



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-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 Josh or the parish office on 9644 7787.

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD - YEAR A

6 AUGUST 2023

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate Transfigured Bodysouls

We have to get rid of the idea that the soul is a dot of energy in some hidden core of our body. In fact, the body is in the soul. There is no part of my body which is not immersed in my soul. It is my whole person, bodysoul, which needs to be saved. As Thomas Aquinas says: *'If only my soul is saved, I am not saved.'*

Today's Gospel does not portray an out-of-body experience of religious ecstasy. Jesus' body was translucent, totally radiant with Divine Light. Further, this transfiguration was not a solitary experience for Jesus. Peter, James and John witnessed it precisely because it told them what our Heavenly Father desired as their destiny beyond martyrdom, if only they would listen to Jesus.

Heavenly salvation will involve my whole person, bodysoul, being transformed. But could a person, during their earthly existence, share in the transfiguration experience of Christ?

We could pause for a moment to 'Google' or otherwise get hold of my favourite story of a saint – St Seraphim of Sarov – and pray that we may share with his disciple the bodily experience of *'immeasurable wellbeing'* – *'infinite joy in our hearts'*.



Donate to the Charitable Works Fund Appeal

5 & 6 August is our parish appeal.

Help keep alive vital ministries of the Church in service to those who need it most. In hospitals, churches, schools communities and families, your donation is making your world a loving, caring and compassionate place. Give generously. Your tax-deductible gift changes lives. Thank you!

Donate at <https://www.ourfaithourworks.org/give-to-cwf/> or complete the parish envelope.

Thank You!

I was overwhelmed by the farewell Mass and the gathering last Sunday. It was so humbling to see such a great gathering of friends and parishioners at the Mass and the lunch. Thanks to the beautiful bunch of organisers, including the Pastoral Council, to those who brought food and other personal gifts. I have never been in need at Berala. I always received much more than what I needed. Thanks for the affection and concern you have had for me. The Church looked stunningly beautiful with the floral arrangements, thanks to Gwen Bergstedt and Maria Nguyen. Renee Salar coordinated the Parish Choir and the Tongan Choir and other singers for the superb singing. The decorations, Hall setting, planning, and so much other details had to be taken care of, which you my dear friends did well. All these, as I said last Sunday, will make me nostalgic when I leave for my Sabbatical and thereafter.

~Fr Thomas Kurunthanam

**Please note that there will be NO morning mass on Friday 11 August
and NO 8am Mass on Saturday, 12 August.**

Parish Administrator

Fr Josh Miechels
 info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au (Office)
 Joshua.Miechels@sydneycatholic.org
 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
 rcia.berala@gmail.com
 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 7/7	No Mass.
Tue 8/8	St Mary of the Cross (Solemnity) 6.45am Mass
Wed 9/8	6.45am Mass
Thu 10/8	St Lawrence (Feast) 6.45am Mass 7.00pm RCIA
Fri 11/8	St Clare (Memorial) No Mass.
Sat 12/8	No 8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary, Confession 5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun 13/8	7.45am Morning Prayer 8.00am Mass 10.00am Mass

13 AUGUST 2023**19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Mass	VIGIL	8AM	10AM
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	Robert MCGINN	William ANDREWS
MUSIC & SINGING	N/A	Cyril EDWARDS Liva FUNAKI & Lavinia FIFITA	SACRED HEART CHOIR
POWERPOINT	Need Volunteer	Liva or Lavinia	Sacred Heart Choir
LECTOR/S	Amanda DOWDELL	Jenny MICHAEL	Ibrahim MATAR
	Noeline DONNELLAN	Maria SIMEONE	Rosalind EVANS
CHURCH SHOP	Anita YIP	Catherine MCGINN	Alan THAM
Cleaners SPC: Marian Rosary Group		Altar & Sacristy: Group 1 Gwen Bergstedt; Anita Yip	

Saturday 8AM**12 AUGUST**

LECTOR FOR MASS

Joy SKERRITT

*"Family that pray together
 stay together"*

**Pilgrim Statue**

This week at

Mayo & Goubran 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, Aurora Flores, Giovanni Simeone, Marilyn Tangonan, Tony Rodrigues, Jane Aquino, Josephine Laing, Ana Lisica, Rob McDonell, Marco Titus Sastre, Sigsy Tan, Blue Tan, Leonardo Martin, Richard Langford, Patricia Browne, Chloe Scharenguivel

Anniversary: Giuseppe Leonardi, Teresita Mortillero

Deceased: Valerie de Souza, Daniel Latorre Sr, Eddie Leonardi

Other Intentions: Holy souls in purgatory.

