



Third Sunday Ordinary Time—Year A

22 January 2017

First Reading **Is 8:23 – 9:3**

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations. The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

Second Reading **1 Cor 1:10-13, 17**

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul? For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

Gospel **Mt 4:12-17**

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the border of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled:

Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations! The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned.

From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

Historical Context

Repent

Throughout the Old Testament, the people of Israel repeated a cycle of behaviour. When their relationship with God was strong, they upheld the covenant and they prospered. They would forget that their prosperity lay in being in right relationship with one another and with God and so they would neglect those relationships. They would turn so far away that some tragedy or oppression would befall them. Out of their despair they would recognise their need for God and they would 'repent' and re-establish their relationship with God. Jesus' call to repent is a call to looking at the relationship with God in a whole new way.



Have you thought? People in darkness

The passage from Isaiah that is quoted in the gospel, speaks of the people who dwell in darkness. The passage is addressed to the Jewish tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali – two of the twelve tribes. These two tribes lived in the northernmost part of Palestine and their lands were surrounded by Gentiles. Any non-Jew was regarded as living in darkness because they did not have the light of 'truth', but these two tribes also dwelt in darkness because they were surrounded by it. Regardless, the passage asserts that all who dwell in darkness (Gentile and Jew alike) will receive a great light.

from the perspective

the first called

What must it have been like for those first four disciples Jesus called? The fact that they were fishing means that they had not been chosen to continue studying the Torah beyond childhood and had not been chosen by a rabbi to be his followers. Even as young men, these four were has-beens and had no hope of a rabbi asking them to be his disciples. Suddenly, Jesus appears and calls them to follow him. A life that had passed them by suddenly opened up before them! Of course they dropped everything and followed.

DON'T FORGET!

*Australia Day
Mass at 9.15 am
Morning tea to follow*

Parish Priest

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

Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari, Cor Bishop
T (02)8723 9192
M 0418 459 431

Fr Mark Spora
Pastor Emeritus SJW

Parish Secretary

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

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
T. 0402071849
Karim Kassis (Vice Chair)
T. 0408404130
Maureen Hynes (Secretary)
Joji Salar (Asst Secretary),
Micheline Botham (Social
Committee)
Jenny Michael (Liturgy Committee)
Pat Kavanagh (Social Justice),
Jann Rockliff (Hospital Visit) ,
Joe Moses, Rhia Victorino, Danny
Pavicic, Arthur Doumit and
Principals of the Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T (02) 9644 8859
Micheline Botham (Secretary)
0422939342,
Joe Moses, Ingrid Scharenguivel &
Brendon Nazareth

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
T. 96449083
Principal - Phil Townsend
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
T. 96461434
Principal - Gai Melville
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

Parish Diary This Week!

Monday	6.45am Mass
Tuesday	Feast St Francis de Sales 6.45am Mass 6.00pm Legion of Mary (SJW Hall)
Wednesday	Conversion of St Paul the Apostle 6.45am & 9.15am - Mass
Thursday	Australia Day 9.15am - Mass, Morning Tea to follow
Friday	6.45am Mass & 9.15am Mass
Saturday	Feast St Agnes 8.00am Mass 9.00am - 10.00am Adoration, Novena & Reconciliation 5.00pm Mass
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth 10.00am Mass

Mass Intentions

Sick: Maria Cicuto, Sr Carol Pedersen RSC, Sr Aileen Thomas RSC

Recently Deceased: Teodulfa Estrada, Vasco Rodrigues

Deceased: Leonard Gabrielle

Deceased members and friends of : Ross & Mitchell Families, Erwin & O'Dwyer Families, Noel Felix Gabrielle



"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel

at the Amparo home,
18/57-64 John Street, Lidcombe
Please join them any evening at 7.30pm
for the Rosary

To host the Pilgrim Statue from St Peter Chanel
contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker

To host the Rosary Statue from St Joseph the Worker
contact the Legion of Mary.

When we PRAY, God hears more than we say, answers more than we ask, gives more than we imagine... in His own time & His own way.

**The new Liturgy & Ministry Rosters
are now available in the Church foyer**

When a woman asked St Francis de Sales if it was a sin to use rouge, he replied, "Some theologians say so, others think it is a harmless practice."

