

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

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 5.00am (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 on 9644 7787.

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year A World Mission Day 2017

15 October 2017

First Reading

Is 25:6-10

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Second Reading

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

Mt 22:1-14

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Antiphons, Readings & Reflections

Entrance Antiphon Ps 129:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

Responsorial Psalm:

(R) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**
2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Gospel Acclamation See Eph 1:17-18

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. **Alleluia!**

Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 33:11

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

Next Week's Readings:

Is 45:1.4-6
1 Thes 1:1-5
Mt 22:15-21

Reflections

Historical Context

This gospel parable is a reflection of the way in which the message of God has been extended to people through time. The first invitation was extended to the Israelites who initially accepted the message of God but in time lost the focus. Jesus further extended the invitation to the Gentiles, viewed by the Jews as unworthy of such a relationship with God. Finally, within the early Christian communities there were some who despite belonging to the community, failed to live appropriately and demonstrate their acceptance of the message of God.

Have You Thought? Inclusivity.

This gospel parable reflects the inclusive way in which Jesus lived his life. In many ways, Jesus was a scandal in his society because he didn't obey the social boundaries. He was very clear in being

inclusive and attentive to those who were normally shunned. Today, those boundaries are just as clear and easily identified but the methods of excluding people have perhaps become a bit more subtle. Who are the 'shunned' and 'left out' in our society today? Where do the boundaries lie? Who would Jesus be reaching out to and seeking to include in today's society?.

Gospel Focus: 'How did you get in here?'

In light of the inclusive kingdom metaphor in this passage, the final portion of the gospel may be a bit troubling to readers. When a guest is not wearing a wedding garment he is cast out of the banquet. We might say that being invited at the last minute the guest was unable to find suitable clothing. It is a sign that although he has been an unlikely inclusion in the banquet, he has not made any effort to respond to the generosity of the king and take up one of the cloaks that would have been provided and thus give due honour to his host. This is symbolic of those who refuse to change their ways and do not live as followers of Jesus even when they have been included in the kingdom.

Parish Priest

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

Priest in Residence

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

Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
info@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm T. (02) 9644 7787

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Tommy Francisco
tommy.bolin.francisco@gmail.com

Pastoral Relations Officer

Mariana Tannous T. (02) 9644 7787

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair) T. 0402 071 849
Karim Kassis (Vice Chair) T. 0402 071 849
Maureen Hynes (Secretary)
Joji Salar (Asst Secretary),
Micheline Botham (Social Committee)
T. 0422 939 342
Jenny Michael (Liturgy Committee)
Pat Kavanagh (Social Justice),
Jann Rockliff (Hospitality Visit),
Rhia Victorino, Arthur Doumit (SVDP) and
Principals of the Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T. (02) 9644 8859
Micheline Botham (Secretary) 0422 939 342
Joe Moses, Ingrid Scharenguivel, Brendon
Nazareth (Finance Controller)

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
T. (02) 9644 9083
Principal - Phil Townsend
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
T. (02) 9646 1434
Principal - Gai Melville
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

Alcohol & Drug Information Service:

(Confidential) 02 9361 8000

CatholicCare: Ph:13 18 19

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

Vincian 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

Parish Diary This Week

Monday	6.45am	Mass
Tuesday	6.45am	Mass
Wednesday	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass
Thursday	6.45am 9.15am 4.00pm 7.00pm	Mass Mass Legion of Mary (St Joseph's House) Psalmists Practice & Choir Practice at 7.30pm. (8 Wallace St Sefton)
Friday	6.45am 9.15am	Mass Mass
Saturday	8.00am 8.30am 9.00am 5.00pm	Mass Rosary Novena Adoration Confession Sunday Vigil Mass (SPC)
Sunday	8.00am 10.00am 11.00am	Mass (SJW) Mass (SPC) First Reconciliation Program (Jubilee Hall)

Family that pray together stay together"
PILGRIM STATUE



FROM ST PETER CHANEL
at the Snell Home
46 Lewis St, Regents Park

Please join them any evening at
6.30pm for the Rosary.