Recently Deceased: Fr Henry Boulad, Sr Marie-Paul Bernard, Nessie Magracia

ANTIPHONS & READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf Matthew 17:5

In a resplendent cloud the Holy Spirit appeared. The Father's voice was heard: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.

First Reading

Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14

As I watched:

Thrones were set in place and one of great age took his seat. His robe was white as snow, the hair of his head as pure as wool. His throne was a blaze of flames, its wheels were a burning fire. A stream of fire poured out, issuing from his presence.

A thousand thousand waited on him, ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. A court was held and the books were opened. I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man.

He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 96:1-2. 5-6. 9. R. vv.1. 9.

The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth.

The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, let all the coastlands be glad. Cloud and darkness are his raiment; his throne, justice and right. **R**

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth. The skies proclaim his justice; all peoples see his glory. **R**

For you indeed are the Lord most high above all the earth exalted far above all spirits. **R**

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16-19

It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; we had seen his majesty for ourselves. He was honoured and glorified by God the Father, when the

Sublime Glory itself spoke to him and said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour.' We heard this ourselves, spoken from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.

So we have confirmation of what was said in prophecies; and you will be right to depend on prophecy and take it as a lamp for lighting a way through the dark until the dawn comes and the morning star rises in your minds.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 17:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is my Son, my beloved, in whom is all my delight: listen to him.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

Communion Antiphon

Cf 1 John 3:2

When Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Next week's Readings:

1st Reading: **1 Kgs 19:9. 11-13**

2nd Reading: **Rom 9:1-5**

Gospel: **Mt 14:22-33**

REFLECTIONS ON MATTHEW 17-1-9

Historical Context – Moses and Elijah

Both Moses and Elijah had powerful encounters with God on the top of a mountain – it is appropriate that it is they who appear beside Jesus in the transfiguration account. Moses travelled up Mt Sinai to receive the Law from God in the form of the Ten Commandments. When Elijah was fleeing for his life from Queen Jezebel he fled to Mt Horeb. The word of the Lord came to Elijah and told him to stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord was about to pass by. Elijah experienced the Lord in the whisper of a gentle breeze.

Have you thought? Transfigured / Transformed

Jesus' transfiguration was a physical transformation that was able to be witnessed by his disciples. In our lives we have many transforming moments but they are rarely as physically obvious to others as Jesus' transfiguration. Sometimes we fail to recognise a transformative event until well after the fact – sometimes years later. It might be nice if our clothes began to shine white whenever something significant and transformative was happening to us! It might help us to pay attention to the important and life-changing moments of our lives instead of letting them slip by!

Living the Gospel – Down from the mountain

Sometimes we experience powerful moments of connection with God or with other people. Sometimes this might be through a special experience of nature; a meaningful retreat experience; a powerful sense of being 'in tune' with another person; a reflective prayer experience; or some other significant experience. The temptation when we have these experiences is to wish that we could remain in the experience. The challenge, however, is to take that experience back into the everyday of our lives – changed by it without remaining in it.

FEAST & MEMORIALS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, 8 August - St Mary of the Cross (Solemnity)



Born in Melbourne (Australia) in 1842. Died in Sydney on this day in 1909. Took the religious name Mary of the

Cross. Responding to the isolation of colonial families, she pioneered a new form of religious life to provide education for their children. She and her sisters shared the life of the poor and the itinerant, offering special care to destitute women and children. Remembered for her eagerness to discover God's will in all things, for her charity in the face of calumny, and for her abiding trust in God's providence. Named as the second patron of Australia on 15 January 2013.

Mass at 6.45am.

Thursday, 10 August - St Lawrence (Feast)



Died at Rome on this day in 258, four days after Saint Sixtus II (7 August), with whom he was closely associated.

Honoured for his almsgiving. Became, after the apostles, the most celebrated martyr of the Church of Rome. His cult spread throughout the Church from the fourth century. Remembered in Eucharistic Prayer I (The Roman Canon), and in five ancient Roman churches dedicated to him.

Mass at 6.45am.

Friday, 11 August - St Clare (Memorial)



Born at Assisi (Italy) in 1193 or 1194. Died there on this day in 1253. From a well-to-do family, Clare embraced an evangelical way

of life after hearing the preaching of Saint Francis of Assisi (4 October). Founded the order of the Poor Ladies, now the Poor Clares. Remembered for her life of extreme poverty, austerity, contemplation, and charity.

No mass.

NEWS

Liturgy Roster

The current Liturgy Roster from 5 August has been emailed out. If you would like to obtain a printed copy or if you wish to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office on 9644 7787 or email info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au. Thank you!

