you, my prayer for your favour. In your great love, answer me, O God, with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; in your compassion, turn towards me. **R**

The poor when they see it will be glad and God-seeking hearts will revive; for the Lord listens to the needy and does not spurn his servants in their chains. Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, the sea and all its living creatures. **R**

Second Reading

Rom 5:12-15

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, and you also will be my witnesses. Alleluia!

Gospel

Mt 10:26-33

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

Communion Antiphon

Ps 144:15

The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

Next week's Readings:

1st Reading: **2 Kgs 4:8-11. 14-16**

2nd Reading: **Rom 6:3-4. 8-11**

Gospel: **Mt 10:37-42**

REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 10:26-33

Gospel Focus – Fear

When scripture uses the term fear, it tends to fall into one of two meanings. When used in the context of 'do not be afraid' or 'fear not', it is a command to not be daunted by the woes and trials that the world imposes. The other use tends to be a command that we should fear God. In this context, the word does not mean to be frightened of God but rather to show proper reverence. To fear God is to stand in wonder and awe rather than to cower and hide. So, fear God, but do not be afraid!

Living the Gospel – From the house-tops

One of the messages of Jesus to his disciples and, through him, of Matthew to the original community, is to have courage and to have pride in their belief. No matter what threat or persecution they are to endure, the command is to proclaim the message of Jesus from the house-tops. They are to be proud of what they believe and be prepared to share it with others. In a world today that is not always open to the message of Jesus, we too are called to be proud of what we believe and not whisper it in the darkness.

Scriptural context – The Q source

This gospel passage that appears at Mt 10:26-33 is virtually reproduced in the gospel of Luke (12:2-12) but does not appear in the gospel of Mark. Both the gospels of Matthew and Luke draw extensively on the gospel of Mark as a source for their writing but scholars have also deduced that they shared another unknown source. The content of this lost source can only be deduced by the identification of parallel passages such as this one that appear in Matthew and Luke but not Mark. The undiscovered document is known as the 'Q source' after the German word, Quelle (source).

FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, 28 June - St Irenaeus (Memorial)



Born probably at Smyrna (Turkey) about 130. Died at Lyons (France) about 200. A pupil of Saint Polycarp (23 February) who became a presbyter and bishop of Lyons, the principal city of Gaul. Intervened in Rome for

patience and reconciliation in Church disputes. Among the first theologians of the Western Church, he refuted gnosticism and further developed the theology of the incarnation. Remembered for his fidelity to apostolic tradition and traditionally venerated as a martyr.

Mass of the Feast at 6.45am.

Thursday, 29 June - Sts Peter & Paul (Solemnity)



Died as martyrs at Rome under Nero, between 64-67. This pre-eminent feast day of the city of Rome has been observed on this date since the mid-third century. It commemorates the martyrdoms of Peter the "chief of the apostles" and Paul the "apostle to the Gentiles".

Remembered for their faith, their courage, and their leadership during the difficult days of the birth of the Church.

Mass of the Feast at 6.45am.

NEWS

Holy Father's Appeal 2023



Image credit: vatican.va

Our parish, in union with all parishes around the world, will hold the annual Holy Father's Appeal next weekend – 1st and 2nd July – for which we ask your support.

Through your gift, you can help Pope Francis bring hope, faith, and the spirit of Christ to our less fortunate brothers and sisters around the world. Thank you.

Donate by visiting www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-holy-fathers-appeal, phone 1800 753 959 or through our parish collection.



SAVE THE DATE

*Father Thomas
Farewell*

You Are Invited to Celebrate the contributions Father Thomas has made to our community.

JULY 30, 2023

10am Mass followed by festivities in the Hall at 11am

Please send via email any photos or videos you may have of Father Thomas to: amanda.gahan@syd.catholic.edu.au or susie.mravunac@syd.catholic.edu.au

SUBMIT

A Note from Your Pastor

Arriving on 31 December 2011, this is the twelfth year. As per the policy of the Archbishop, it is time for me to move on to another parish at the end of the year.

I am planning a Sabbatical leave before the next appointment. Therefore, I will be leaving Berala after July (next month). 10am on Sunday 30 July will be my last Mass as your pastor. My Sabbatical program in San Antonio, Texas, USA will be from August to December.

The next parish is not yet assigned. There are over six months for the Archbishop to assign it. But you will have a new Pastor starting on 1 August, though who it will be is not announced yet. As soon as I get to know it, I shall let you also know so that you can be prepared to welcome him.