To host the Pilgrim Statue and Rosary
prayer please contact Mona
on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

FROM ST JOSEPH THE WORKER
at the Moore Home

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

Roster Next Week

22 OCTOBER 2017		29 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
Mass	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Mario CAPRA
ORGAN	Kate PARISH		SAMOAN
CANTOR	S EAMIGUEL & PARISH CHOIR	Joe MOSES	YOUTH
LECTOR/S	Flavia NARAYAN	Michael Chow	Carmel MARTIN
	John DONNELLAN	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Sharon IACONO
COMMENTATOR	Katrina YIP		Monica SMITH
GIFTS	Carol MABON Family		THAM Family
SP. MINISTER	Kay SCULLY		Jenny MICHAEL
SP. MINISTER	Christine KENSEY		Micheline BOTHAM
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY		Margaret THAM
GREETERS	J ROCKLIFF & J ZHANG	Joe MOSES	KAVANAGH
HOSPITALITY			Alex BALDORIA

Hospital Visitation Sat: Amato Hehea & Bernadette Hawthorn	Altar: Group 6 Korina Kinda, Antoinette Boudaheer
Hospital Communion Sun: : Ken Hartman & Jenny Michael	
Cleaners SPC : Roland & Aida Javier	Children's liturgy: Vinita Nazareth

Saturday	21 OCTOBER
LECTOR FOR MASS	Christine KENSEY

Mass Intentions

Sick: Anne Nguyen

Recently Deceased: Patrick James Michell, Ken McManus, Wong Shueh Ping, SP Wong

Deceased: Huu CA Nguyen, Colin Baudille, Neil Moore

Anniversary: Mary Moses, Santina Baudille, Roque A Quinoy, Angel Enriquez Sr, Galicano Rojas

Deceased members and friends of : Erwin & O'Dwyer Families, Ross & Mitchell Families, Duong Family,

Other Intentions: Denis Collins (80th Birthday)



The King's Feast, Don't Miss It



We can see an observation and a prediction in the story of the wedding feast told by Jesus. "The Kingdom of Heaven may be compared to a king", Jesus said, "who gave a feast for his son's wedding". (Mt22:2) As soon as Jesus introduced the story like this, his audience, the Jewish people, must have been reminded of the story Isaiah told seven centuries earlier (Ref 25:1-12). The Jewish people were familiar with the prophet announcing the good time of salvation with allegories of a feast of "rich food, a banquet of fine wines" (Is25:6). The Israelites, who were proud of their history, should have been looking forward to a great day of salvation. But unfortunately they did not. Jesus said, "The king gave a feast for his son's wedding," but the invited guests had other priorities. They could not be bothered any less about the banquet the king offered. In such a scenario who is the loser, the king or the invited guests? As the story goes, the invited guests are the losers. The king then invited others from all walks of life to substitute the invited guests. In this way Jesus was announcing that the Kingdom of Heaven has eluded the leaders of the Jewish people who were historically invited into it. But now it is open to the whole world. Not just the Jews; anyone from any part of the world is now invited into the Kingdom of God.

The early Christians of the first century could see these words of Jesus coming true before their eyes. They saw Jerusalem, the seat of Jewish religion being destroyed by Romans in 70 AD and Jews dispersed. But the number people gathering for the Eucharist, the Church, was growing.

The story Jesus told also contains another warning. It is not enough to accept the invitation to the 'feast'. The king, according to the story, dismissed the participant who did not bother to dress up for the occasion. Baptism is our invitation to the Kingdom of Heaven, the 'feast the king provides'. But unless we dress up our life with Christian faith practices, we do not get to enjoy the feast of the Kingdom of Heaven. While all are invited, not all are chosen. Are you confident enough in your faith practices to be counted among the chosen?

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 <http://www.stpeter-stjoseph.org.au/> and click on the link under "Liturgy Today".

Feasts & Memorials of the Week

Tuesday— St Ignatius of Antioch (Memorial)



Born probably in Syria. Died a martyr in Rome about 107. At Antioch, where he was bishop, his death has been commemorated on this day since the fourth century. Remembered for seven letters written on his way to execution.