"But" she gushed, "What do you advice me to do?"

"Why not follow a middle course" St Francis de Sales said, "and rouge only one cheek."



Alcohol and 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

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

THE PEOPLE IN DARK WILL SEE A GREAT LIGHT



The place Jesus chose to start his ministry is significant. He moved from Nazareth, a place very close to political power and economic activity to Capernaum, an insignificant place at the time Jesus. This village besides the Sea of Galilee had a different name earlier in the history—Naphtali- and Isaiah refers to it. When Tiglat Pilsar of Babylon attacked Israel in 8th Century BC, this was one of the first region to fall to this pagan king. The pagan influence on this area for a long time affected their Jewish religious faith and practice. Therefore to the mainstream Jewish community, the people of Capernaum (Naphtali) were living in darkness. Jesus took up the challenge of commencing his preaching the Kingdom of God in this land of ill reputation, providing light to the people who were in the dark regarding the Word of God and the Kingdom of God. Jesus also chose most of his disciples from this region which was considered as God forsaken. Peter, an unsophisticated fisherman who was chosen to lead the Apostles, lived in the heart of Capernaum (Naphtali). The people, the region, and the time were considered as the least appropriate to launch a major undertaking was chosen by Jesus as the best to launch the mission of the Kingdom of God. This in itself is a great news for us.

If some of the family members are a challenge because they either do not care about religious practices or hate the Church, Jesus would say it is the opportune time for you to make sure, “the people that lived in darkness has seen a great light”. (Ref. Mt 4:16 Isaiah 9:2) If sickness or some other failures in life has challenged your faith, Jesus would say, “on those who live in the land of deep shadow a light has shown.” (Ref. Mt 4:16 Isaiah 9: 2).

The way Jesus commenced his ministry of preaching the Kingdom of God is an encouragement for us at this time of Parish 2020 program and our plans for the renewal programs in the parish. If cultural diversity and difficulties caused by lack English proficiency among many parishioners is challenging us, going by Jesus’ logic, it is the opportune time to commence the renewal program in our parish. If you find the lack of resources and even the parish Priest is hard to understand, then it is an opportune time to commence our renewal program in the parish. Just as Jesus chose the unsophisticated people to be his apostles, we too do not need experts to make up a team to work towards Parish 2020 renewal program. It only requires an openness of heart and mind to the Word of God and willingness to work with your pastor. I am, therefore not waiting for the people with leisure time and expertise to assist me with the ministries and evangelisation programs. I am looking for people who are prepared to challenge themselves, in spite of a busy life style. Open your hearts and minds to the Word of God and respond to the call of the parish to undertake the renewal ministries, so that ‘the people in darkness will see a great light’.

Meditation Program

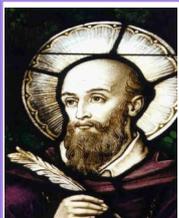
Fr Thomas will be conducting a Meditation Program during Lent. He will introduce different methods of meditations.

It will be held on Wednesdays of Lent commencing on 8 March

Venue: St Joseph’s House, 68 Kingsland Road, Berala.

Time: 7.30 Pm – 8.30 PM

To register your name for the program, please contact the parish office, either by email or by phone.



24 January - St Francis de Sales Proclaimed patron of writers and journalists for his use of books and broadsheets in order to convert. He also developed a sign language in order to teach a deaf man about God. Because of this, he is the patron saint of the deaf.

25 January—The Conversion of St Paul Originally known as Saul, he experienced a powerful vision that led him to convert to Christianity while travelling to Damascus.



28 January - St Thomas Aquinas Patron of universities and students.

He wrote and preached often and is considered one of the Catholic Church's greatest theologians and philosophers.



Feasts of the Week



Lectors Training

Lectors are the Liturgical Ministers who proclaims the Word of God at Mass, especially on weekends. New Lectors are being recruited for our parish. Phirum Duch will run a training program for new recruits over 4 Saturdays in February. Any of the current Lectors wishing for a refresher course also welcome to join the program. After the newly trained Lectors will be commissioned and included in the Roster for the Weekend Masses. To enrol for the program, please email the Parish Office.

Venue for training will be St Peter Chanel Church, Berala.
Time: 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm
Commencing on Saturday, 4 February 2017.