Dear brothers and sisters,

It was a nice surprise to bump into some parishioners while in the Holy Land accompanying pilgrims to World Youth Day. I was very touched by the welcome to the parish they gave me, and that all of you have given me so far.

Please be assured I am bringing the parish, and all of your intentions, to each of the Holy places.

I have also obtained a surprise gift for you all, which I will give you at the right time when I get back.

Saint Peter Chanel and Saint Joseph, pray for us!



Fr Joshua Miechels



NEWS FROM YOUR PARISH SCHOOL



9646 1434
2 New St
Auburn



At St Joseph the Worker we are always working hard to reach our goals. We come up with strategies, practices and tricks to make sure we understand our goal and master the goals we set ourselves. When we do reach a certain number of goals the School Principal recognises our achievements. She will often quiz us to check our understanding and then we collect earnings of either pencils, pens, bands, balls and even books! We love reaching our goals!



STJW THE BEST KEPT SECRET

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.



News from your parish school

ST. PETER CHANEL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
info@spcregentspark.catholic.edu.au - 9644 9083



We love you, Father Thomas!
You will be greatly missed at SPC. Please pray for us and we will be praying for you.



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!



OTHER NOTICES

Raising Fathers Events 2023

Join us for the RAISING FATHER'S Evening as we unpack practical advice and share powerful, impactful, informative and instructional stories for fathering in today's world. This is a partnership with Robert Falzon and MenAlive.

Tuesday, 29 August - Marist College Eastwood - 44 Hillview Rd, Eastwood | Wednesday, 30 August - Patrician Brothers' College: 268 The Horsley Drive, Fairfield | Thursday, 31 August - St Patrick's College: Francis St, Strathfield

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1092812>

Oremus: Online Prayer Series

Strengthen your faith in Christ, your prayer life, and your confidence to pray with others. Join us online for this 3-week series on the Foundations of Prayer: When: Wednesdays 6, 13 and 20 September 2023 Time: 7:30 - 8:45 pm. Cost: Free

Optional in-person retreat to follow on Saturday, 28 October, at St Martha's Leichhardt, 10 am - 4 pm, \$28.50 (+booking fees). Register for either or both opportunities at www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events

Overshadowed: Filled with the Power of the Holy Spirit, 18-20 August 2023

Join the MGL Sisters in a weekend retreat exploring what happens when we say yes to the Holy Spirit. Experience the life-changing power of deepening in God's love, surrendering to Jesus and living under the grace of the Holy Spirit. Venue: Carmel House, 345 St Andrews Rd, Varroville NSW

Booking: <http://www.trybooking.com/CFBQX> (by 11 August)

Contact: Katherine - mgl sisters.sydney@gmail.com

Ageing Well Masterclass

Bringing together a team of clinical experts and professionals in the field of ageing. Every Thursday from 3 Aug to 7 Sep at 10.30am-12pm (morning tea provided) | Parish Hall, St Joachim's Parish, Lidcombe,

2 Mills Street. To register email office @stjoachimsparish.org or call 9649 7030.

Meditation Day at St Benedict's Monastery, 20th August 2023

Invitation to St Benedict's Monastery, 121 Arcadia Rd, Arcadia, on Sunday - 20th August, for our Christian Meditation Introduction and Renewal Day.

Timetable: Arrival from 10 am to register for a 10:30 am start, presentations, introduction to meditation, periods of meditation, Mass, information exchange, and conclusion around 3 pm. Book display and morning tea provided, BYO picnic lunch. Masks are optional, recommend social distancing and vaccination for one's own personal protection.

Enquiries: Ann Lomas, atlomas@bigpond.com / 9653 2637

For possible accommodation in the Monastery Guest House please get in touch with Fr Michael Kelly: mkelley@silvestrini.org / 0455 329 607

Wesley Care Finder

Intensive assistance for aged care support. Care finders can help older people understand what aged care services are available to them, conduct assessments, identify needs and access appropriate services. To receive Wesley care finder support, an older person must: have no carer or support person who can help; have difficulty communicating due to language or literacy problems; find it difficult to understand information or make decisions; be reluctant to engage with aged care or government; be in an unsafe situation if they don't receive services; be eligible for government funded aged care. Contact John Foo on 0458 108 700

Calix Society

CALIX "We substitute the cup that sanctifies for the cup that stupefies". Stay sober with the Catholic faith and a 12-Step program. Join us in prayer for total abstinence, spiritual development, and personal sanctification. Do you "thirst" for more? Contact calixsydney@outlook.com or <https://www.calixsociety.org>



This week we welcome into the Catholic church

Maureen Ann Kelly

May she always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout her life.