They show him to be devoted to Christ and his resurrection; they urge Christians to unity in and through the Eucharist and around their local bishop. Called himself the "God-bearer."

Wednesday—St Luke, Evangelist (Feast)



By early Christian tradition, Luke is named as author of the Third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. Almost certainly a Gentile and perhaps a companion of Saint Paul (29 June), he wrote to reassure those who had grown uncertain toward the end of the first century. In his gospel, the compassion of Christ is inclusive of all: Gentile and Jew, the poor and the rich, women and men, the outcast and the privileged.

Adult Confirmation

Those adults who have missed out on the Sacrament of Confirmation have a chance to receive the Sacrament this month. The Sacrament will be administered by bishop Terrence Brady at St Mary's cathedral on Sunday 29 October at 10.30 AM. Candidates wishing receive the sacrament should contact the parish office as soon as possible for preparation and registration.

Liturgy and Ministry Rosters

The new Liturgy and Ministry Rosters will begin on November 5. If you would like to be included or your availabilities have changed, please contact the Parish Office.

SVDP Regional Mass

This year our parish is hosting the regional Mass for Society of St Vincent de Paul. Arthur Doumit and other members of SVDP of Liberty Plains will be happy to have parishioners also attend the Festival Mass at 6.30 PM on Friday, 20 October at St Peter Chanel Church. Children's Choir from our parish schools – SJW & SPC – will be helping with singing.

Raffle Postponed

The draw of Fund raising Raffle for Fr George's School was scheduled for 14 October. But due to some unforeseen circumstances the draw has to be postponed to a date yet to be decided. As soon as it is determined, it will be announced. Sorry for any inconvenience it may have caused.

Fr George' School: 168 more bricks to sell



Thanks to you for sponsoring 132 bricks so far Fr George's St Xavier's School, Chima Impel. Another 168 more bricks to meet our target. With your help we can do it.

So please sponsor bricks, according to your capacity, for the school. One Hundred dollars will sponsor a brick.

You will get a personalised certificate for your sponsorship and your name will be inscribed on plaque and displayed permanently at St Xavier's School Chima Impel India.

You are welcome to contact one of the following coordinators or me to discuss how you could help with this overseas mission: Arthur Doumit (0417270923), Charlie Scully (0402 071 849), Evelyn Safadi (0416 140 378), Tony Draybi (0403 367 789), Jenny Michael (0413 679 931), and Ivica Kovac (0407 467 692). ~Fr Thomas

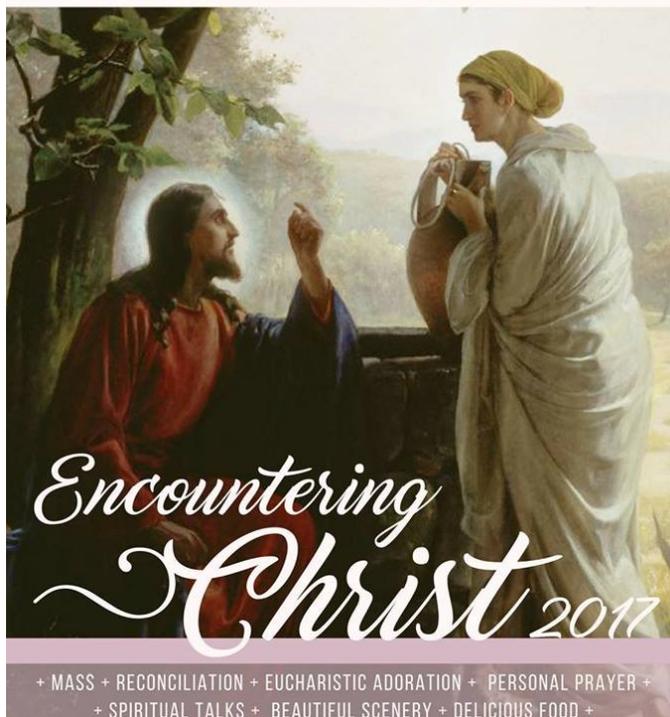
Rosary Month

The Month of October is rosary month. This year it is also the 100th anniversary of the Fatima Apparition. A number of people have joined together and doing an unbroken chain of Rosary for the month.