I shall spare my farewell word for 30 July.

~ Fr Thomas

Alpha at Berala



"Alpha is a tool for evangelisation that creates a space, where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about Jesus. Alpha is just the beginning. Once guests experience Alpha, they understand who Jesus is and can start to explore their relationship with him."

Our sincere thanks to all those who have expressed their interest in being part of the **Alpha Pilot Program** in our parish. If you're thinking about this, please put down your names and 'Come and See'. The only prerequisite needed is a love for Jesus and the desire to make Him known.

During the July school holidays, the **Alpha Pilot Program** will kick start with a *Come and See* evening. The organising team will get in touch with each of you in the upcoming weeks with the specific details of the '*Come and See*' evening. One thing for sure is that there will be good food, lots of conversation and you'll step away wanting to know more.

"He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day" - John 1:39

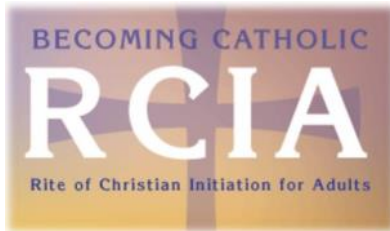
Got some questions? Please call the parish office on 02 9644 7787 with your queries and Trevor Brewty or Danni Sinisa will get in touch with you.



Are you passionate about music?
Do you have a voice that deserves to be heard?

JOIN OUR PARISH CHOIR

CONTACT RENEE ON 0405 558 064



Catholic Inquiry

A new program of RCIA is up and running for those who are inquiring or wanting to join Catholic Church. Sunday morning and Thursday night are the meeting times. For the sake of those who cannot attend Sunday sessions, there will be a repeat session on Thursday nights. Sunday sessions will be after 8am Mass (9am–10am), and the Thursday sessions will be 7pm–8pm. Both sessions will be held in the boardroom next to the parish office.

New inquirers are welcome to contact Andrew Tham on 0403 566 001 or rcia.berala@gmail.com. Or speak with Fr Thomas.

2023/24 Planned Giving Envelopes

Planned giving envelopes for the next financial year are now available for collection at the back of the church. Please note that some planned giving numbers have been re-allocated, therefore, you may not have the same number as this year.



Only use the new planned giving envelopes from July 2023.

Should you wish to join the planned giving via monthly direct debit, please contact the Parish Office on 9644 7787 or email info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au to obtain a copy of the form.

The Christian is another Christ *A treatise on Christian Perfection by St Gregory of Nyssa*

More than anyone, St Paul understood who Christ is and those requirements needed by the person named after him. Paul spoke of what he himself had accomplished and accurately imitated him in a manner to show the Lord expressed in his own person. By careful imitation Paul became a model so that it is no longer he who is perceived as living and speaking, but Christ who lives in him. Knowing his own blessings, that good man said *You seek proof that Christ is speaking in me* and, elsewhere, *It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me*.

Paul's words show us the significance of Christ's name, when he said that Christ is the power and wisdom of God. But he also called Christ: peace; the inaccessible light where God dwells; our sanctification and redemption; the great high priest; our Passover and our sacrifice of expiation; the brightness of glory; the very image of God's substance; the creator of the ages; our spiritual food and drink; the rock and the water; the foundation of faith; the chief cornerstone; the image of the great and invisible God; the head of his body, the Church; the first-born of the new creation and the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep; the first-born from the dead, the first-born among many brothers; the mediator between God and man; the only-begotten Son crowned with honour and glory; the Lord of glory; the beginning of all things; the King of justice, but not only of justice but also the King of peace and the King of all things, the King whose kingdom is boundless.

Paul gave all these names to Christ and many others too: so many that they cannot easily be counted. But they are all related, and if you understand the meaning of each of them on its own and put those meanings together then you will come to understand the full meaning of that one word "Christ" and that will show you – as far as the human soul is able to comprehend it – God's inexpressible greatness.

The good Lord has granted us the privilege of sharing in this, the greatest, most divine and chief of all names, so that, honoured by the name of Christ, we are called "Christians." So then we must ensure that in us are seen all the meanings of the name of Christ, so that our title is not false and meaningless but is borne out by our lives.

Just for Laughs

*I once gave my husband the silent treatment for an entire week.
When it was over, he said, "We got along really well there for a while!"*

