



## 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/UCBeralaParish)

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.

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**9 JULY 2023**

## I WILL GIVE YOU REST

Prasad flies in and out of a Kerala city just for burglary! That does not mean he is not religious! He always prayed in the local temple before starting his burglary! He believes in a god who will assist him to steal the hard-earned treasures of other people. Prasad does not have any qualms about stealing because he trusts in the material riches more than a benevolent god. Unfortunately, such kind of faith is not too rare. But genuine faith is far from it.

Once, John, a reformed alcoholic expressed his willingness to help other addicts. Therefore, I referred him to someone who had a terrible drinking problem. John, after studying the case, told me that the client is not broken enough to be helped. The alcoholic will have to hit rock bottom before he admits that things are beyond his control. That's when he could be helped. Brokenness in life makes it easy to realise the futility of relying on wealth and riches. It also helps to realise how gracious God is. Someone who is totally broken would be totally dependent on God like a child clinging to mum. Clinging to Jesus like a child with total trust is the kind of faith we need.



With childlike submission to Jesus, the Word of God will not be a burden for you, but a delightful experience. Like a child cherishing the words coming out of its mum's mouth, he would find joy in the words of Jesus. Yoke in the Bible is a metaphor for the Law of Moses or the religious precepts. The Mosaic Law taught what the People of God should not be doing. They were restrictive. But Jesus' teachings were liberating. The Lord taught how to employ the Love of God and neighbour to greater satisfaction in life. Loving God and neighbour is not a burden, but joyful and peaceful. Real faith is personal like a Father-Son relationship; where there is total trust, and the disciplines are not burdensome. Having entered in such a personal

relationship with God, Jesus will give us 'rest'. It is a 'rest' like the rest of God in the book of Genesis. God who created the world. After each day's creation God found them good. At the end of all creation God rested on the seventh day with a sense of accomplishment. Similarly, if you trust Jesus and depend on him to recreate your life from whatever brokenness you may have, you will be able to rest with a sense of joy and accomplishment. Let this good news be the guide for your life.

## Keep in Touch with Fr Thomas

Should you be interested to be in touch with Fr Thomas after his transfer, especially for his weekly reflections send him an email to [thomas.kurunthanam@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:thomas.kurunthanam@sydneycatholic.org) soon and he will be happy to share his thoughts and news with you.

**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

**Safeguarding Officer**

Robert McGinn

**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 10/7	No Mass.
Tue 11/7	<b>St Benedict (Memorial)</b> 6.45am Mass
Wed 12/7	6.45am Mass
Thu 13/7	6.45am Mass 7.00pm RCIA
Fri 14/7	6.45am Mass
Sat 15/7	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary, Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 16/7	7.45am Morning Prayer 8.00am Mass 10.00am Mas

**16 JULY 2023****15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Christine KENSEY	Jenny MICHAEL	Trevor BREWTY
MUSIC & SINGING	N/A	N/A	TONGAN CHOIR
POWERPOINT	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Tongan Choir
LECTOR/S	Sharon SEBASTIAN	Maris MARSH	Rosalind EVANS
	Roshan SEBASTIAN	Robert MCGINN	Phirum DUCH
CHURCH SHOP	Joseph LAHOUD	Wnnie CHIU	Margaret THAM

**Cleaners SPC:** Need Volunteers**Altar & Sacristy:** Group 1 Gwen Bergstedt; Anita Yip**Saturday 8AM****15 JULY**

LECTOR FOR MASS

Christine KENSEY

*"Family that pray together  
 stay together."*

**Pilgrim Statue**

This week at

**Snell & 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:** 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, Leo M, Ana Lisica

**Anniversary:** Gloria Collins, Robert Dirk**Recently Deceased:** Doreen Stanmore, Carmel Hayes**Deceased:** Frank Hayes, Nellie Lim, Eulogio Orrego Sanchez, Maria Matasic, Giuseppe Leonardi, Rosa Marrone**Other Intentions:** Holy souls in purgatory.

## ANTIPHONS & READINGS

### Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 47:10-11

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

### First Reading

Zec 9:9-10

The Lord says this:

‘Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion! Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem! See now, your king comes to you; he is victorious, he is triumphant, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will banish chariots from Ephraim and horses from Jerusalem; the bow of war will be banished. He will proclaim peace for the nations. His empire shall stretch from sea to sea, from the River to the ends of the earth.’

### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14. R. v.1

**I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.**

I will give you glory, O God my King, I will bless your name for ever. I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever. **R**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love. How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures. **R**

All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, and your friends shall repeat their blessing. They shall speak of the glory of your reign and declare your might, O God. **R**

The Lord is faithful in all his words and loving in all his deeds. The Lord supports all who fall and raises all who are bowed down. **R**

### Second Reading

Rom 8:9.11-13

Your interests are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him, and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

So then, my brothers, there is no necessity for us to obey our unspiritual selves or to live unspiritual lives. If you do live in that way, you are doomed to die; but if by the Spirit you put an end to the misdeeds of the body you will live.

### Gospel Acclamation

See Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

Mt 11:25-30

Jesus exclaimed, ‘I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

‘Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.’

### Communion Antiphon

Ps 33:9

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

### Next week's Readings:

1st Reading: **Is 55:10-11**

2nd Reading: **Rom 8:18-23**

Gospel: **Mt 13:1-23**

## CHURCH SHOP

The Church Shop is stocked with new items! Check out some great items perfect for gifting! The Church Shop is open on Saturdays before and after the 5.00pm Vigil mass and on Sundays after the 8.00am & before the 10.00am masses. Drop by our Church shop and grab a gift for that special someone!



## REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 11:25-30

### Historical Context – Jewish education

Education in Galilee at the time of Jesus was highly valued. From the age of five, all boys and girls studied to memorise in totality the five books of the Torah (the first five books of the Bible). This period of study was called Beth Sefer. From about 10-14 they continued studying and memorising the remaining books of scripture (Beth Talmud). From about 14 or 15, only the very best students would enter Beth Midrash and apply to a rabbi to become his talmid – disciple – and seek to take on that rabbi's yoke.

### Living the Gospel – Shoulder my yoke

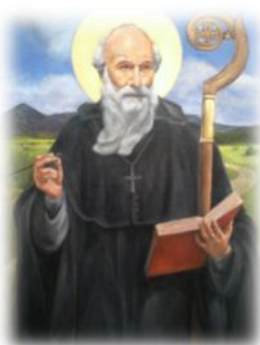
Jesus invites us to shoulder his yoke and learn from him for he is gentle and humble in heart. The yoke he invites us to shoulder is the deceptively simple teaching: love God and love your neighbour. To love God is to consciously make a place in our lives for God. The busy spin that tends to be characteristic of so many people's lives today does not allow room for God; does not allow room for prayer and quiet; does not allow room for compassionate response to others. To love God and love our neighbour we must first make room for them.

### Have you thought? Thank God!

Jesus' quite intimate words to the Father in today's passage carry with them an enormous amount of relief and perhaps released frustration. It is almost a cry of 'Thank God!' for his disciples have finally 'got it'. Jesus blesses the Father for revealing the truth to these simple men whom Jesus had chosen to follow him. The men Jesus chose as disciples were not following another rabbi and so had not been the very best students from their village. They had the education of most children but nothing more – otherwise they would have been following someone else!

## FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

### Tuesday, 11 July - St Benedict, Abbot (Memorial)



St Benedict was born at Nursia in c.480, the brother of St Scholastica. Most of what is known of his life comes from St Gregory the Great's writings. He left his studies in Rome to become a hermit in the mountains near Subiaco, and after a while many followers joined him. It is believed that some monks tried to poison him, possibly out of jealousy or due to his strict discipline. He moved to Monte Cassino, where he completed his Rule; a written guide for those living a monastic life, with a strong emphasis on obedience, moderation and community life. Although Benedict never became a priest or ever intended to found a religious order, his Rule became the fundamental monastic code in Europe and is still observed by many religious orders throughout the world.

*Mass at 6.45am.*

## NEWS

### Fr Josh Arrives On 11 August

REV JOSHUA MIECHELS' appointment as Administrator of Berala is from August 1. But he will be away then on World Youth Day. After the WYD, he will arrive on Friday, 11 August. Therefore, Fr Thomas will be staying back till Thursday 10 August to supply the Masses.