Volunteers are rostered for 30 minute slots to recite rosary each day during this month. There are already enough people to cover 24/7 for the whole month. I would like to thank all volunteers.

World Day of Rosary Prayer on Tuesday at 9 AM. If you can please recite your Rosary on Tuesday, 18 October.

WOMEN'S RETREAT WITH THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF ST CECILIA
20 - 22 OCTOBER 2017 | MITTAGONG, SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS



+ MASS + RECONCILIATION + EUCHARISTIC ADORATION + PERSONAL PRAYER +
+ SPIRITUAL TALKS + BEAUTIFUL SCENERY + DELICIOUS FOOD +

When: 20-22 October 2017

Where: The Hermitage Retreat Centre, Mittagong,

Who: Women 18+

Cost: \$300 (flexible –ask for more details)

Rego: Sydney@opt-tn.org or fb/
dominicansistersaustralia

SPC SCHOOL

Our Year 6 students will be learning about the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick during Term 4. Apart from getting involved with the planning and preparation of the Healing Mass for our church, they would like to pray for the members of our parish who are sick. If you would like to submit a prayer intention for healing, please email them to amanda.gahan@syd.catholic.edu.au.

~Amanda Gahan, Acting REC

Prayer Support Appeal, Mind Body Spirit Festival (26-29 Oct)

Encounter is hosting a "Catholic Spirituality" stall at the Mind Body Spirit Festival, on Thursday 26, Friday 27, Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 October. This important initiative, reaching out to the many who search for answers in New Age practices, requires strong prayer support.

This includes Adoration during the festival at the Sister Disciples of the Divine Master Chapel which is located at 55 Broughton Rd, Strathfield.

- Thurs 26 Oct 1:30-2:30pm, 6-7pm
- Fri 27 Oct : 1:30-2:30pm ; 6 –7 pm
- Sat 28 Oct: 12-1pm ; 5.30—7 pm

Mackillop Family Services Seeking Foster Carers

Mackillop Family Services is seeking two sets of foster carers to provide separate long-term homes for a 13 year old boy and a 14 year old girl. Luke and Dani* are kind, fun, energetic teens who have intellectual development delays. They both need carers who can give them stability, who can spend time helping them learn new skills and reach their life goals. Carers who can provide one-on-one care with no other children in the home would be ideal. Carers receive a fortnightly carer allowance and 24/7 support from Mackillop. If you, or someone you know, is interested please contact Mackillop Family Services. 1300 791 677 mackillop.org.au/fostercare

** Name changed and model used to protect privacy

Marriage Encounter Weekend

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a Marriage Enrichment experience for married couples – set in peaceful, picturesque surroundings, away from the distractions of everyday life. During the weekend, couples have a unique opportunity to reconnect, rekindle and refresh their relationship. Take time out of your busy schedule, to invest in your most precious asset . . . your Marriage!



Weekend date: 24th -26th November, at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW
Bookings online at www.wwme.org.au or
Adrian and Janet Sullivan: on 0490 774 419 or adrian.janet1@bigpond.com

Catechist News

Creating Resources for the Classroom

Seven Catechists from our parish joined SRE teachers (special religious educators) from all over Sydney at a recent gathering for Catechists. The event was coordinated by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) at St Joachim's Parish Hall, Lidcombe.

The day's program included demonstrations, hands-on workshops and lunch. We learnt how to create resources for the classroom and had fun working with glue, scissors, paddle-pop sticks and shiny material. We rotated between four different workstations – Christmas, Lent, Easter and the Sacraments.