Youth Minister

Tommy Francisco will commence as Youth Minister of Berala Parish in February. His ministry will include organising various ministry programs for the young people and liaising with Youth worker of Trinity College. Currently he is attending training programs, at the end of it he will be commissioned. This appointment will have special significance in the context of the upcoming Sydney Youth Festival in December and the National Year of Youth commencing in December 2017.



Finance Controller

Brendon Nazareth, a member of the Parish Finance Committee, will take up the responsibility of Finance Controller of the parish. He will keep an eye on the cash flow of the Church accounts and advice the Finance Committee and Fr Thomas.



Celebrations at Berala

The Mass for Australia Day, 26 January will be at 9.15 AM at St Peter Chanel. After the Mass,

and National Anthem, morning tea will be provided in Jubilee Hall. Should you wish to bring any finger food for morning tea, you are welcome to do so. If you could let Micheline Botham or the parish office know about it.

On the same day, India celebrates its Republic Day. Therefore it will be a special day for me, and other parishioners of Indian origin.

At St Mary's Cathedral

The Cathedral will open its doors to celebrate Australia Day 2017 with: A special Mass to pray for God's blessings on all Australian people at 9.00am; Organ Recitals at 11.30am, 1.00pm, 2.00pm and 3.00pm. Bell Ringing at 9.50am and 12.00pm; Guided History Tours of the Cathedral or Cathedral Crypt: Tour conducted at 10.00am, 10.30am, 11.00am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 2.30pm. Everyone Welcome. All Tours and Recitals Free.



Planned Giving Request Form

Your financial contribution to the Planned Giving of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the financial year you will receive a receipt for your contributions. To join the Planned Giving Program fill this form, tear this part off and place it in the Sunday Collection plate

Your Name:.....

Telephone NoEmail

Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent for completion)

Choir Practice

Parish Choir Practice for Australia Day Mass
will be held on Tuesday, 24 January at 7:30 pm, 8 Wallace Street, Sefton

Other Notices

Ladies, Improve your Reading, Writing & Conversation skills : If English is your second language, Sr Elaine Walker is holding classes to improve communication skills from 1.00pm - 2.30pm Monday to Friday or 4.00pm - 5.30pm Tuesday to Friday at 25 Helena St Auburn

Knitting and Crochet Group: This Group, also run by Sr Elaine, meets on Monday mornings at 9.30am to knit for the Sydney Night Patrol Van and children with cancer.

Please contact Sr Elaine Walker on 9649 9635 to enrol or for more information on these programs..

CATHOLICCARE: SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF SYDNEY FOR 75 YEARS. CatholicCare services assist people to live and thrive at every age. We provide disability services, counselling and support for children, young people and families and deliver ageing services in the home. We can assist you to navigate the new world of the NDIS and My Aged Care. To find out more call **13 18 19**, email connect@catholiccare.org or visit www.catholiccare.org.

Catholic Cemeteries & Crematoria. The latest newsletter, Bereavement Support is attached. For further information please contact Patricia Thomas, Bereavement Consultant on (02) 9649 6423/Email: patriciat@catholiccemeteries.com.au or visit www.catholiccemeteries.com.au /Facebook: LivingBereavement.

Chaplaincy Master of Arts—UNDA. A Master of Arts (Chaplaincy Studies) will be available from **February 2017 at Notre Dame University's Sydney Campus.** The course, providing professional knowledge and skills development for chaplains and pastoral care staff, will include two placements through St Vincent's Hospital's Pastoral Care Department. For more information call **02 8204 4404** or email: sydney@nd.edu.au.

Natural Fertility Services is looking for suitable applicants in the Greater Sydney area to train as Fertility Educators. Thorough, in-depth training over a 12-month period is provided to successful applicants and sessional work is available to those who complete the training and become accredited educators. For more information and application forms please contact **The Manager NFS (02) 9509 1222.**

Charismatic Retreat 27 To 29 January 2017 – “Living in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.” Have we ever experienced the fullness of the inner transformation and empowerment that the Holy Spirit has available for us? Perhaps our walk, once strong has become jaded and we need renewal. Perhaps we simply know that there is always something to learn about the ways of the Spirit. This retreat could be the answer. **COME AND SEE!** Your prompt booking by **13 January 2017** would be appreciated. The CCR Service Team for New South Wales will be there to welcome you. Please visit www.ccrnsw.org.au for more details.