Currently Fr Josh is Assistant Priest at Sydney City South parishes. For a year his title will be Administrator before the installation as Parish Priest of Berala. Archbishop has promised to appoint an Assistant Priest also in the near future.

Berala is a hospitable parish. I am sure you will make Fr Josh and his assistant (when he comes) feel welcome. With new and young priests, you can expect greater vibrancy of pastoral activities in Berala.

### 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 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.

## Malayalam Farewell

Fr Thomas was farewelled last Sunday by the Malayalam Community with a concelebrated Mass, Eucharistic Procession and Dinner.



## CFC Handmaids of the Lord

Handmaids of the Lord invite mature women to attend a 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.

The program will run every Sunday starting on 13th August until 1st October 2023 at 2:00pm – 4:00pm at St Joseph Catholic Church, 26 Thurlow Road, Riverwood.

For more information, please contact Joy Skerritt (0401 353 826), Josielyn Dunshea (0431 870 733), Grace Mateo (0422 661 142).



## 2022/23 Planned Giving Receipts

If you would like to obtain a receipt for planned giving for the last financial year, please contact the Parish Office for the receipt to be printed or emailed to you.

Also contact the Parish Office should you wish to join the planned giving via envelopes or monthly direct debit. Thank 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

A graphic featuring musical notes and a staff line on a blue background.

## Just for Laughs

A lonely man placed an ad in the paper. "Wanted: A wife." Within a week, he'd received hundreds of replies. They were all the same: "You can have mine."





Fr Thomas, Catholic Chaplain to Auburn District Hospital, met with the Palliative Care Unit team on 15 June. The team includes chaplains from different faiths, nurses and doctors. To the credit of the Catholic patients and their faith, Fr Thomas frequents the Hospital far more than other chaplains.

The weekly Communion visits to the Hospital was halted with COVID19 and has not recommenced yet. It will be another to do item for Fr Josh to reconstitute the Hospital Ministry Team and resume the Holy Communion Visits.

## **A sacrifice to God is a contrite spirit** *From a sermon by Saint Augustine*

*I acknowledge my transgression*, says David. If I admit my fault, then you will pardon it. Let us never assume that if we live good lives we will be without sin; our lives should be praised only when we continue to beg for pardon. But men are hopeless creatures, and the less they concentrate on their own sins, the more interested they become in the sins of others. They seek to criticise, not to correct. Unable to excuse themselves, they are ready to accuse others. This was not the way that David showed us how to pray and make amends to God, when he said: *I acknowledge my transgression, and my sin is ever before me*. He did not concentrate on others' sins; he turned his thoughts on himself. He did not merely stroke the surface, but he plunged inside and went deep down within himself. He did not spare himself, and therefore was not impudent in asking to be spared.

Do you want God to be appeased? Learn what you are to do that God may be pleased with you. Consider the psalm again: *If you wanted sacrifice, I would indeed have given it; in burnt offerings you will take no delight*. Are you then to be without sacrifice? Are you to offer nothing? Will you please God without an offering? Consider what you read in the same psalm: *If you wanted sacrifice, I would indeed have given it; in burnt offerings you will take no delight*. But continue to listen, and say with David: *A sacrifice to God is a contrite spirit; God does not despise a contrite and humble heart*. Cast aside your former offerings, for now you have found out what you are to offer. In the days of your fathers you would have made offerings of cattle – these were the sacrifices. *If you wanted sacrifice, I would indeed have given it*. These then, Lord, you do not want, and yet you do want sacrifice.

*You will take no delight in burnt offerings*, David says. If you will not take delight in burnt offerings, will you remain without sacrifice? Not at all. *A sacrifice to God is a contrite spirit; God does not despise a contrite and humble heart*.

You now have the offering you are to make. No need to examine the herd, no need to outfit ships and travel to the most remote provinces in search of incense. Search within your heart for what is pleasing to God. Your heart must be crushed. Are you afraid that it might perish so? You have the reply: *Create a clean heart in me, O God*. For a clean heart to be created, the unclean one must be crushed.

We should be displeased with ourselves when we commit sin, for sin is displeasing to God. Sinful though we are, let us at least be like God in this, that we are displeased at what displeases him. In some measure then you will be in harmony with God's will, because you find displeasing in yourself what is abhorrent to your Creator.