CCD staffers showed us how to present the Sacraments in a novel way and how to bring Baptism to life in the classroom using a baby doll, water, Baptismal dress and other items. For the Last Supper, we shaped gold chocolate wrappings into wine goblets. At the Lent station, we twisted palm fronds into a crucifix, and crafted a paper plate to portray the crucifixion and the tomb. The versatile paper plate was also used for Advent. Other everyday items such as paper-towel rolls, cloth and wool were easily turned into wise men and shepherds. We also learnt how to make Christmas and Easter cards and enjoyed working with glue, paddle-pop sticks and crayons.

It was a wonderful day learning new skills and ways to introduce tactile experiences into the classroom. The day also gave everyone the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with Catechists from other parishes.

~Brenda, Catechist Coordinator



Josie (right) having fun creating a card with other Catechists from Sydney.



Dunia and Mona (right) enjoy a drama workshop. *Photos courtesy of Josie Pangilinan.*



I was in a job interview today when the manager handed me his laptop and said, "I want you to try and sell this to me." So I put it under my arm, walked out of the building and went home. Eventually, he called my mobile and said, "Bring it back here right now!" I said, "\$100 and it's yours!".

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)

Other Notices

The Marriage Law Postal Survey has 3 weeks to go. Catholics should be engaged in this democratic process. If you have not done so already, please fill in your survey form and return it by post to the ABS by the end of October. If you need a replacement form you can contact the ABS before 6pm on October 20 via their website or on their toll free number: 1800 572 113 to obtain a new form.

CATHOLICCARE. Supporting the people of Sydney to live and thrive. Could you provide a short-term loving home for a child? CatholicCare is seeking short-term foster carers who can love and care for children for a few months or up to two years. To find out more or to receive our Foster Care brochure, call 13 18 19 or email connect@catholiccare.org. Visit our website: www.Catholiccare.org.

Month of Prayer and Fasting for Marriage and Families – Week 3 –October 15 This Sunday, October 15, is the third week of the Month of Prayer and Fasting. The prayer theme for this Sunday is: For the well-being of those experiencing same sex attraction or gender uncertainty. The Prayer of the Faithful for October 15 is: "Today and throughout this week we pray for the well-being of those experiencing same-sex attraction or gender uncertainty. Heavenly Father, grant true peace and comfort to our family members and friends who experience same sex attraction or gender uncertainty. May we be sensitive and loving especially in times of trial. Lead us to deeper faith as we all strive for Christian perfection."

Australian Catholic Youth Festival. The Festival is now little over 60 days away!! The organisers have left the group registrations open until the final cut off date of 20 October. There is still time to register! Please contact our Tommy Francisco as soon as possible. Registrations are already over 14,000. This is an opportunity not to be missed and we are encouraging as many of our young people as possible to attend. There are 3 day registrations (\$250) and 1 day registrations available (\$125). The 1 day registration is for Thursday or Friday and includes Saturday. The Festival is a great opportunity for parents and Grandparents to give an early Christmas gift of a registration to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival.

Calling all University students! Are you a student (or do you know a student) studying at University? Each University has a Catholic Society that offers daily Mass, social gatherings and avenues to deepen your faith on campus. Visit: www.unicatholics.org.au to find out what is happening on your campus.

Grief to Grace – Healing the Wounds of Abuse – is a spiritual retreat for anyone who has suffered degradation or violation through physical, emotional, sexual or spiritual abuse. The retreat will be held April 8th – 13th 2018. To request an application contact Anne by emailing info@griefftograceaus.org.au or phone 0407704539. For more information visit www.griefftograce.org.

Bereavement Support Reflections Mornings. Third Wednesday of Every Month 10.00am – 1.00pm. For family and friends who grieve and their companions. Understanding and managing life's changes in Loss, Grief & Bereavement. Morning tea provided. Contact Bereavement Support (02) **9646 6908** or bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.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.

Tell Your Story in The Catholic Weekly. Do you have a local parish news story which would be of interest to the many readers of the Catholic Weekly? The Catholic Weekly is always looking for human interest, inspirational and faith-based stories for our weekly publication. If you have a story please send it to: cweditor@catholicweekly.com.au or call (02) 9390 5407. We'd love to hear your story!