ACU Theology Short Course. The next short course in Sydney - 15 February - 15 March, 2017. The course will be on “the Passion of Jesus” exploring the following important questions in the lead-up to Lent and Easter: How do the New Testament authors understand the Passion of Jesus? Why was Jesus tried and convicted? Why did Jesus die? How to understand the liturgical traditions commemorating Jesus' Passion? **Dates:** Wednesday evenings: 15 & 22 Feb, 8 & 15 Mar 2017. **No lecture on 1 Mar 2017 (Ash Wednesday).** **Time:** 6-8pm (Refreshments from 6pm, lecture starts at 6:30pm). **Venue:** Australian Catholic University, Strathfield Campus, 25A Barker Road, Strathfield, NSW 2135. Registration is essential at: <http://www.acu.edu.au/1119461>. For more information or to discuss alternative methods of payment please email shortcourses.ftp@acu.edu.au.

The St Vincent De Paul Society – Positions Vacant. Vinnies, Sydney Archdiocese is currently recruiting for the positions of Volunteer Bus Driver (client transportation) and Group Volunteer – Disability Services. The position descriptions for these two positions are attached. For further information please visit www.vinnies.org.au or ring **02 9568 0262.**

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and
splendour,
strength and honour in his holy
place.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) The Lord is my light and
my salvation
1. The Lord is my light and my
help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my
life;
Before whom shall I shrink?. (R)
2. There is one thing I ask of
the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the
Lord,
to behold his temple. (R)
3. I am sure I shall see the
Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take
heart.
Hope in the Lord!. (R)

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus preached the Good News of
the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon:

Look toward the Lord and be
radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.

Next Week's Readings:

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13
1 Cor 1:26-31
Mt 5:1-12



Holy Mass at Berala

Monday to Friday 6.45am
Wednesday to Friday 9.15am
Saturday 8.00am
Saturday 9.00am Adoration &
Novena.

Holy Mass at Auburn South

Tuesday 9.00am
(during school term only)

Lord's Day Mass Berala

Saturday 5.00PM (Vigil)
Sunday 10.00AM

Lord's Day Mass Auburn South

Sunday 8.00AM

Reconciliation at Berala

Saturday 9.00AM - 10.00AM.
Or contact the parish office for
any other time.

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

Daily Prayers and Scripture on the Parish Web

Our Parish Website now includes a new section called "Liturgy Today" on our home page. This is a great resource to explore the liturgy of the day including Readings of the Mass of the day, morning, noon and evening prayers, and Office of Readings. Please visit www.stpeterchanel-stjoseph.org.au and click on "Liturgy Today"

St Peter Chanel & St Joseph the Worker Rosters - Next Week

29 JANUARY 2017

4TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Charlie SCULLY	William ANDREWS	Mario CAPRA
ACCOMPANIST	Maureen HYNES		
CANTOR	C HYNES & PARISH CHOIR		S EAMIGUEL
LECTOR/S	Phirum DUCH	Karim KASSIS	Micheline BOTHAM
	Christine KENSEY	Jenny MICHAEL	Anna FACER
COMMENTATOR	Jann ROCKLIFF	Joe MOSES	Monica SMITH
GIFTS	Dorothy BOYD		Robert JAKSIC Family
SP. MINISTER	Warren RYAN		Hoa NGUYEN
SP. MINISTER	Elizabeth CHIA		Pam SNELL
CHURCH SHOP	Margaret HEYS		Anna MANGANARO
GREETERS	Dante & Lynda AMORES	Joe MOSES	M & R VICTORINO
HOSPITALITY			Sharon IACONO
HOSPITAL VISITATION SAT : J Le Mottee & D Gooch		ALTAR: Group 6 Korina Kinda, Antoinette Boudaher	
HOSPITAL COMMUNION SUN: J Skerritt & R Javier		COUNTERS: Group 1 John Le Mottee; John Shanley	
CLEANERS - SPC : H Duff & Friends SJW Claudette Azar & Friends		CHILDREN'S LITURGY: School holidays	