Catholic Clubs Rome Pilgrimage 7-14 December 2017. Please be advised that the Rome Pilgrimage in December **has been postponed to next year.** Thanks to everyone who has expressed their interest. More information will be published as soon as it becomes available.

The Benedict XVI Retreat Centre now offers a series of fun, innovative facilitated activity programs to complement and enrich any group retreat. Whether you are looking for adventure, team building, opportunities for reflection or simply to have fun with your group, our specially trained facilitators can tailor a program to meet your needs and budget. Activities include flying fox, archery, bushwalking, leadership challenge, communications challenge, camp craft, environmental programs and more. Contact Reception on (02) 4572 2899 / email bxvi@sydneycatholic.org to find out more or visit www.benedictxvicentre.org.au.

Pro-Life Pregnancy Help. Do you have a phone? Do you want to help those worried by pregnancy issues? Can you work from home? Contact Pregnancy Help Sydney NOW to find out about their free training course you can do by mail from your own home and 2 in-service weekends in Sydney. You can make a difference. Phone Carmel Jeffreys on 9730 0258 for more information.

Heart Women's Conference. 19-21 October 2017, Fairfield RSL, 14 Anzac Ave, Fairfield. A time to come together as women to be refreshed and renewed in our busy lives. Spoil yourself. Dream again. Feel loved, honoured and cared for. Invite your daughters, mothers, sisters and friends! Men – What women in your life can you spoil by sending them to Heart 2017? Register: Heart.TheCatholicGuy.com Email: heart@TheCatholicGuy.com Phone: **1300 734 880**

The Bishop's Blend: Looking to network with other young Catholic professionals and learn how to live your faith in the workplace? Then join the Most Reverend Bishop Richard Umbers, Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney on **Monday, 6 November** at 7:00am at the Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney for The Bishop's Blend, a quarterly breakfast series for young professionals. Online booking is essential. For more information and to purchase tickets go to <https://thebishopsblend.eventbrite.com> or contact bishopsblend@sydneycatholic.org

Mount St Benedict Centre – Children's Meditation Workshop
This fun workshop is for children aged 5-12 years, and aims to build a healthy body and mind. By teaching a variety of simple meditation techniques using breath and visualisation, creating mandalas and moving the body in a conscious way, children are encouraged to find that centre of stillness inside. This can help with anxiety, building confidence and understanding emotions. Date: Saturday 28 October 1.30pm-4.30pm. Cost: \$30 BYO Afternoon Tea. Where: 449D Pennant Hills Road. Entrance off Hull Road. Reserve your place by phone 9484 6208 or email mtstbenedict@goodsams.org.au.

Rachel's Vineyard Healing Retreat: 3-5 November
This weekend retreat in Sydney is designed to bring psychological and spiritual healing to anyone who has been affected by an abortion experience including women, men, couples and grandparents. Rachel's Vineyard Ministries Australia is supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Confidential inquiries: Telephone or SMS 0400 092 555, info@rachelsvineyard.org.au. For more information visit: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au

Fundraising Volunteers Needed. The Archdiocese value the contribution that our volunteers make but more are needed to assist us from time to time. For info phone Amanda on 1800 753 959 or email fundraising@sydneycatholic.org.

Holy Spirit Pilgrimage to "Holy Land & Holy Places in Italy(17 Days)" for \$5,555 from 3rd-19th Sept, 2018 and 7 Days "Optional Extension to Egypt & Jordan". Spiritual Directors: Fr Emmanuel-tv & Fr Jude CSSp. Contact for itinerary/ 0400759391, (03) 97899672 info:fremmanueltv@hotmail.com, or jude.agorchukwu@cam.org.au.

Visiting Rome? Stay at Domus Australia. Domus Australia is a 32 room guest house established by the Australian Catholic Church, welcoming travellers to Rome seeking comfortable accommodation and an ideal base from which to explore historical and cultural sites of the Eternal City. Centrally located with a magnificently restored Chapel featuring daily Mass in English, Domus Australia is the perfect oasis in the heart of Rome for Aussie pilgrims. reservations@domusaustralia.org.